



Ohio Valley Electric Corporation – Indiana-Kentucky Electric Corporation Interconnection Requirements

Since its inception in the 1950's, Ohio Valley Electric Corporation (OVEC) and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Indiana-Kentucky Electric Corporation (IKEC, both companies together referred to collectively as OVEC), has contracted with American Electric Power Service Corporation (AEP) to perform certain engineering services, including transmission planning, on OVEC's behalf. Because of this close relationship, OVEC follows the AEP Interconnection Requirements.

On December 1, 2018, OVEC was integrated into the PJM RTO as a Transmission Owning member. As such, OVEC also complies with all PJM Interconnection requirements.

For additional information on OVEC's Interconnection Requirements, contact:

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The remainder of this document contains the AEP Approved Contractors.



AEP Transmission

AEP Approved Contractors and Major-Equipment Vendors

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Supersedes Revision 6 of this document

Description: List of currently approved contractors and major-equipment vendors for use by all AEP affiliates.

Note: Printed copies of this document are uncontrolled and may be obsolete. This document has been prepared by and is the property of, American Electric Power Company, Inc.



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1.0 Purpose

This document provides a list of AEP Transmission's currently approved contractors and major-equipment vendors that provide materials and services. The list is intended for use by Interconnection Customers exercising an option to build transmission facilities as part of an Interconnection project.

Note: AEP Transmission's contractor and vendor relationships can change at any time. Once the Interconnection Customer has entered into an interconnection agreement, the Interconnection Customer should contact AEP Transmission to review the most up-to-date list.

2.0 Scope

Except as noted otherwise, this document applies to projects within the following Regional Transmission Organizations:

- [PJM Interconnection](#)
- [Southwest Power Pool](#)

This document does not apply in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas.

3.0 Requirements for Transmission-Connected Facilities to be Owned and Operated by AEP

Approved contractors and vendors are subject to change. Additional AEP equipment specifications will apply based on the nature and location of the project. Please consult AEP for any updates prior to material procurement.

AEP has established minimum requirements for equipment warranties. The requirements can be found on AEP's [Business to Business page](#), in the "Documents & Standards" section, labeled "Transmission and Distribution Material and Equipment Warranty Terms."

Interconnection Customers must obtain warranties that meet the required durations, and the warranties must be included with the Interconnection Customer's contracts and purchase orders. As part of the transfer of ownership, Interconnection Customers will be required to assign warranties to AEP. If the warranty provisions are not satisfactory, transfers may be delayed until Interconnection Customers correct the deficiencies.

Upon request from an Interconnection Customer, AEP will evaluate candidate contractors and vendors not listed below.



4.0 Approved Option to Build Contractors

4.1 Engineer, Procure, and Construct (EPC) Contractors

Contractor Name
Aldridge
Beta Engineering
Black & Veatch Holding Company
Burns & McDonnell
Dashiell Corporation
Kiewit Corporation
M. A. Mortenson Company
Michels Corporation
MYR Energy Services, Inc.
RCM Technologies
Quanta Infrastructure Group, LLC

4.2 Transmission Line Engineering and Design Contractors

Contractor Name
Beta Engineering
Black & Veatch Holding Company
Burns & McDonnell
Commonwealth Associates, Inc.
Dashiell Corporation
Gannett Fleming, Inc.
HDR, Inc.

Contractor Name
Kiewit Corporation
Leidos
M&S Engineering
Mesa Associates, Inc.*
POWER Engineers, Inc.
RCM Technologies (USA), Inc.
TRC Companies, Inc.

4.3 Station Engineering and Design Contractors

Contractor Name
Beta Engineering
Black & Veatch Holding Company
Burns & McDonnell
Commonwealth Associates, Inc.
Dashiell Corporation
Gannett Fleming, Inc.
HDR, Inc.
Kiewit Corporation
Leidos
Mesa Associates, Inc.*
POWER Engineers, Inc.

* Diverse Supplier.



Contractor Name
RCM Technologies (USA), Inc.
TRC Companies, Inc.

4.4 Station Construction Contractors

Contractor Name
Aldridge
Bruce & Merrilees Electric Company
Cianbro
Great Southwestern Construction, Inc.
Irby Construction Company
Kent Power, Inc. [†]
The L. E. Myers Company
Luburgh Inc. [†]
Michels Corporation
M.J. Electric, LLC
New River Electrical Corporation
Newkirk Electric [†]
Nicolozakes Trucking & Construction, Inc. [†]
North Houston Pole Line [‡]
PAR Electrical Contractors, LLC
Service Electric Company

[†]Applies to the PJM region only.

[‡]Applies to the SPP region only.



Contractor Name
Thompson Electric, Inc. [†]
Vaughn Industries, LLC

4.5 Transmission Line Construction Contractors

Contractor Name
Cianbro
Great Southwestern Construction, Inc.
Irby Construction Company
Kent Power, Inc.
Michels Corporation
M.J. Electric, LLC
New River Electrical Corporation
North Houston Pole Line [‡]
PAR Electrical Contractors, LLC
Service Electric Company
Vaughn Industries, LLC

4.6 Grading/Site Preparation/Access Road/Right of Way (ROW) Clearing Contractors

Contractor Name
BC Excavating, Ltd. [†]
Beaver Excavating Company [†]

[†]Applies to the PJM region only.



Contractor Name
Bobcat Heavy Civil, LLC [‡]
Cecil Goodwin, Inc. d/b/a Good-One Excavating [†]
Cobalt Civil, LLC [†]
The Great Lakes Construction Company [†]
Independence Excavating, Inc.
Johnson Construction, Inc. [‡]
K&D Construction ^{*‡}
Kokosing Industrial, Inc. [†]
Kwest Group, LLC
Newpark Mats & Integrated Services, LLC
Phillips & Jordan, Inc.
Zemba Brothers, Inc. [†]

4.7 Station and Protection & Control (P&C) Field Testing and Commissioning Contractors

Contractor Name
Burns & McDonnell
HVA: P&C / Field Services
IPS PowerServe
Oklahoma Electrical Supply Company

[‡]Applies to the SPP region only.

^{*}Diverse Supplier.

[†]Applies to the PJM region only.



Contractor Name
Phase to Phase, LLC
Point on Wave, LLC
Qualus (Power Grid Engineering LLC)
Shermco Industries
Think Power Solutions
Tidal Power Services, LLC
TRC Companies, Inc.

Note: Interconnection Customers must use fully vetted P&C leads and assistants. All contractor and subcontractor personnel working on the project testing and commissioning activities shall be pre-approved by AEP Transmission. The contractor and/or subcontractor doing the testing and commissioning shall engage AEP Transmission's Transmission Field Services (TFS) P&C team no less than 90 days before arrival on site to assess the abilities and seek approval for the individuals assigned to the project. AEP Transmission will meet personally with all of the testing and commissioning contractor's and subcontractor's employees who will be working on the project.

AEP Transmission reserves the right to approve or reject individual contractor and subcontractor employees. Interconnection Customers should work with the approved contractor to ensure their staff has met this requirement.

5.0 Approved Vendors for Major Equipment

5.1 Substation Equipment

5.1.1 Switches

5.1.1.1 Center Break: 15kV–230kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.	Leeds, AL
Pascor Atlantic Corporation	Bland, VA
Royal Switchgear Manufacturing Company, Inc.	Bessemer, AL



5.1.1.2 Center Break: 345kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Noventa di Piave, Italy
Pascor Atlantic Corporation	Bland, VA
Royal Switchgear Manufacturing Company, Inc.	Bessemer, AL
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

5.1.1.3 Double-End Break: 230kV–500kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Noventa di Piave, Italy
Pascor Atlantic Corporation	Bland, VA
Royal Switchgear Manufacturing Company, Inc.	Bessemer, AL
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

5.1.1.4 Mega-Switch (Phase-to-Phase Clearance): 138kV–765kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Noventa di Piave, Italy
Hubbell	Leeds, AL
Southern Electrical Equipment Company, Inc.	Charlotte, NC
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

5.1.1.5 Semi-Pantograph: 345kV–765kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Noventa di Piave, Italy

*Diverse Supplier.



5.1.1.6 Vertical Break: 69kV–161kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.	Leeds, AL
Pascor Atlantic Corporation	Bland, VA
Royal Switchgear Manufacturing Company Inc.	Bessemer, AL
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

5.1.1.7 Vertical Break: 765kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Noventa di Piave, Italy
Pascor Atlantic Corporation	Bland, VA

5.1.2 Arresters

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)	Comment
Eaton	Olean, NY	4kV–230kV
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Mt. Pleasant, PA Ludvika, Sweden	All kV
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Berlin, Germany	All kV

5.1.3 Capacitor Banks

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Eaton	Greenwood, SC
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Clearwater, FL

*Diverse Supplier.



5.1.4 CCVTs

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Waynesboro, GA
Trench Ltd.	Pickering, ON, Canada

5.1.5 Circuit Breakers

5.1.5.1 Circuit Breakers: 69kV, 40kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.2 Circuit Breakers: 138kV, 40kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Hitachi Energy Ltd.	Mount Pleasant, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.3 Circuit Breakers: 138kV, 63 kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS



5.1.5.4 Circuit Breakers: 138kV, 80kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hitachi Energy Ltd.	Mount Pleasant, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.5 Circuit Breakers: 170kV, 40 kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Hitachi Energy Ltd.	Mount Pleasant, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.6 Circuit Breakers: 170kV, 63 kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.7 Circuit Breakers: 170 kV, 80kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hitachi Energy Ltd.	Mount Pleasant, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS



5.1.5.8 Circuit Breakers: 230kV, 50kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.9 Circuit Breakers: 230kV, 80kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.10 Circuit Breakers: 345kV, 50/63kA

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.11 Circuit Breakers: 500kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Jackson, MS

5.1.5.12 Circuit Breakers: 765kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
HICO America	Changwon, South Korea
Hitachi T&D Solutions, Inc.	Suwanee, GA Hitachi City, Japan



Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA Itami, Japan

5.1.5.13 Circuit Breakers: 765kV Reactor

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA

5.1.6 Circuit Switchers

5.1.6.1 Capacitor Switching: 15kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Queretaro, Mexico Wendell, NC
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

5.1.6.2 Capacitor Switching: 38kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Queretaro, Mexico
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

5.1.6.3 Capacitor Switching: 69kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hitachi T&D Solutions, Inc.	Suwanee, GA
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

*Diverse Supplier.



5.1.6.4 Capacitor Switching: 145kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hitachi T&D Solutions, Inc.	Suwanee, GA

5.1.6.5 Capacitor Switching: 161kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Southern States, LLC*	Hampton, GA

5.1.6.6 Capacitor Switching: 345kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA

5.1.6.7 Transformer Switching: 69kV–138kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Charleroi, PA
Hitachi Energy Ltd.	Mount Pleasant, PA
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Warrendale, PA

5.1.7 Gas-Insulated Switchgear (GIS)

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
HICO America Sales & Technology Inc.	Memphis, TN
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Not specific
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Not specific

5.1.8 Line Traps

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Itajuba, MG, Brazil
Trench Ltd.	Scarborough, ON, Canada



5.1.9 Instrument Transformers

5.1.9.1 Instrument Transformers: 4kV–46kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Arteche USA Inc.	Tepeil Del Rio, Mexico

5.1.9.2 Instrument Transformers: 69kV–345kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Pfiffner Instrument Transformers, Ltd.	Hirschthal, Switzerland
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Waynesboro, GA
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Crystal Springs, MS

5.1.10 Power Transformers

5.1.10.1 Small: 69kV and Below Primary Voltage

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Delta Star Inc.	Lynchburg, VA San Carlos, CA
GE Prolec Transformers Inc.	Monterrey, Mexico Goldsboro, NC Waukesha, WI
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Crystal Springs, MS
Niagara Transformer Corp.	Buffalo, NY
Pennsylvania Transformer Technology Inc.	Cannonsburg, PA

5.1.10.2 Medium: 138kV Primary Voltage, 50MVA and Below

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Delta Star Inc.	Lynchburg, VA San Carlos, CA



Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Prolec Transformers Inc.	Monterrey, Mexico Goldsboro, NC Waukesha, WI
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Crystal Springs, MS South Boston, VA
Pennsylvania Transformer Technology Inc.	Cannonsburg, PA

5.1.10.3 Auto Transformers: 138kV–161kV Primary Voltage, 51MVA and Above

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Prolec Transformers Inc.	Monterrey, Mexico Goldsboro, NC Waukesha, WI
HICO America Sales & Technology Inc.	Memphis, TN Changwon, South Korea
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	South Boston, VA
HD Hyundai Electric America Corporation	Montgomery, AL

5.1.10.4 Auto Transformers: 230kV–345kV Primary Voltage

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
GE Prolec Transformers Inc.	Waukesha, WI
HICO America Sales & Technology Inc.	Memphis, TN Changwon, South Korea
HD Hyundai Electric America Corporation	Montgomery, AL
SMIT Transformatoren B.V.	Nijmegen, Netherlands
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Cordoba, Spain

5.1.10.5 Auto Transformers: 500kV–765kV Primary Voltage

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
HICO America Sales & Technology Inc.	Changwon, South Korea

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Ludvika, Sweden Cordoba, Spain
Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc.	Ako, Japan
SMIT Transformatoren B.V.	Nijmegen, Netherlands
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Weiz, Austria

5.1.11 Reactors

5.1.11.1 Air Core Reactors

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Coil Innovations GmbH	Eferding, Austria
GE Grid Solutions, LLC	Itajuba, MG, Brazil
Trench Ltd.	Scarborough, ON, Canada

5.1.11.2 Oil-Filled Reactors: 230kV–345kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
HICO America Sales & Technology Inc.	Changwon, South Korea
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Ludvika, Sweden
SMIT Transformatoren B.V.	Nijmegen, Netherlands
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Weiz, Austria

5.1.11.3 Oil-Filled Reactors: 500kV–765kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
HICO America Sales & Technology Inc.	Changwon, South Korea
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.	Ludvika, Sweden
SMIT Transformatoren B.V.	Nijmegen, Netherlands
Siemens Energy, Inc.	Weiz, Austria



5.2 Protection and Control Equipment

5.2.1 Relay Panels

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Avail Enclosure Systems	Millington, MD
Systems Control	Iron Mountain, MI

5.3 Other Substation Equipment

5.3.1 Control Buildings

5.3.1.1 Site-Built

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Parkline, Inc.	Eleanor, WV

5.3.1.2 Drop-In Control Modules

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Avail Enclosure Systems	Millington, MD
Systems Control	Iron Mountain, MI

5.3.2 Insulators

5.3.2.1 Polymer: 4kV–161kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Pfisterer Group	Le Roy, NY
MacLean Power Systems	York, SC
NGK-LOCKE, Inc.	Virginia Beach, VA

5.3.2.2 Porcelain: 4kV–161kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Gamma	South America



Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.	Suzhou, China
Lapp Insulator GmbH	Le Roy, NY
NGK-LOCKE, Inc.	Virginia Beach, VA
PPC Insulators	Europe

5.3.2.3 Porcelain: 230kV–765kV

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
PPC Insulators	Europe

5.3.3 Steel, Anchor Bolts, and Anchor Cages

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)	Comments
Advance Industrial Manufacturing, Inc.	Grove City, OH	
ASC Inc.	Tulsa, OK	
DIS-TRAN Steel	Pineville, LA	Prefabricated steel, equipment and bus assemblies only
Fabsco LLC	Calumet Park, IL	Anchor bolts only, no cages
Sabre Industries	Fort Worth, TX	
TAPP*	Houston, TX	
Valmont Industries, Inc.	Tulsa, OK Valley, NE Monterrey, Mexico Columbus, NE Hazleton, PA Jasper, TN	

*Diverse Supplier.



Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)	Comments
V&S Schuler	Canton, OH Muskogee, OK	

5.4 Transmission Line Equipment

5.4.1 Conductor: Bare Aluminum

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Alubar	Barcarena, Para, Brazil facility only
APAR	Silvassa, India facility only
Prysmian Group/General Cable	Williamsport, PA
Nehring Electrical Works Company	Dekalb, IL
Southwire Company, LLC	Carrolton, GA Hawesville, KY
Sterlite	Silvassa, India facility only

5.4.2 Conductor: Specialty

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
3M	St. Paul, MN
CTC Global Corporation	Irvine, CA

5.4.3 Conductor Hardware

5.4.3.1 Bolted Clamp

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.	Leeds, AL
Lindsey Systems	Azusa, CA
Maclean Power Systems	Pelham, AL



Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Salvi/Sicame	Dervaux, France

5.4.3.2 Compression

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
AFL Global	Duncan, SC
Burndy	Manchester, NH
DMC Power	Gardenia, CA
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.	Leeds, AL

5.4.3.3 Spacer, Spacer-Damper, and Armor Rod

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
AFL Global	Duncan, SC
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.	Leeds, AL
MacLean Power Systems	Pelham, AL
Preformed Line Products	Rogers, AR
Salvi/Sicame	Dervaux, France

5.4.4 Ground Wire

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Alubar	Barcarena, Para, Brazil facility only
AFL Global	Duncan, SC
APAR	Silvassa, India facility only
Nehring Electrical Works Company	Dekalb, IL
Prysmian Group/General Cable	Malvern, AR
Southwire Company, LLC	Carrolton, GA



Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Sterlite	Silvassa, India facility only

5.4.5 Insulators

5.4.5.1 Polymer

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.	Aiken, SC
Pfisterer Group	LeRoy, NY
Maclean Power Systems	York, SC
NGK-LOCKE, Inc.	Virginia Beach, VA

5.4.5.2 Porcelain Disc

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Lapp Insulator GmbH	LeRoy, NY

5.4.5.3 Toughened Glass

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Sichuan Yibin Global Group Co., LTD.	Chendgu City, Sichuan Province, China
Hubbell Power Systems	Spain
Sediver	Shanghai, China

5.4.6 Structures

5.4.6.1 Latticed Steel

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Locweld	Candiac, QC, Canada
MICA Steelworks	Kaufman, TX



Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
MITAŞ	Ankara, Türkiye İzmir, Türkiye
ŞA-RA	Adana, Türkiye
SAE Towers	Monterrey, Mexico

5.4.6.2 Tubular Steel

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Sabre Industries	Alvarado, TX Fort Worth, TX Hicksville, OH Sioux City, IA
Valmont Industries, Inc.	Columbus, NE Jasper, TN Monterrey, Mexico Tulsa, OK Valley, NE
TAPP*	Guadalajara, Mexico Monclova, Mexico

5.4.6.3 Wood Poles

Vendor	Approved Factory Location(s)
Stella-Jones Corporation	Not specific

*Diverse Supplier.
