

1.4.25 Distribution System Decision Support Tool Development and Application

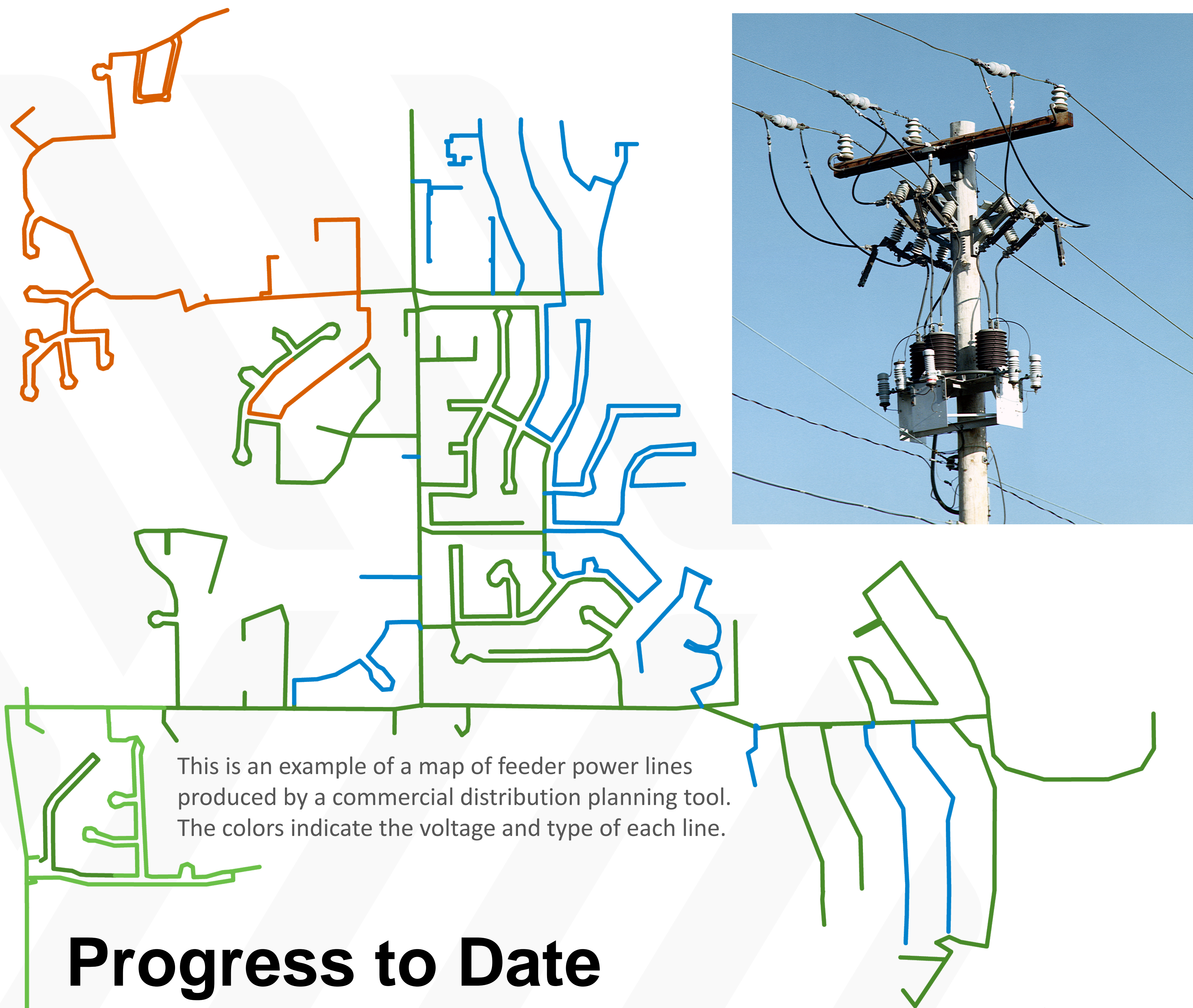
Project Description

Identify strategies and provide technical assistance to state regulators and utility organizations on advanced electric distribution planning methods and tools. These efforts focus on incorporating emerging grid modernization technologies and the significant deployment of distributed energy resources.

Expected Outcomes

- A training program on integrated distribution system planning is established for state utility regulators.
- Gaps between existing and emerging distribution planning practices are identified and recommendations are developed for needed advancements in planning tools.

Significant Milestones	Date
Publish a technical report that summarizes major distribution system analyses, applications and tools.	April 2017
Conduct training for state utility regulators on distribution system planning and emerging issues.	Beginning Summer 2017
Publish a technical report that identifies remaining gaps, development requirements, and lessons learned on distribution system planning tools.	April 2018



Progress to Date

- Identified opportunities to support distribution planning activities of the APPA and NRECA.
- Organized an education program on distribution planning at the IEEE Smart Grid conference.
- Established an advisory group of state public utility commissions (PUCs) to identify distribution planning needs and a training program to help meet those needs, in partnership with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC).
- Facilitated and presented at PUC workshops on integrating the distribution planning process with resource and transmission planning.
- Internal lab report on emerging distribution planning practices in six leading states.