

IMPLO Takes the Heat of Hells Canyon



The Brownlee Dam (viewed from the reservoir side) is part of a series of hydro-generation facilities in Hells Canyon, nestled between the Oregon and Idaho border.

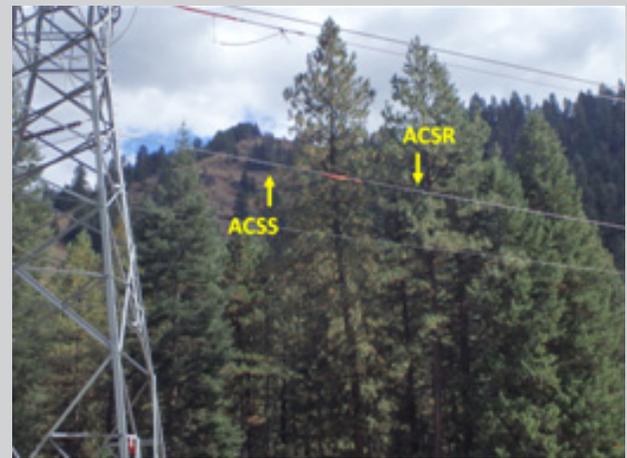


The two-circuit transmission line originates from the Brownlee Dam and Ox-Bow facilities. They join through a single right-of-way, traversing difficult terrain and crossing the Snake River. IMPLO splices are pulled through the travelers, greatly simplifying this project.

Forming the northern border between the states of Oregon and Idaho, the Snake River winds its way through a remote area of the Pacific Northwest. Over millions of years it carved out the deepest gorge in North America - Hells Canyon. In more recent history, the river became the source of renewable energy to the region, having been tamed in a series of three locations for hydroelectric generation.

One dual-circuit line from these facilities was showing the strain of high energy demand. Peak loads would result in precarious sag of the conductor that needed to be addressed. Part of the solution was to swap out the existing ACSR conductor with ACSS. This change would allow the original structures to remain in place, while increasing the load capacity of the line at higher temperatures.

An upgrade to high-temp conductor alone, however, will not work without the appropriate deadend and splice connections. Extreme operating temperature variations are devastating to connections not designed for this application. IMPLO connections are the perfect solution. IMPLO technology is unparalleled for creating the highest electrical contact area, while locking out oxide degradation from within, even at high temperature. When a line needs to operate reliably in the wrath of Hells Canyon, IMPLO is the right choice.



Line upgrade - pulling out the old ACSR conductor while pulling in the new ACSS. Both splices **and** deadends need to handle the high load temperatures.

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