

A FLOATING ROAD

Provides a Path Forward for Power Line Replacement

A powerline project five years in the making finally found a path forward with a floating road from BLUROC.

METRICS

✓ **170,000 lb**
crane

✓ **12 ft**
deep flowing water

✓ **550 ft**
floating road

BACKGROUND

Aging Infrastructure in a Challenging Location

Pennsylvania Power and Light was faced with a 100-year-old power line tower that was deteriorating and needed to be replaced on an island located in the fast-moving Susquehanna River south of Harrisburg, PA. A second power line tower on another island was also needed to reduce sag in the lines.



PROBLEM

Crossing a River with No Bridge

The main challenge was safely crossing a fast-moving river with heavy equipment that included a 170,000-pound crane. The river level was extremely high and the original project plan another company had laid out for reaching the islands was flawed, meaning that crews couldn't safely get to the islands using that method.

SOLUTION

BLUROC Steps in to Provide Experience and Expertise

The client had heard about a similar project that BLUROC completed and reached out for support after it became clear that the originally proposed solution wasn't viable. After assessing the situation and determining the ideal strategy, we installed a floating road to traverse the river and bring people and equipment to the island.



The 500-foot floating road was designed to support the weight of the crane and handle the predicted traffic flow of vehicles, equipment, and materials. This stable, temporary road allowed crews to travel seamlessly to and from the island, over 12 feet of flowing water without impeding the river or impacting the plants and animals that depend on it.

New and Unexpected Challenges Arose

While implementing the floating road, BLUROC faced challenges of our own when a rock causeway blocked part of the river and redirected water toward the work zone at a high velocity. To address this challenge, we used our time-tested approach (overcome, adapt, move on) to adjust on the fly by adding 31 additional anchoring points to the original design to keep the floating road in place. We also had to quickly replace the dive team when the original crew was not able to meet the schedule milestones due to other obligations.

AFTER ASSESSING THE SITUATION AND DETERMINING THE IDEAL STRATEGY, WE INSTALLED A FLOATING ROAD TO TRAVERSE THE RIVER AND BRING PEOPLE AND EQUIPMENT TO THE ISLAND.





RESULTS

Mission Accomplished on Time and on Budget

BLUROC helped the client successfully replace the older tower and add a second one. Through our adaptable approach, we were able to deliver on time and on budget despite several unexpected situations. Under our stewardship, the project also stayed in compliance with the permits of the Army Corps of Engineers and ensured that drilling and dive team subcontractors were also in compliance.

FUTURE

BLUROC Has Become a Trusted Resource

The client has reached out about another project to replace a barge service that is not meeting project requirements and has said they will come to BLUROC for future floating road needs.





BRING IT TO BLUROC

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