



In the US, Empire District Electric Company selected Novinium to rejuvenate its underground cables as an alternative to more costly open-trench cable-replacement works.

The majority of Empire's underground rural distribution (URD) cable is 1/0 bare concentric neutral that is more than 35 years old. The utility started experiencing increasing reliability issues on more than 17,000 feet of cable including power outages in residential and commercial areas due to the age of the cable.

Various contractors quoted cable-replacement costs as high as US\$100 per foot owing to tricky geology.

By utilising Novinium's hybrid injection approach, Empire is able to address reliability issues in challenging terrain for a fraction of the cost of cable replacement. After a complete cost-analysis of cable rejuvenation, Empire District Electric Company found that it saved more than 70% compared to the traditional method of addressing older cable via replacement.

Empire contracted Novinium beyond the initial work performed in 2011. In 2012, Empire continued to implement its cable rejuvenation process by treating over 39,000 feet of 1/0 and 4/0 bare cable. More than 25,000 feet of URD cable was rejuvenated in 2013. Empire plans to rejuvenate all of its ageing URD cable over the next several years.

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