

## About the Project

- A 4-mile segment of the existing 12 kilovolt (kV) line southwest of Prescott — serving the Walker, Potato Patch and Goldwater Lake communities for nearly 100 years — has reached the end of its operational life and is proposed to be removed.
- To maintain reliable service, a new 12 kV line is proposed to be built along Walker Road, extending the existing line from Liese Drive to Big Bug Mesa Road.
- The new line would be installed on weathered steel poles between 55 and 75 feet tall.



## Have questions?

For more information, please contact:

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Visit our project website to learn more:

[www.aps.com/walkerroad](http://www.aps.com/walkerroad)

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## Walker Road Power Line Upgrade Project



CS#2603648

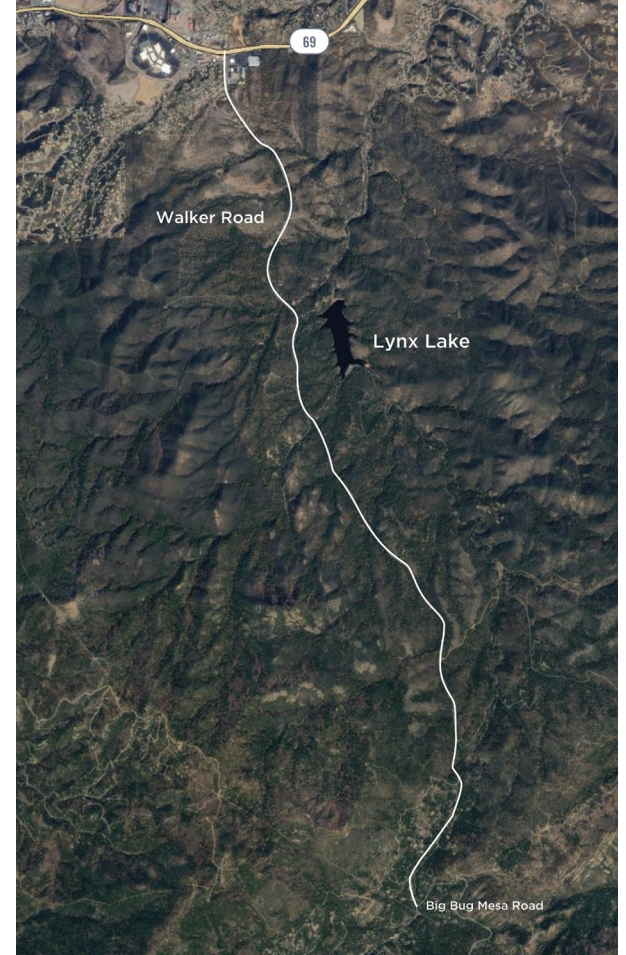


## Prioritizing Reliability and Safety

The proposed project prioritizes reliability, efficiency and safety while reducing wildfire risk.

### Benefits of the relocation include:

- **Quicker access** — By moving the line from its current location in a heavily forested area with severely restricted access (no access road), we would be able to restore power more quickly.
- **Enhanced reliability** — By relocating the line, we would be able to provide power from an additional substation. This creates a “backup”, which should greatly reduce the frequency and length of unplanned outages in this area.
- **Wildfire safety & mitigation** — The old line would be removed from a heavily forested area. The new line is proposed to be installed on a safer open path. The new poles would be weathered steel, which would help prevent them from failing or falling during a potential wildfire. Additionally, while the line can be deenergized in the event of an emergency, the new route would allow crews to access the line more quickly. Visit [aps.com/wildfiresafety](https://aps.com/wildfiresafety) and [aps.com/psps](https://aps.com/psps) to learn more about APS’s wildfire mitigation strategy and public safety power shutoff program, which is to be used only during severe fire conditions.
- **Upgraded power line** — The new line would be equipped with upgraded wires to improve power quality as well as devices to protect birds.
- **Timeline** — Relocation also reduces construction time and impacts.



### Would APS consider placing the line underground?

There are several challenges that prevent APS from considering undergrounding in this area.

- Undergrounding power lines comes with high upfront costs shared by all APS customers, maintenance difficulties, shorter cable lifespan and complex permitting requirements.
- Due to soil conditions, undergrounding would require extreme and time-intensive construction measures such as blasting and deeper, wider trenches to safely install the underground wires.
- There is no straight path for the new line to be built, so underground construction would require:
  - Installation of large concrete manholes throughout the project, including on private property.
  - Permanent removal of significantly more trees and shrubs along the alignment.
- Significantly extend the time for construction impacting all road traffic.

- Buried power lines can extend the length of power outages, requiring additional time to locate a specific power issue and repair the outage, especially in heavily wooded areas.

