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I&M TO CONSTRUCT NEW VICKSBURG-SCHOOLCRAFT TRANSMISSION LINE

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SCHOOLCRAFT, Mich. – Indiana Michigan Power, an operating unit of American Electric Power, is announcing an approximately \$30 million investment to improve the electric transmission system in Kalamazoo County.

The Vicksburg-Schoolcraft Area Improvements Project is essential to ensure continued reliable electric service is available to customers. Plans include constructing a new Kalamazoo Substation, retiring the existing Vicksburg Substation, expanding and upgrading the Schoolcraft Substation and constructing a new approximately 5-mile, 69- kilovolt transmission line.

Improving the transmission infrastructure in the area is essential to improve reliability for the region. Improvements to modernize and upgrade the 1970s substation will reduce power interruptions and outages. Constructing a new line creates a redundant connection and a looped service. This configure ensures a reliable flow of electricity to customers.

To gather information from the public and affected landowners, I&M will host a public open house **Thursday, January 26, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Schoolcraft Middle School, 747 E. Clay St. in Schoolcraft.** Project representatives will be available to answer questions and obtain valuable local community input; there is no formal meeting or agenda. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Additional information about the project, including a project timeline, fact sheet and map can be found at www.IndianaMichiganPower.com/Vicksburg-Schoolcraft.

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Indiana Michigan Power (I&M) is headquartered in Fort Wayne, and its 2,450 employees serve more than 589,000 customers. More than half of its generation is emission-free, including 2,160 MW of nuclear generation in Michigan, 450 MW of purchased wind generation from Indiana, 22 MW of hydro generation in both states and approximately 15 MW of large-scale solar generation

in both states. The company's generation portfolio also includes 2,600 MW of coal-fueled generation in Indiana.

American Electric Power is one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity and custom energy solutions to nearly 5.4 million customers in 11 states. AEP owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a more than 40,000-mile network that includes more 765-kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. AEP also operates 223,000 miles of distribution lines. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning approximately 31,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP's utility units operate as AEP Ohio, AEP Texas, Appalachian Power (in Virginia and West Virginia), AEP Appalachian Power (in Tennessee), Indiana Michigan Power, Kentucky Power, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and Southwestern Electric Power Company (in Arkansas, Louisiana and east Texas). AEP's headquarters are in Columbus, Ohio.