Closing the Fiber Gap on the Big Island

3400 34.5 kV Line Rebuild & Relocation

July 15, 2020 Briefing to Broadband Hui

(Update to the November 22, 2016 Broadband Council Briefing)
4 Phases

3400 TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROJECT

INDEX MAP

LEGEND
- Phase Map Boundaries
- 3400 Rebuild Path
- 3400 Line
- 6300 Line
- 6600 Line
- Road
- Mile Marker
- Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
- Property Boundary
Project Benefits

- **Improved reliability** for ~5,500 customers served by line (Kilauea Military Camp/Volcano, Wright Road, Royal Hawaiian Estates, Orchid Isle, Mountain View, Kurtistown).

- **Address safety concerns** with current pole line location.
  - Original line from 1950’s
  - Terrain is unsafe with may deep crack and crevices with limited or no access roads to poles.

- **Enable telecom fiber loop around the island** by strengthening pole lines (Phase 1 & 2)
  - Currently a gap in the Southern loop.
    - September 2013 - Issue with fiber in Waikoloa caused a 20 hour telecommunication outage from Waikoloa to Pahala, County sent out police and fire department to patrol areas to ensure public health and safety.
    - Communication loop can be completed with Phase 1 and Phase 2; completion of Phase 3 would provide improvement in reliability
Project Update

- HELCO and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HVNP) filed their respective Environmental Assessments (EA). EA Approval received and HVNP processed HELCO’s special use permit needed to begin Phase 1 & 2 construction and secure rights-of-way permits.

- 3 of the 4 phases will be completed by end of 2020. Completion of Phase 1 in 20202 should enable carriers to close the gap.

- Phase 3 will take longer due to land issues, permitting and approvals.
Phase 1:
~ 50%
Complete

Full Completion in Sept/Oct 2020
Phase 2: Completed
Phase 3: (TBD)

Discussions with KSBE for use of land adjacent to HVNP on the North side of highway.

Will require an EA

May require a Habitat Conservation Plan & other permits

Will require PUC approval
Phase 4: Completed