

Energy Currents

ESRI • Fall 2009

GIS for Energy

High Winds Mean High Time for GIS Technology

Central Lincoln People's Utility District Finds Affordable GIS Solutions

By Jessica Wyland, ESRI

Living in the Kite Capital of the World means lovely Saturday afternoons for most residents of Lincoln County in Oregon, but for utility crews, it means extensive efforts to keep the power flowing despite outrageous winds that send trees crashing into electric lines.

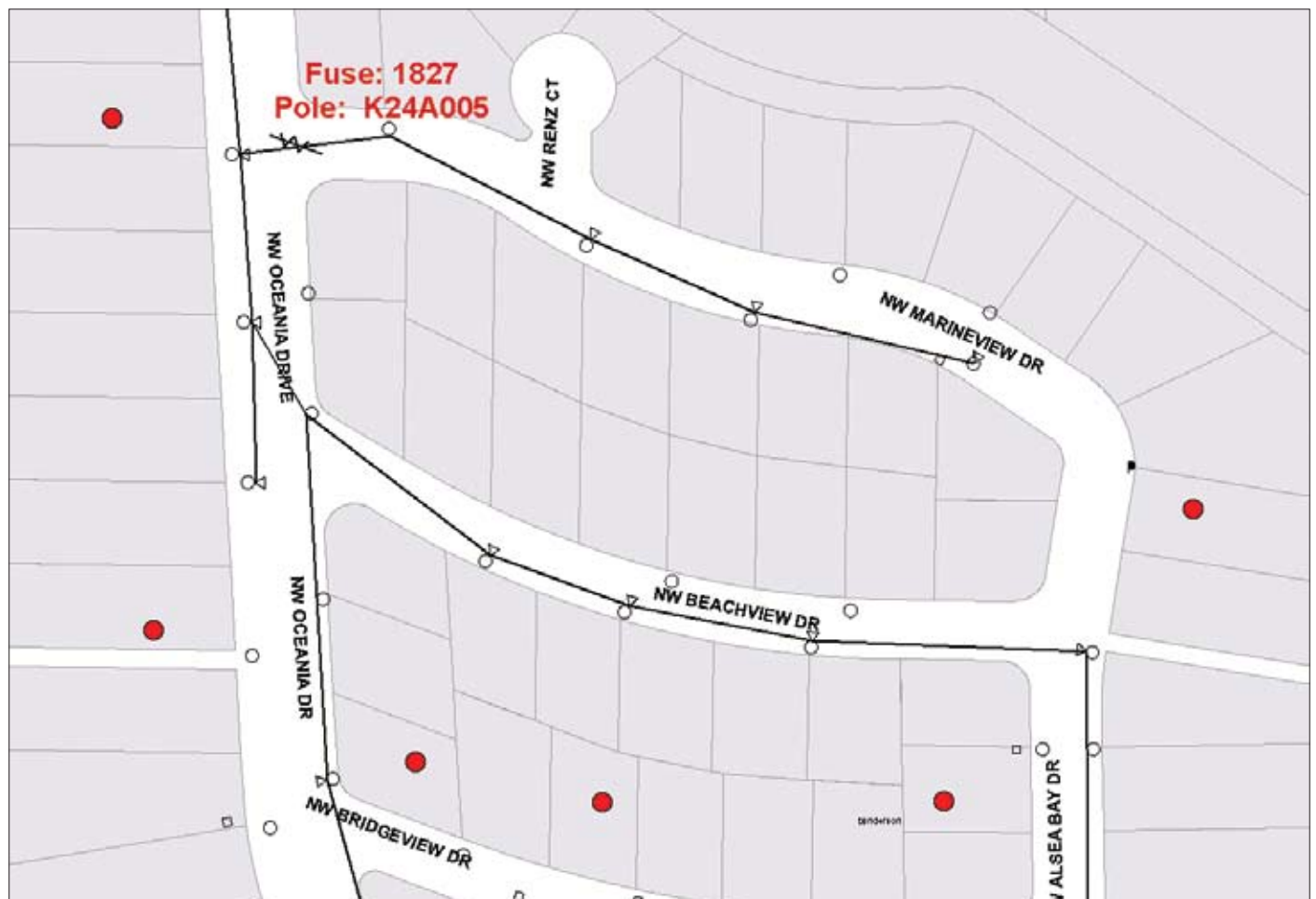
Central Lincoln People's Utility District found a faster way to prevent and fix such outages with

vegetation and outage management based on GIS technology from ESRI. The utility serves approximately 38,000 customers along the central Oregon coast—a strip 100 miles long and 2 miles wide.

“With extreme winds, a lot of our transmission and distribution lines are susceptible to trees,” said Neal Myers, GIS supervisor for

Central Lincoln People's Utility District.

“Through GIS, we are able to link our voice recognition system with customer information. When we get an outage call, we are able to quickly create a work order and deploy field crews directly to the trouble areas.”



Central Lincoln uses GIS to link information in the automated call system to corresponding services.

Solutions for Small Utilities

Central Lincoln gained greater access to GIS technology by joining ESRI's Small Utility Enterprise License Agreement (SU-ELA) program. Through the SU-ELA program, utilities with 100,000 meters/connections or fewer are assured unlimited deployments of ESRI's ArcGIS platform to desktop, server, and mobile devices. Additional program benefits include

maintenance and support for products, staff training at a reduced cost, and passes to ESRI's International User Conference.

At the heart of the SU-ELA program is ESRI's ArcGIS software, an open, scalable, and interoperable platform that provides a complete system to create, serve, and use geographic information. An enterprise GIS, based on ArcGIS technology, benefits designers,

analysts, decision makers, field staff, and customers through mobile, Web server, and

For more information on the SU-ELA program and to listen to the SU-ELA podcast, visit www.esri.com/suela. To speak to an expert, call 1-800-447-9778, extension 2990.



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