

Anaconda – Dixon – Silverbow Transformer

This project will install a new transformer at Dixon Substation, move an existing transformer from Dixon to Anaconda Substation and retire the transformer at Silver Bow Substation. The work will address several issues in the Western Montana Area:

- Dixon: The transformer at Dixon Substation is currently out of phase with Mission Valley Power's (MVP) system when it is fed from Kerr Substation. This causes 15 minute forced outages to MVP's 15MW load when switching between Kerr and Dixon point of deliveries, occurring 4-6 times per year.
- Anaconda: Transformer bank #1 at Anaconda is past its end of life. There are high core losses on the transformer. The transformer is also in poor health, with an effective age exceeding 100 years, with an expected life of 72 years. The oil is gassing, and is PCB contaminated. Due to the high maintenance costs and risk of failure, this is a high-priority replacement. The completion of this project also enables the retirement of the Garrison-Anaconda #1 line.
- Silver Bow: The transformer at Silver Bow is at end of life and needs to be replaced. However, the station serves no purpose except to transform from 115kV to 69kV to serve Vigilante Electric Cooperative (VEC). BPA continues to incur operations, maintenance, and replacement costs. With a 230/69kV transformer at Anaconda, Silver Bow can be retired.