Changes in Project Approach

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Project Alternatives and Options Analysis
Alternatives Analysis - Then

- In the past, project options and alternatives analyses were somewhat cursory and were largely focused on economics
  - Utilities still integrated
  - Less environmental regulation
  - Backbone network still being built out
  - Performance and reliability standards still developing
Today, options analyses are much more rigorous and consider many factors beyond economics:

- Network Performance and Flexibility
- Natural Environment
- Human Environment
- Worker Safety
- Delivery Timeframe
Today, more varieties of alternatives are considered

- Electrical Alternatives
- Routing Alternatives
- Structure and Corridor Configurations
- OH vs. UG Alternatives
- Non-Transmission Alternatives (EE, DR, DG, G and Combinations)
- Hybrid Alternatives
Stakeholder Engagement
In the past, stakeholder engagement on projects was minimal:

- An afterthought
- Not considered a necessity
- Reactive
- Typically done during construction phase
- Focused on direct abutters
Today, stakeholder engagement is considered critical

- Proactive
- Early and often
- Becoming campaign-oriented
- Requires dedicated resources
- Reaches across many classes of stakeholders
- During all project phases from concept through construction
Stakeholder Engagement - Now

Tools and Tactics for Stakeholder Engagement

- Printed Materials
- Web-Based
- Media
- Outreach Tools
Tribal Consultation and Participation
In the past, consultation with Native American Tribes was

- Less common
- Confined to areas on or near tribal lands
- Dealt with “traditional” archaeology
Today, consultation with Native American Tribes is much more common and robust:

- Required under § 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
- Increase in Federally-recognized Tribes
- Consideration given to ancestral lands
- Expanded beyond “traditional” archaeology
It is critical to engage with Native American tribes

- Early in the process of project development
- Cultivate and maintain relationships
- Incorporate tribal input as a planning element of projects
- Utilize tribal support much like a professional consultant
- Recognize and respect differences in ideology and business
Visual Analysis
In the past, visual analysis was rudimentary

- Engineering-based “renderings”
- Considered only basic elements
  - Structure Heights
  - Immediate Topography
  - Sight Lines
Visual Analysis and Modeling has become an area of expertise and is a refined discipline

- Viewshed Analysis
- Visual Simulations
- Simulated Drive-throughs and Fly-overs
- Tools for analyzing visual impacts, but also tools for communicating project details and proposals
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