

# Bipole III Transmission Project

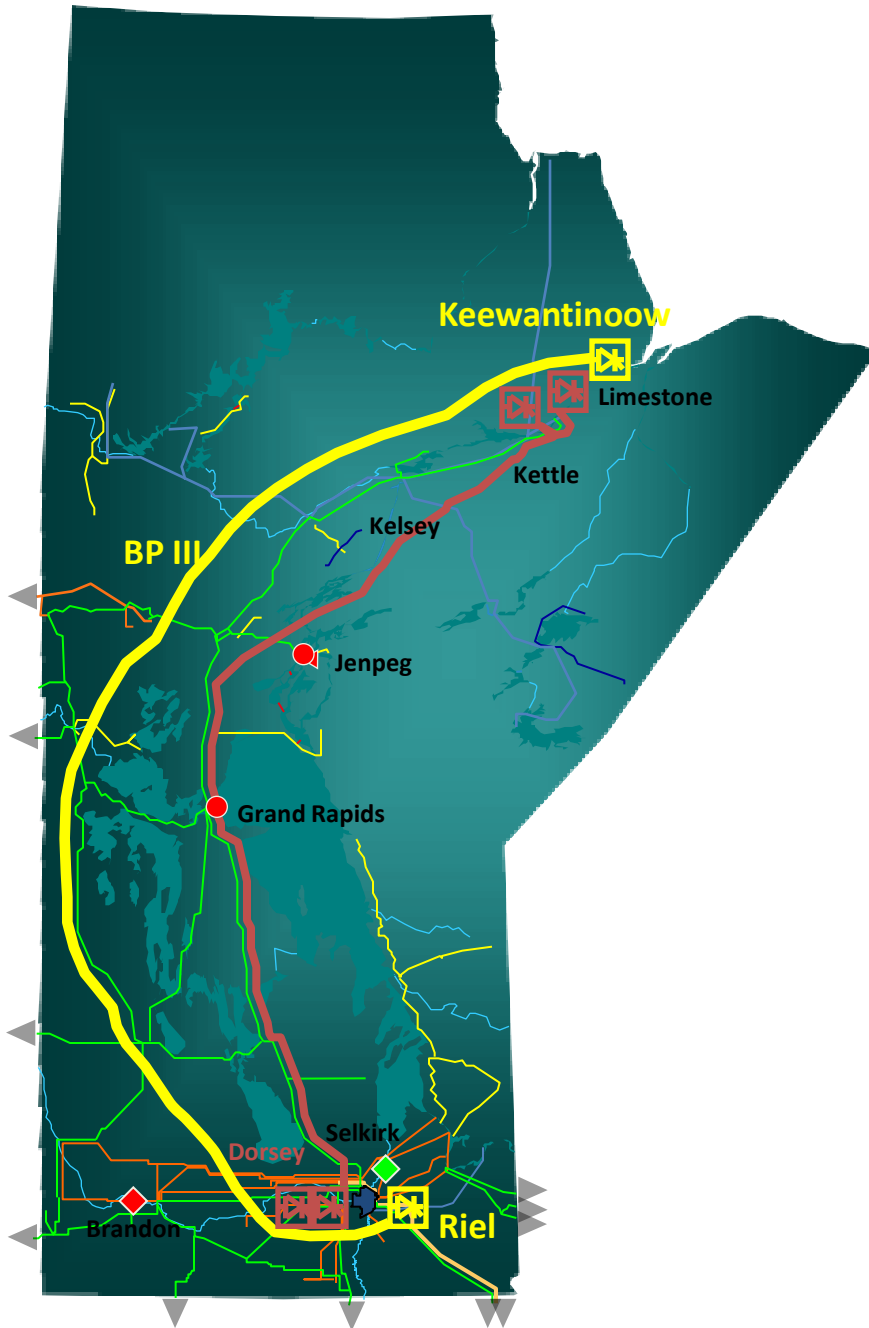
Clean Environment Commission  
Public Hearings

Fall 2012

*System Planning*

*Ronald Mazur*

# OVERVIEW



- Transmission Options
  - 500 kV HVDC ~ 1384 km transmission line
- Keewatin converter station
  - Rated 2000 MW
  - Northern Collector System transmission
- Riel 2000 MW converter station
  - Rated 2000 MW
  - Riel 230 kV AC transmission
- Converter Technology Options
  - LCC vs. VSC
- Conclusion

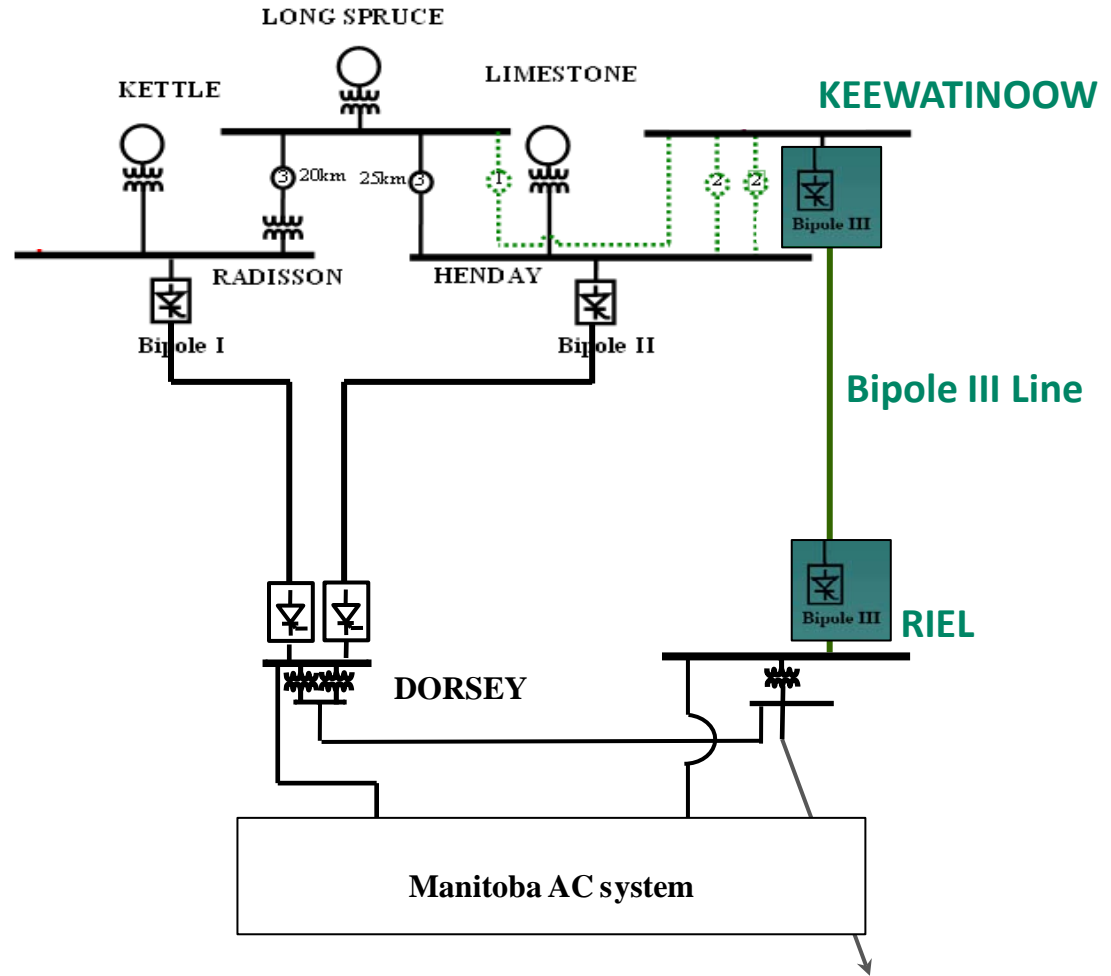
# Transmission Options

- High Voltage DC
- High Voltage AC

# Why HVdc ?

- Technical Merits

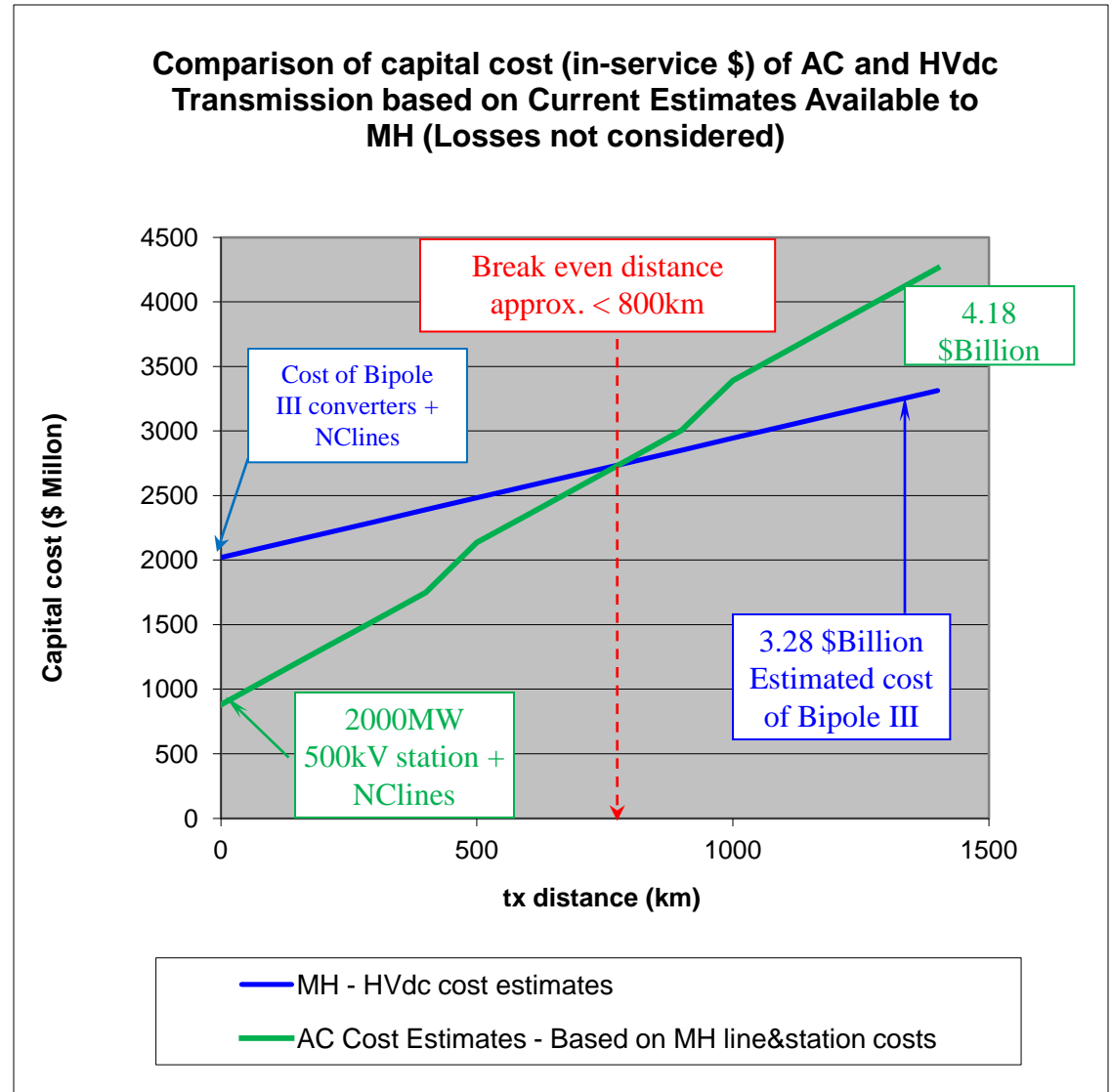
- Facilitates Connection to isolated Northern Collector System
- Lower Losses



# Why HVdc ?

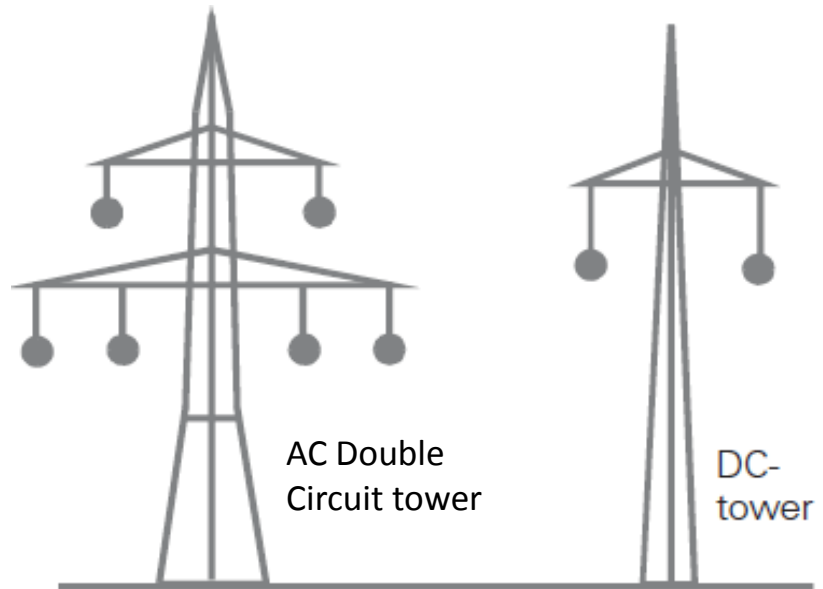
- Economic considerations

- HVdc converters are costly
- HVdc line is less costly
- AC stations are less costly
- AC line is more expensive
- HVdc more economical than AC for long distance



# Why HVdc ?

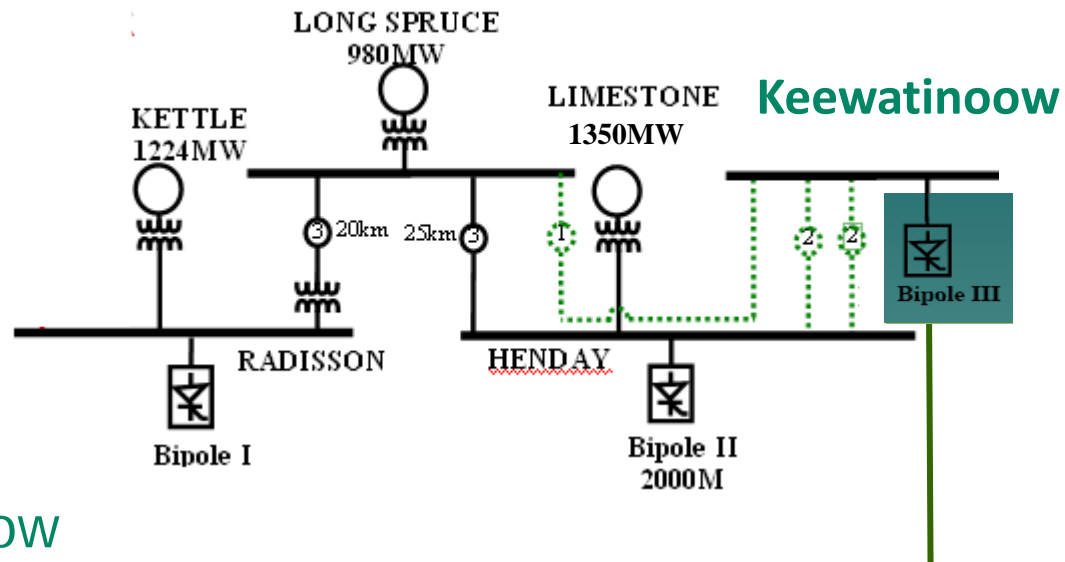
- Environmental advantages compared to AC
  - Smaller transmission tower
  - Narrower right-of-way



*Source : HVdc – Proven Technology for Power Exchange by Siemens*

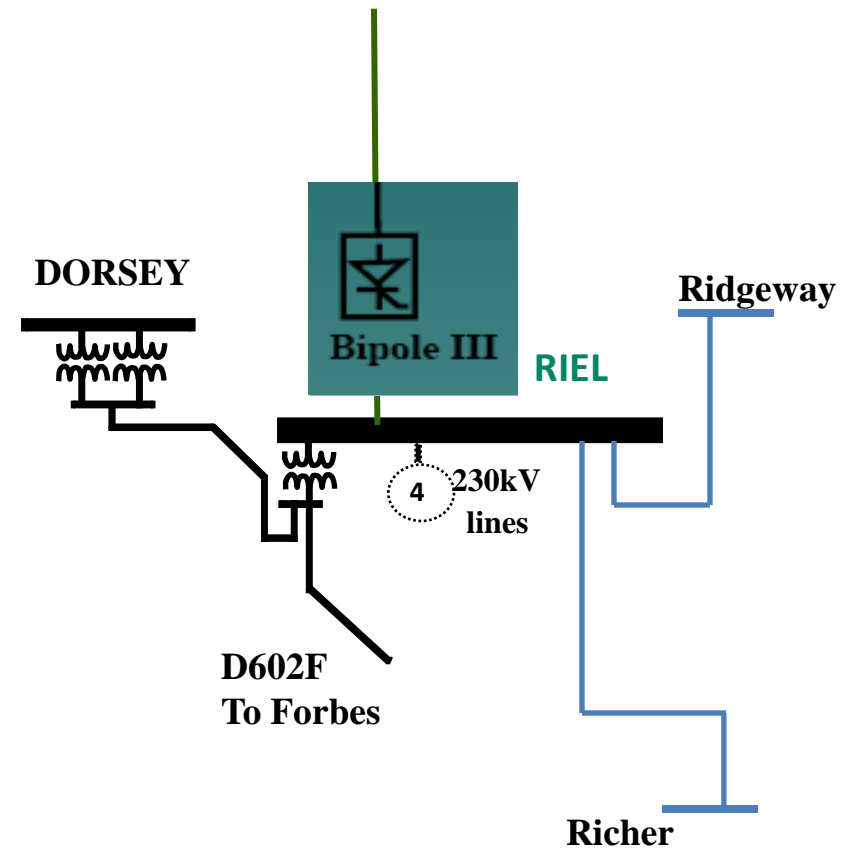
# Bipole III Transmission – Sending End

- Northern Converter - Keewatinoow CS
- Northern Collector System Lines
  - Long Spruce – Keewatinoow
    - 1 x 230 kV line
    - 52 km
  - Henday – Keewatinoow
    - 4 x 230 kV lines
    - 27 km each



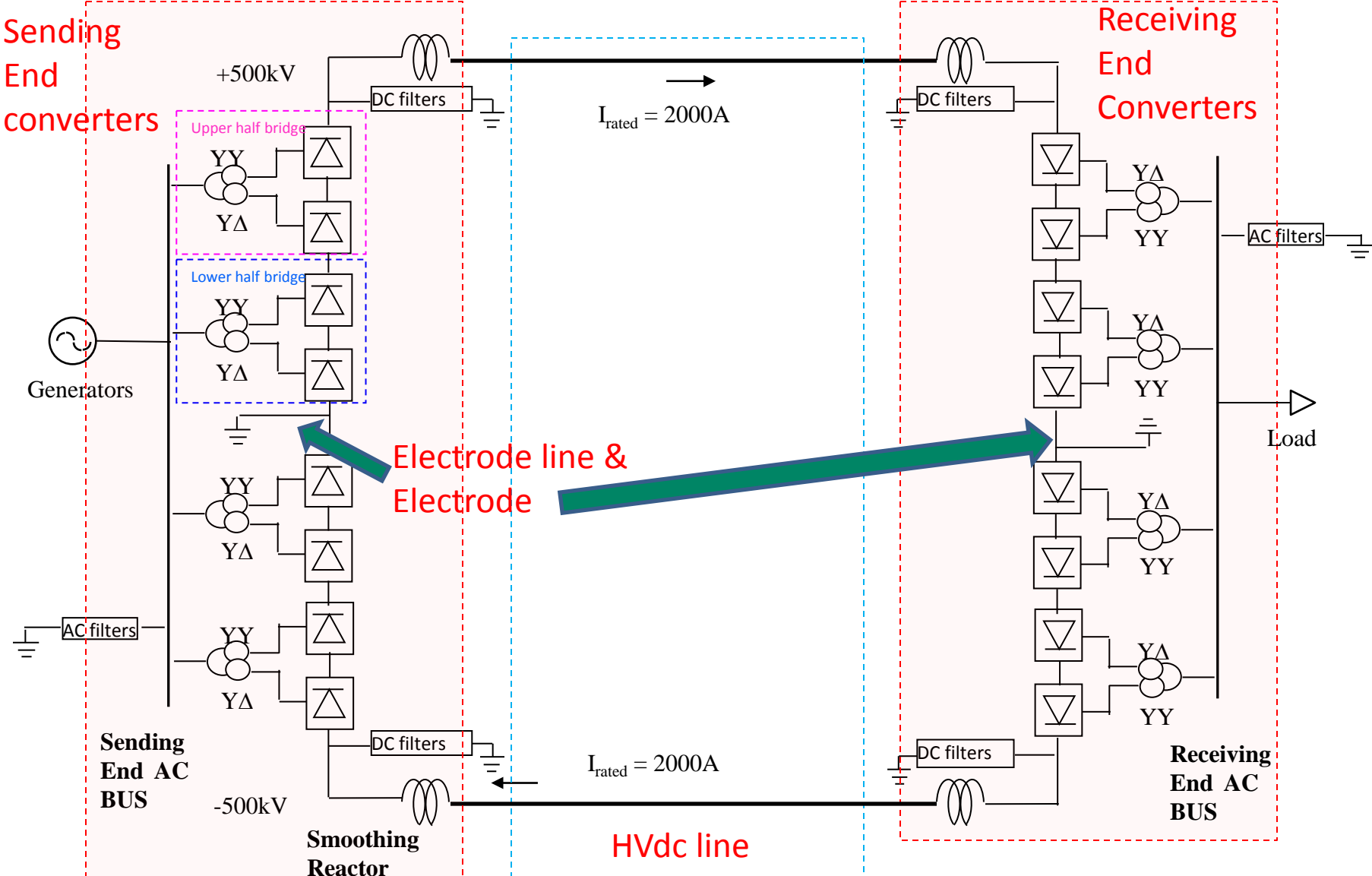
# Bipole III Transmission – Receiving End

- Southern Converter - Riel CS
  - Sectionalize Richer 230 kV lines R49R

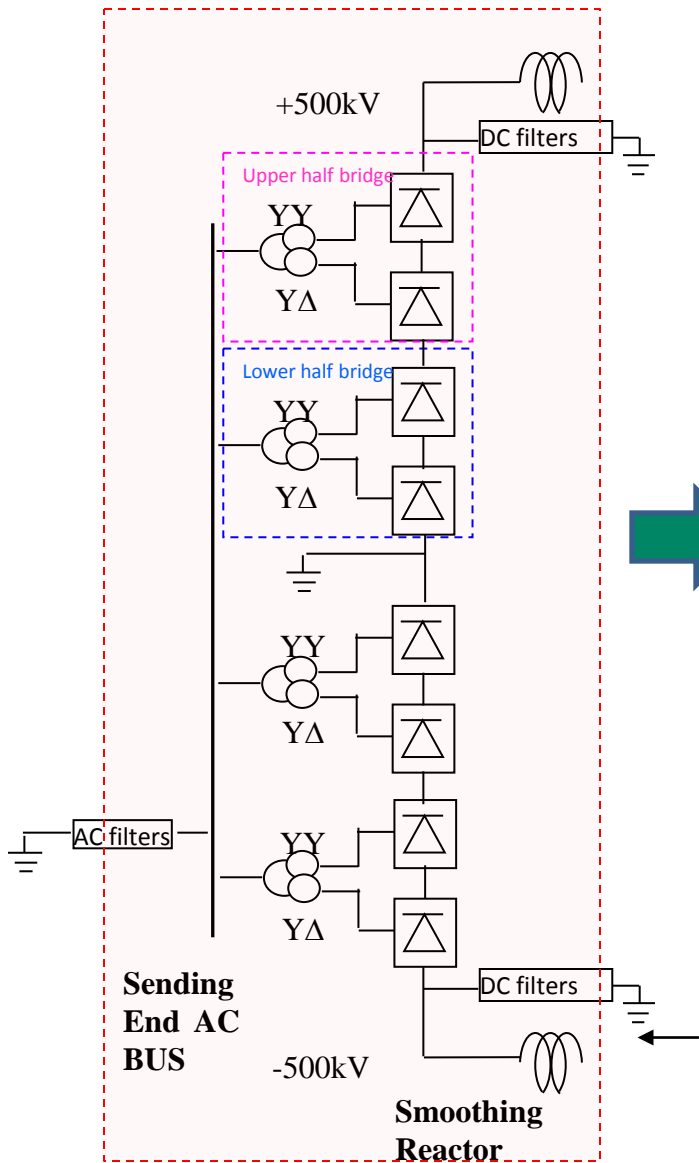




# What is HVdc ?

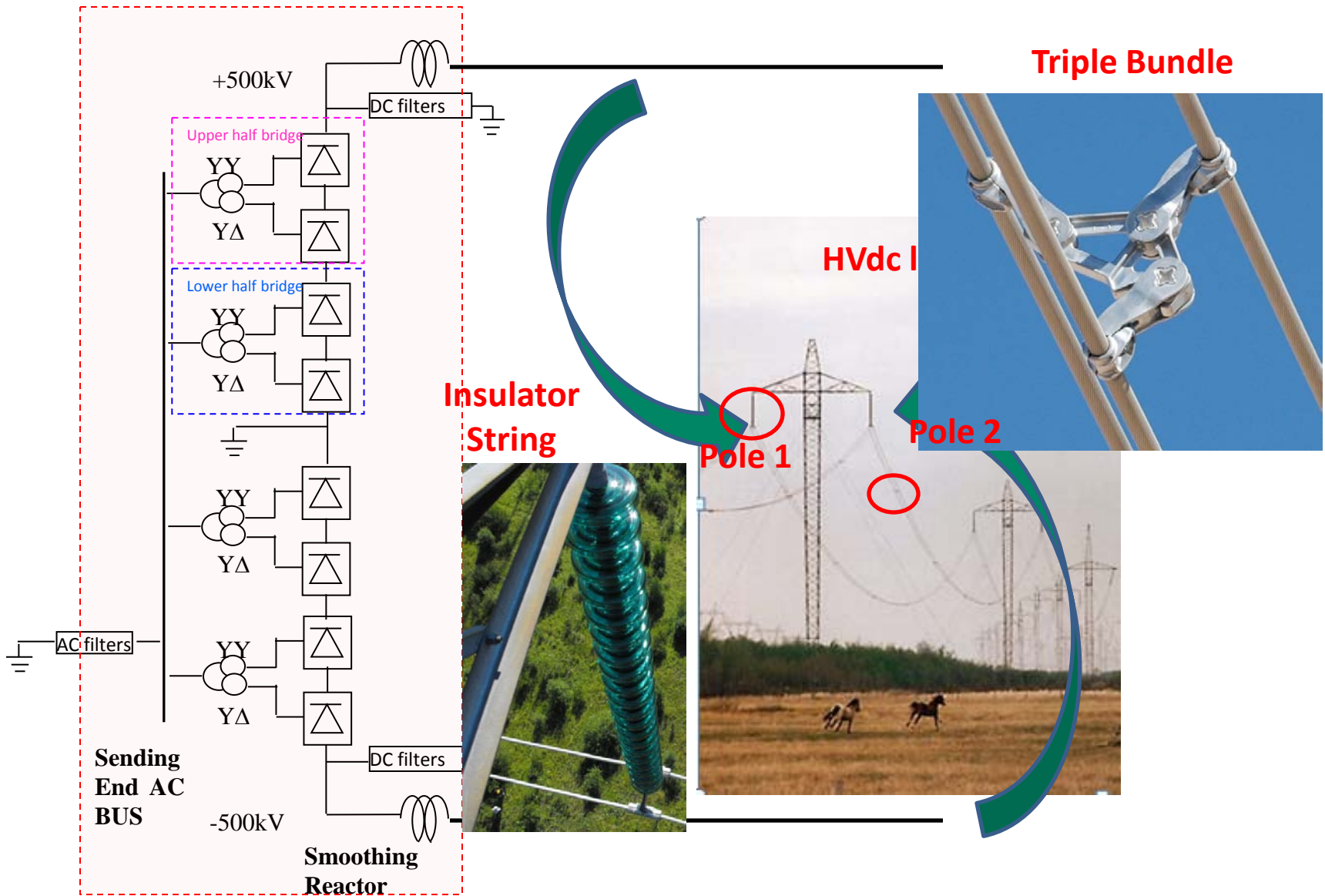


# Converter Station



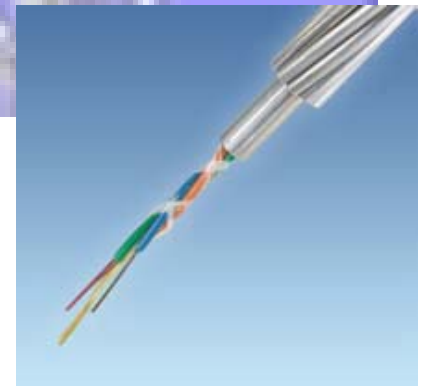
*Converter Station (Henday)*

# HVdc Line – Two Conductors

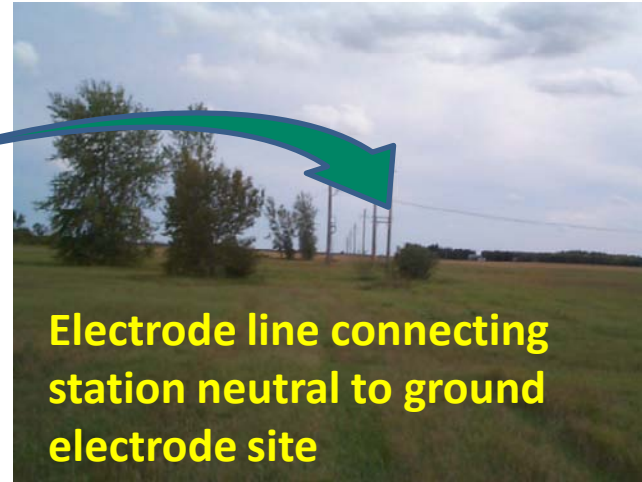
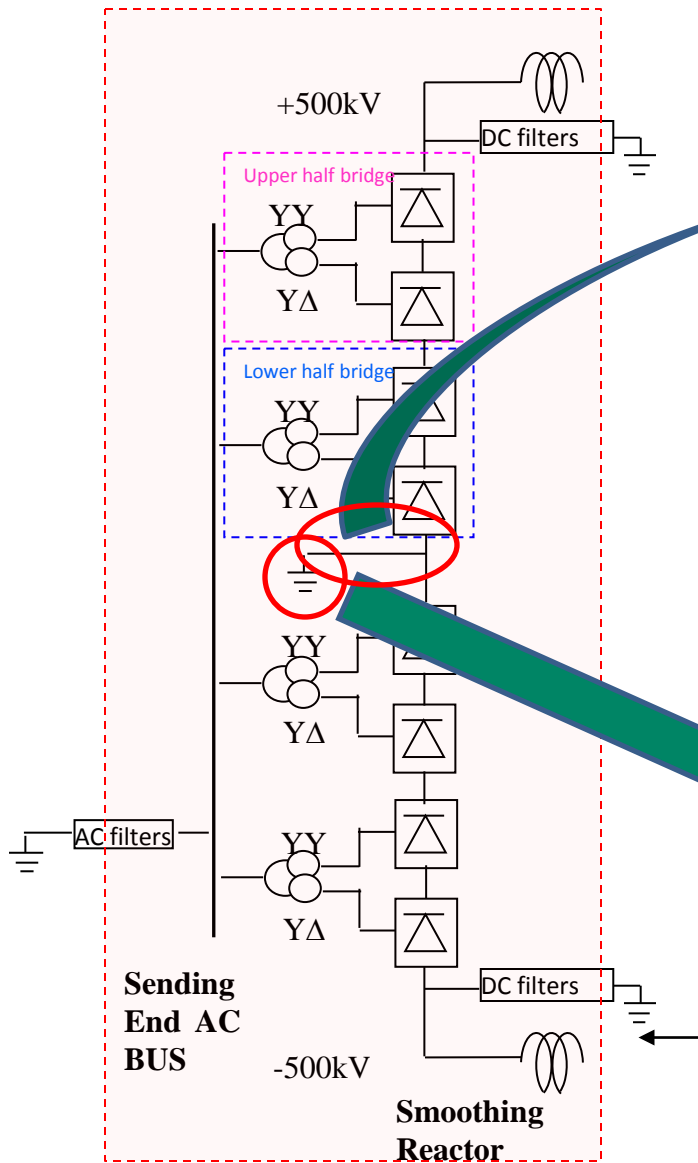


# Shield Wire & Communication

- Optical Ground Wire
  - Lightning protection
  - Communication

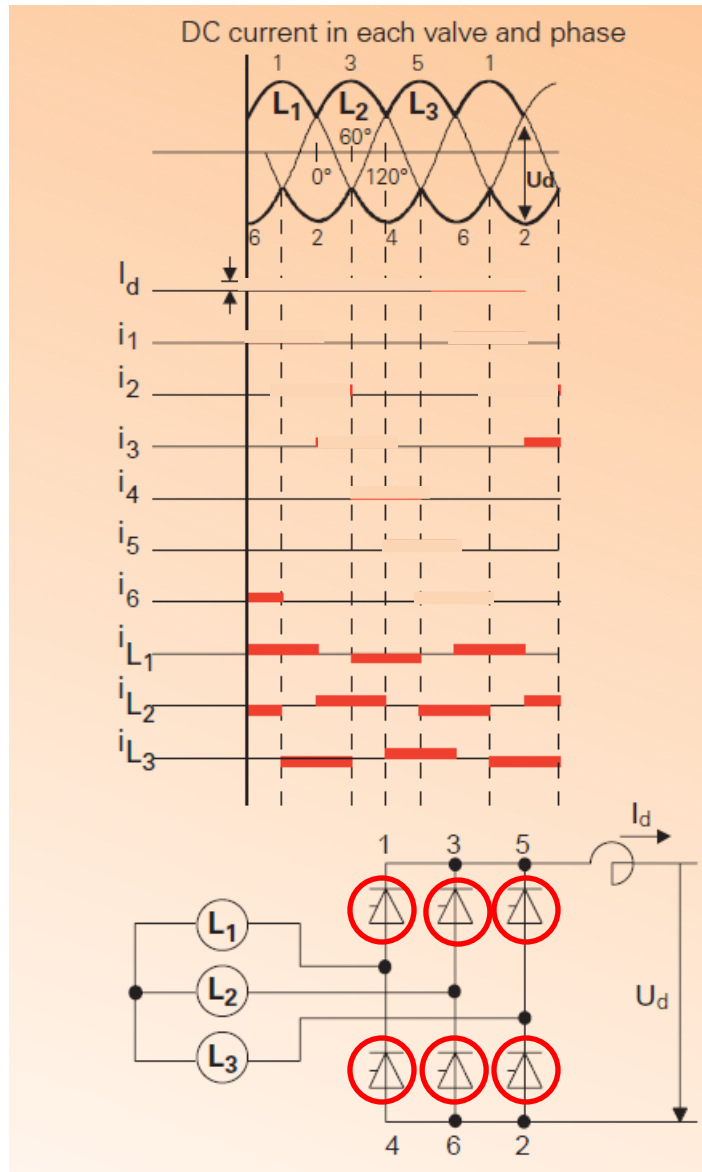
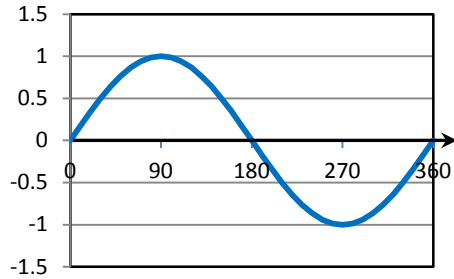


# Electrode Line & Electrode

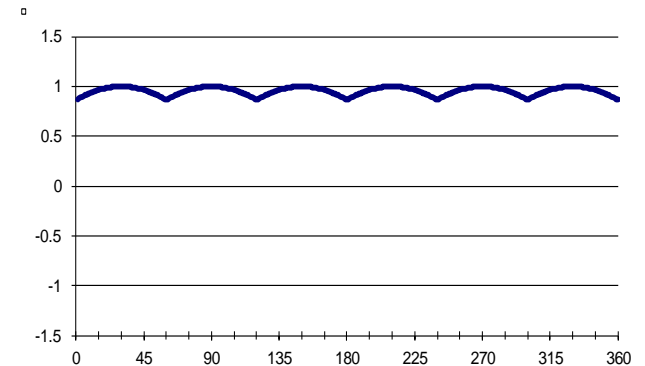


# Converter - Converts ac ↔ dc

Alternating Current (AC)



Direct Current (DC)



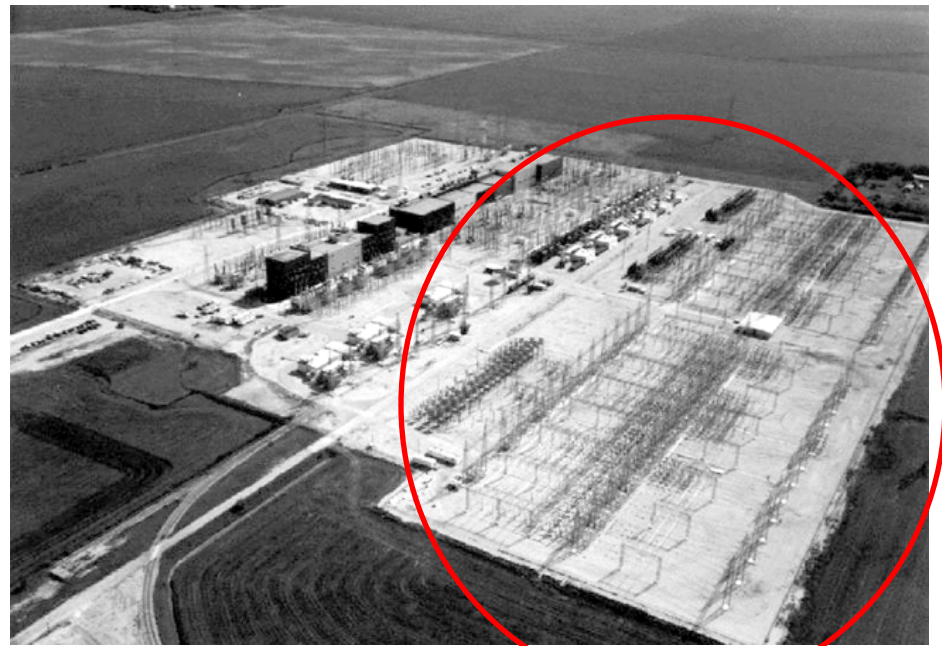
- Filters clean up the ripple further

Source : HVdc – Proven Technology for Power Exchange by Siemens

# HVdc Converter Components

## AC Switchyard

Station bus and circuit breakers that are used to terminate transmission lines from the ac transmission system/generating stations, the ac harmonic and high frequency filters, converter transformers etc.



**Dorsey Converter Station**

# HVdc Converter Components

## AC Harmonic and High Frequency Filters

- Removes the harmonic (multiples of 60 hertz) currents created by converter operation
- Supplies the reactor power consumed by the converter.



**Radisson AC Filters**



# HVdc Converter Components

## Converter Transformer

- Interface between the ac system and the thyristor valves.
- Specialized transformer that must be designed to withstand dc voltage stresses & ac harmonics
- Contains Oil for insulating and cooling



**BPII Converter Transformers**

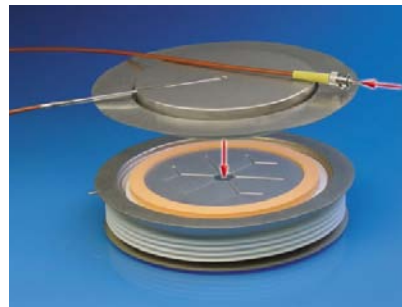
# HVdc Converter Components

## Converter Valves

- Provides transformation from ac to dc (or dc to ac)
- Most LCC converters are 12 pulse bridges – 12 valves each containing many series connected thyristors to achieve the dc rating of the scheme.
- Designed for each project
- Valves are normally contained in a special purpose building called a valve hall.



BP I Valves



BP II Valves



# HVdc Converter Technology

## Converters LCC or VSC

- Line Commutated Converter (LCC) –
  - like BPI & II
  - known technology - lot of experience
- Voltage Source Converter (VSC)
  - New technology with many appealing benefits
  - Suitable for weak AC systems like MH's
  - Control of active and reactive power
  - Black-Start Capability
  - Synchronous Condensers not Required at Riel
  - However new technology – new challenges
    - eg. DC line fault clearing
- Decision after tenders received

# HVdc Converter Components cont ..

## DC Smoothing Reactor

- Reduces the dc current ripple caused by the conversion process on the dc line.
- Limits the line fault currents
- Protects the thyristor valve from lightning hits on the dc line.



**BPII Smoothing Reactors**

# HVdc Converter Components cont ..

## DC filters

- Eliminates ac harmonic currents on the dc line, which can cause interference with adjacent telecommunication systems



Dorsey DC Filters

# HVdc Converter Components cont ..

## Synchronous Condensers

- Provides reactive power to the HVdc converters
- Provides inertia (flywheel) to maintain acceptable system frequency
- Provides voltage control at the ac/dc interface.



**Dorsey Synchronous Condensers**

# HVdc Line Design

## Design Loads

- Three types of loads considered:
  - Reliability loads based on weather data
  - Security loads – Anti cascading towers at about 5km intervals
  - Safety loads – for construction and maintenance work
- Reliability level of 150 yr Return Period for weather loads selected



- Two main weather load zones established based on analysis of the weather data:

Loading	Southern Zone	Northern Zone
Design Wind Speed	107 km/h	93 km/h
Design Ice Thickness	33 mm	25 mm

- Different combinations of wind and ice loads considered

# HVdc Line Design

## Conductor

- To carry the required current (2000A), minimize losses minimize flashovers and minimize EMF effects
  - Minimum conductor diameter: 37 mm
  - 3-Bundle Configuration
  - Thermal ampacity of 4500A



- Optimization based on
  - sag and clearance
  - conductor cost
  - tower cost
  - tower design





# HVdc Line Design

## Towers – Two Types

- South zone - Self supporting 4-legged towers
  - Reduce impact on farming practices
  - More expensive
- Northern zone Guyed towers
  - Better suited for difficult soil conditions
  - Less Expensive



## Family of Towers

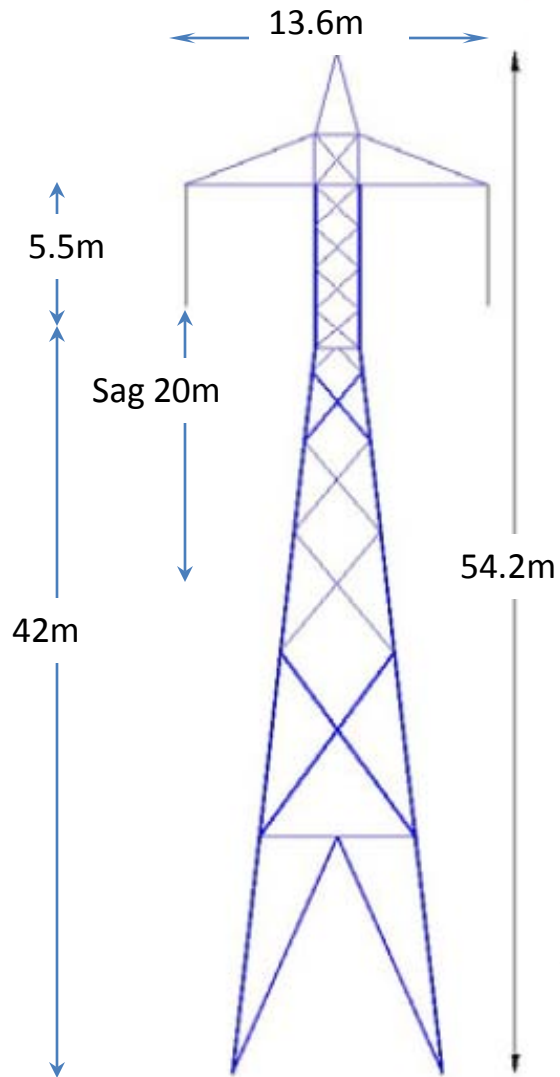
- Tangent tower for straight line sections
- Angle towers for where the route takes turns
  - based on analysis of the preferred route

# HVdc Line Design

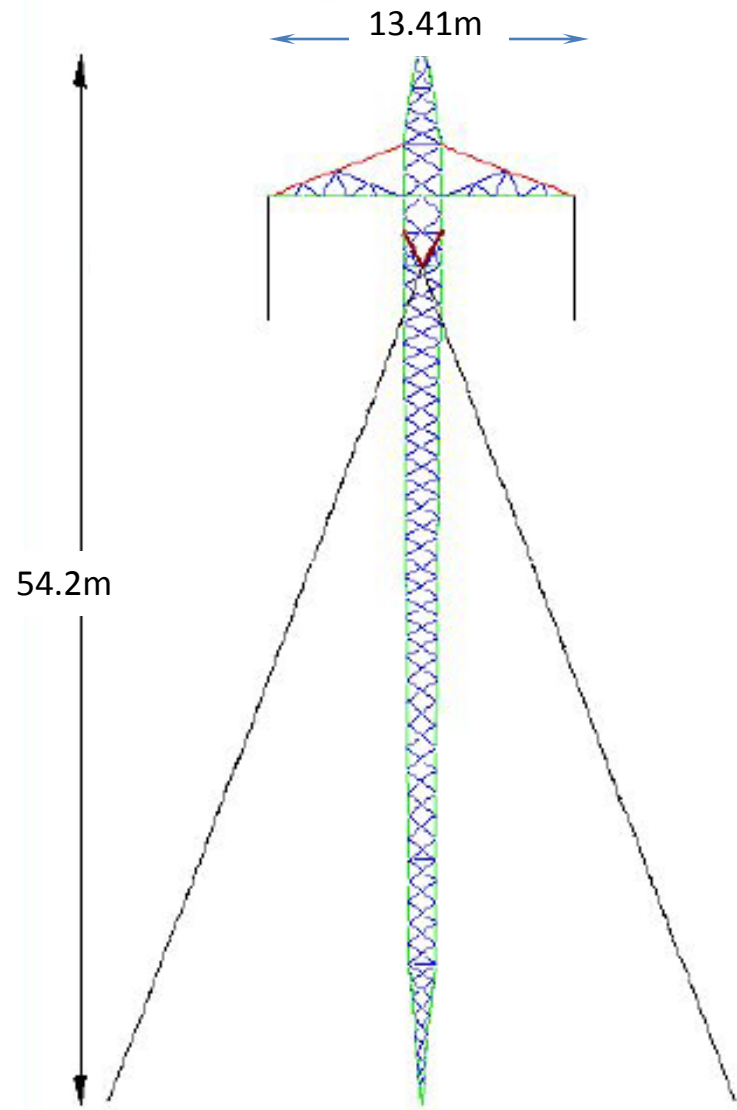
## Reliability Level

- Reliability level of 150-yr Return Period for climatic weather
- This reliability level is recommended for all overhead lines above 230 kV voltage level
- Reliability level of 500-yr return period:
  - Sections of the Bipole III within 50 km from the Bipole I & II
  - Amounts to a total of approx. 340 km.

# Typical HVdc Tower

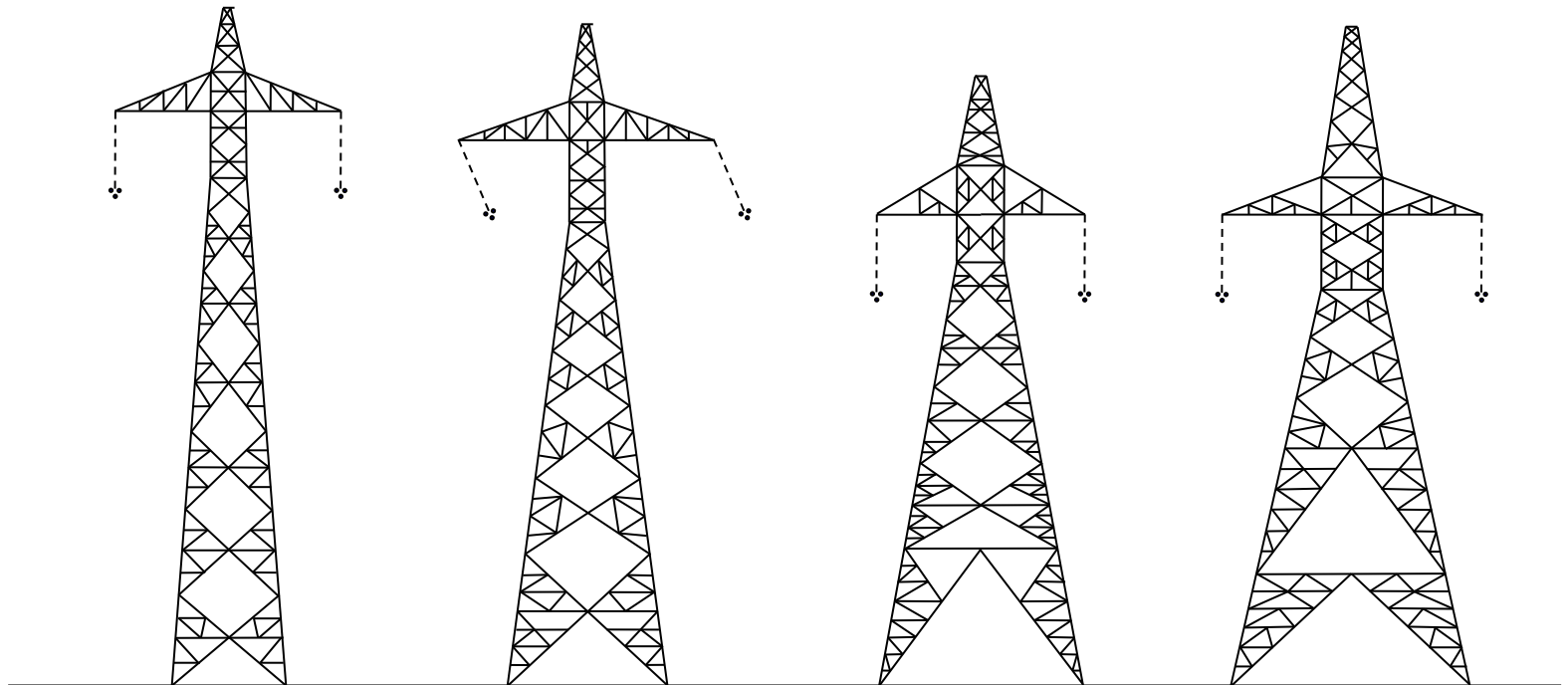


Typical Self Supporting Tower Footing 7.85m x 7.85m approx 64m<sup>2</sup>



# Towers:

- Family of Self Supporting Towers



0°-2° TANGENT  
SUSPENSION TOWER  
A-540  
Height: 41 – 56 m

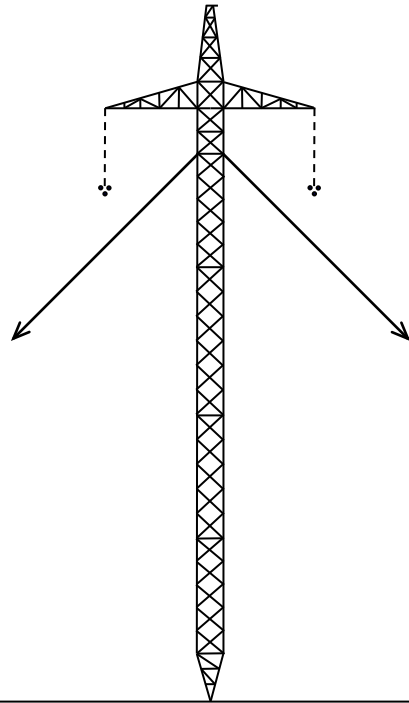
2°-7° LIGHT ANGLE  
SUSPENSION TOWER  
B-540  
Height: 43 – 55 m

7°-25° MEDIUM ANGLE  
DEAD-END TOWER  
C-540  
Height: 40 – 49 m

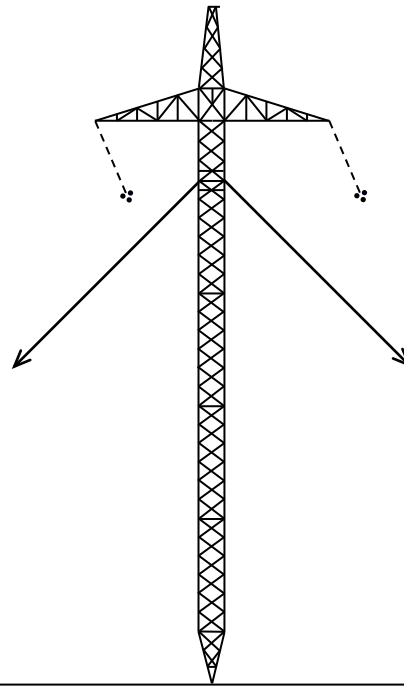
25°-92° HEAVY ANGLE  
DEAD-END TOWER  
D-540  
Height: 44 – 53 m

# Towers:

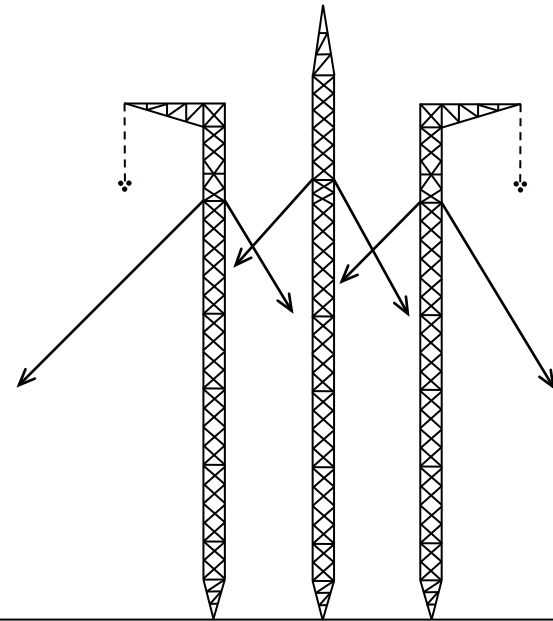
- Family of Guyed Towers



0°-2° TANGENT  
SUSPENSION TOWER  
A-530  
Height: 41 – 56 m



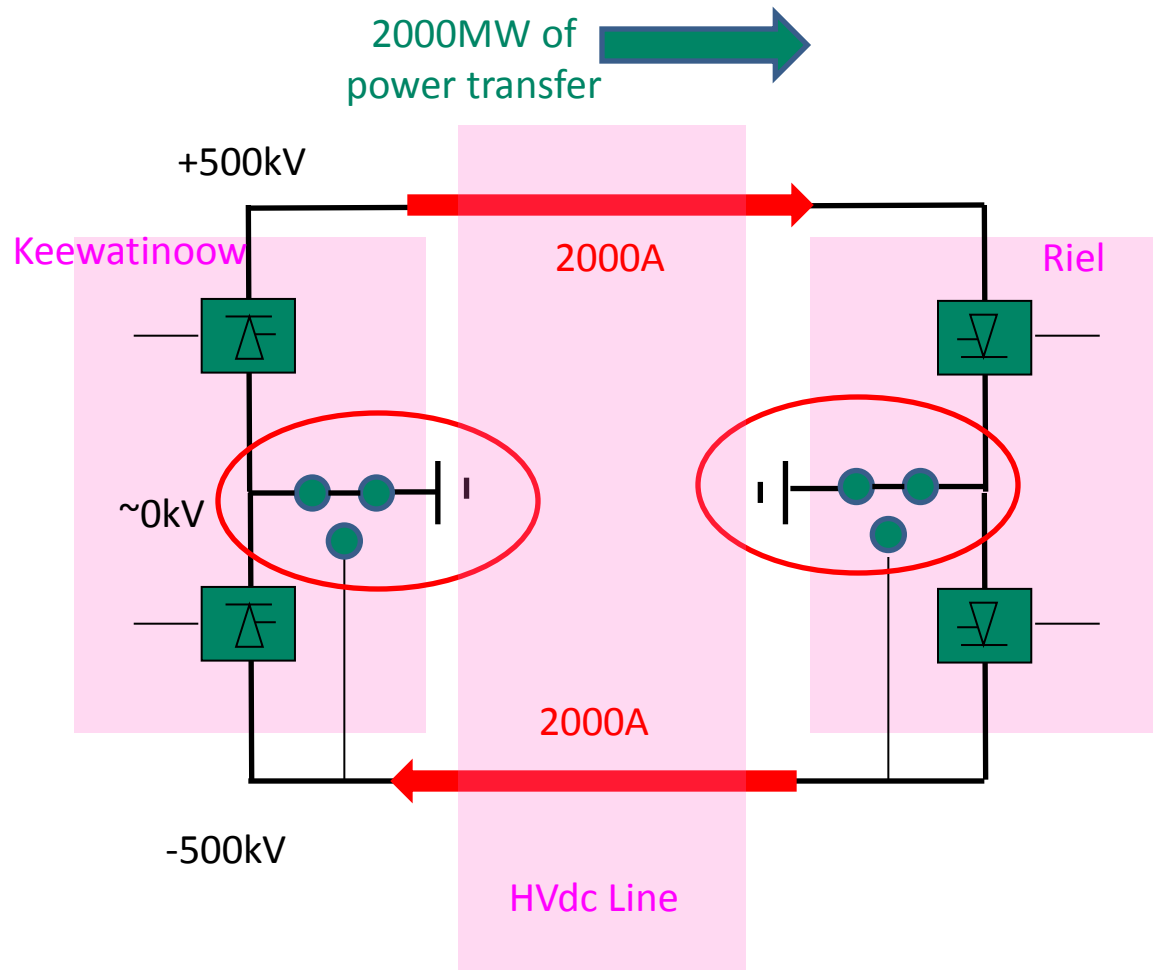
2°-7° LIGHT ANGLE  
SUSPENSION TOWER  
B-530  
Height: 45 – 54 m



7°-60° HEAVY ANGLE  
DEAD-END TOWER  
C-530  
Height: 40 – 49 m

# Ground Electrode

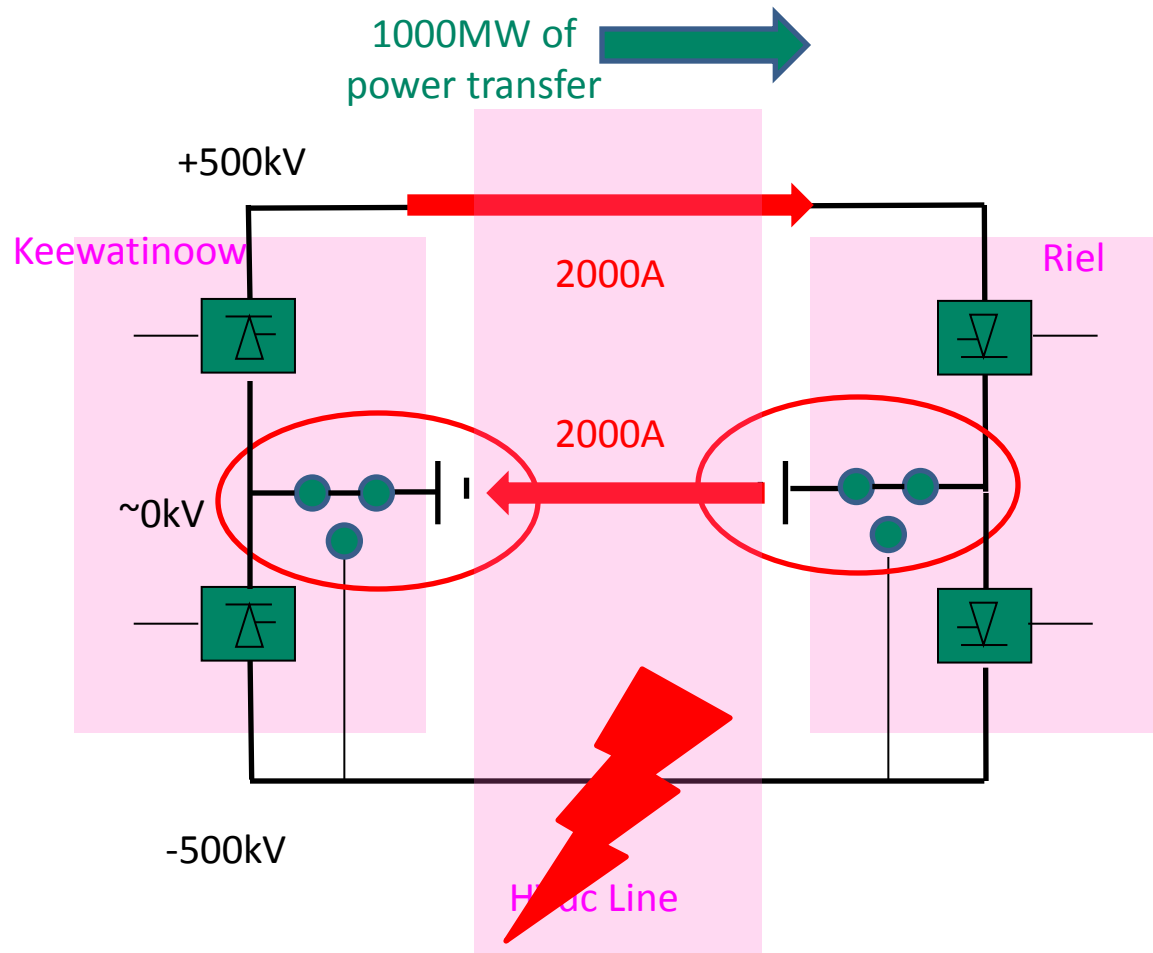
- Under normal operation
  - For defining the system voltage by providing a reference to earth
  - Insulation coordination
  - Over voltage protection
  - Carries very small unbalance current



# Ground Electrode

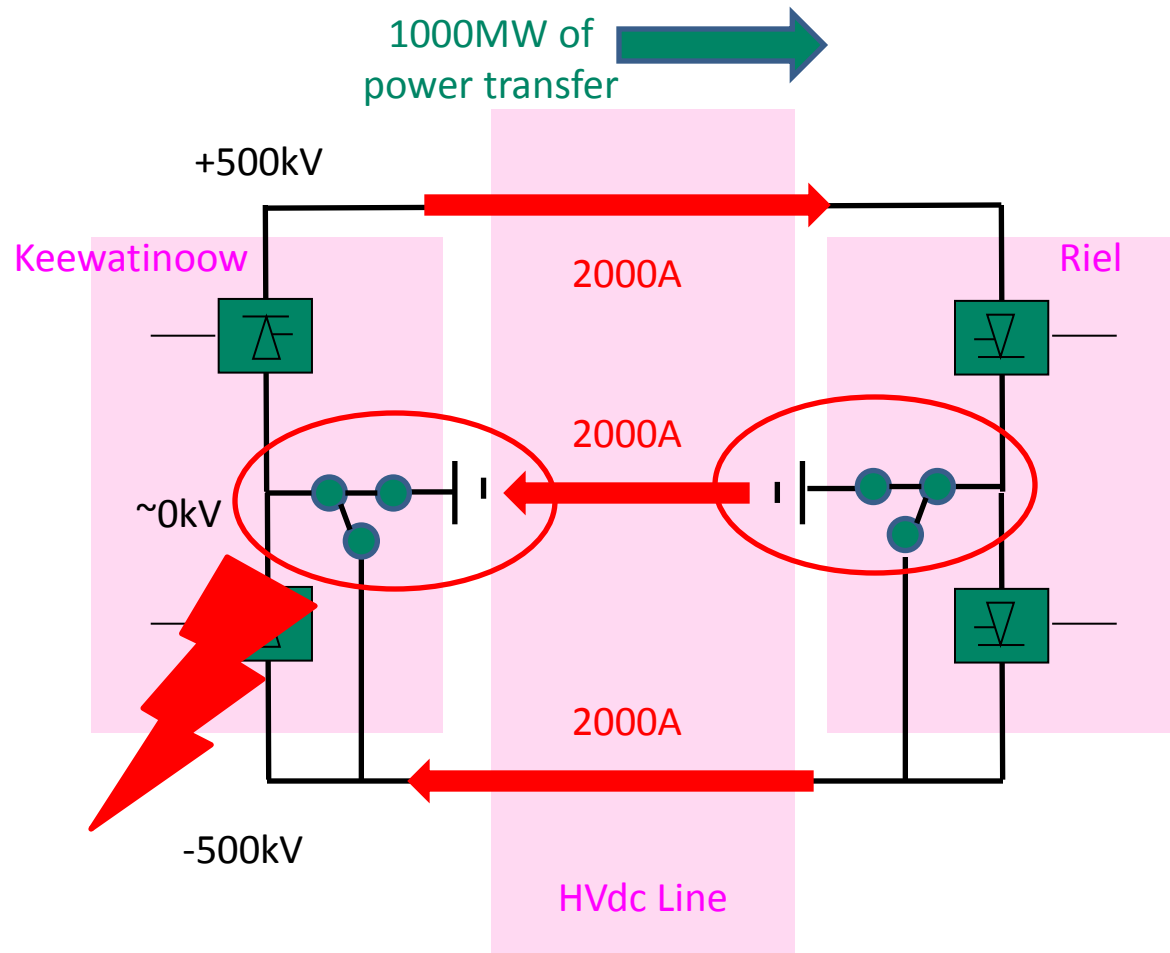
- During loss of a Pole Conductor

- provides a temporary current return path for through the earth
- monopolar operation



# Ground Electrode

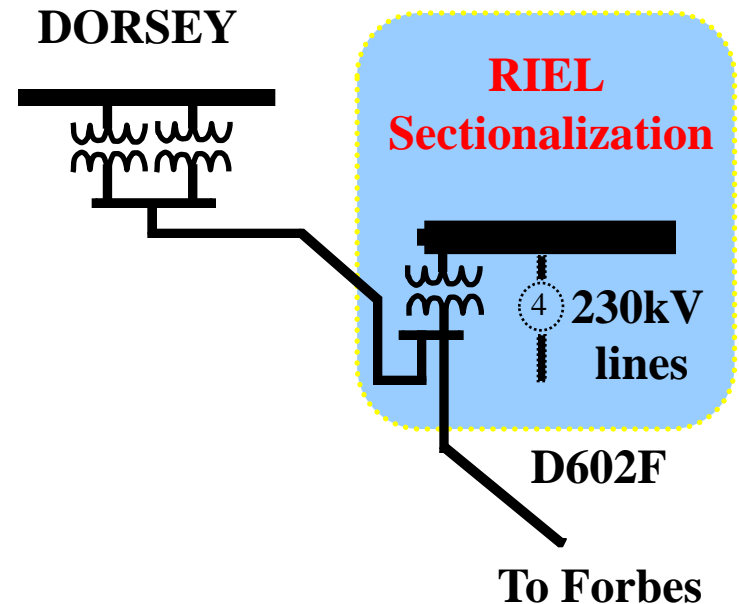
- During loss of a Converter Pole
  - provides a temporary current return path till metallic return is established.





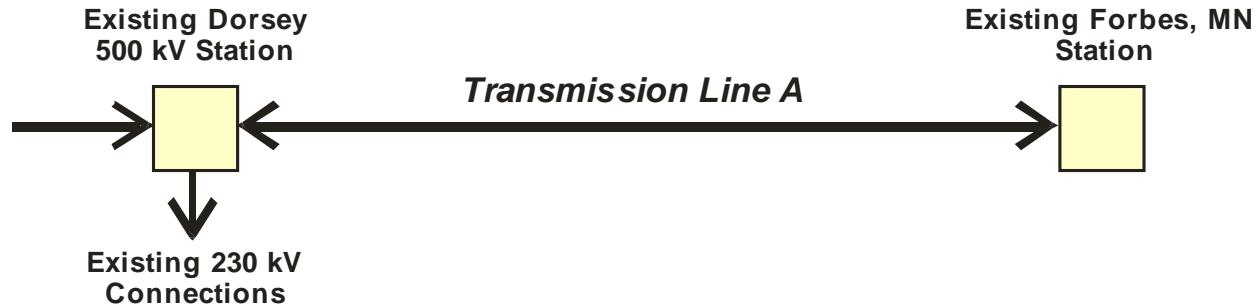
# Riel Reliability Improvement Project

- A separate project
- Enhances reliability by securing the import capability
- Sectionalized 500kV
  - D602F
- Sectionalized 230kV
  - R32V, R33V



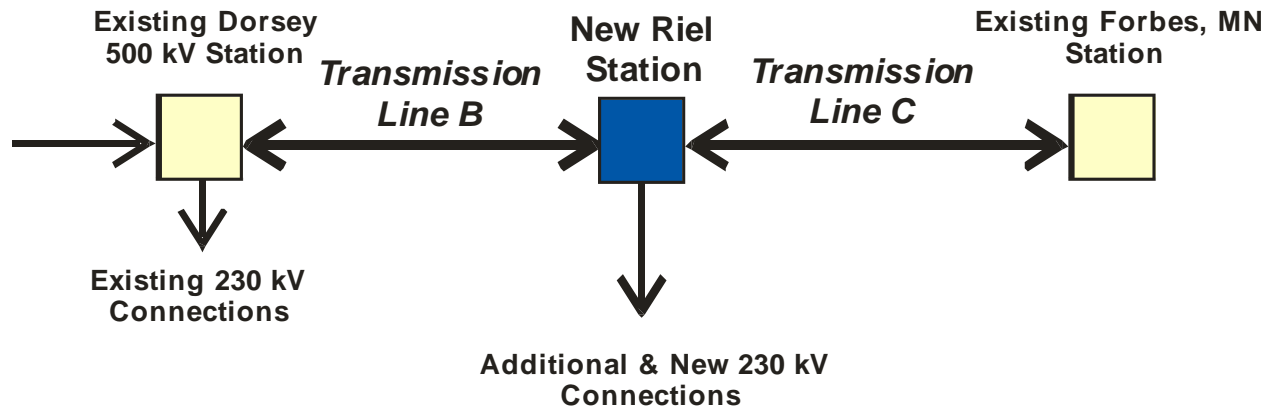
# What is "Sectionalization"?

## Before



One line (Transmission Line A) before the new station is constructed becomes two lines (Transmission Lines B & C) after the station is constructed.

## After



# Conclusion

- Provided an overview of the Bipole III Project
- Defined the details of the HVdc transmission system
- Demonstrated the complexity of the HVdc converter stations
- Provided insight into why we need long lead times to restore the HVdc Bipoles I and II in the event of a catastrophic outage!!!!
- **Highlights the need for Bipole III**