

Black Canyon Switchyard

This proposed project will replace and relocate the existing 69 kV switchyard at the Black Canyon Dam. The switchyard was installed when the facility was constructed in the 1920's. The switchyard has had minor improvements over the last 90 years and that work has not fully addressed current safety and environmental requirements. The switchyard does not have a ground mat, has no means to install appropriate grounding, does not include secondary oil containment and the security fence does not have appropriate clearance to switches.

The location of the existing switchyard is in one of the most heavily traveled areas on the facility and is immediately adjacent to an office/warehouse building. The proximity of personnel, office systems and portable equipment to the switchyard creates a hazard should any of the high voltage equipment fail.

When the facility and switchyard were originally constructed, the power and control cables were installed in a common trench. This configuration and design does not meet modern standards because an electrical fault could destroy the control cable, limiting the ability of the facility to control the hydroelectric generating units. This project will separate the power and control cables that lead to and from the switchyard.