

FirstEnergy to invest \$225 million on infrastructure

By The Associated Press

FAIRMONT, W.Va. – FirstEnergy Corp. expects to spend about \$225 million this year on distribution and transmission infrastructure projects in Mon Power's 34-county service area.

About \$97 million is earmarked for transmission-related projects. One project involves a new 138-kilovolt transmission line that will support the natural gas industry and enhance electric service reliability for nearly 13,000 Mon Power customers in the Clarksburg and Salem areas. That's a \$38 million project.

More than \$25 million will be spent to provide electrical service to new residential and commercial customers in north-central West Virginia, specifically the Interstate 79 corridor and Parkersburg region.

The utility will also inspect about 75,000 distribution poles and replace about 250 poles at an expected cost of more than \$800,000.

Mon Power, a FirstEnergy subsidiary, serves about 385,000 customers in 34 West Virginia counties.