# Poles & Conduit In a Converging Utility Landscape

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### It's About Infrastructure

• Railroads – end of 19<sup>th</sup> century, birth of CPUC



- New Concept of Infrastructure
  - Telephone line includes conduits, ducts, poles, wires, cables ... to facilitate communication ... with or without transmission wires.
    - Cable, fiber, microwave, CMRS
  - Energy "signal wires... include telephone ...and other wires"; smart grid; telemetry (also for water and gas).
  - Energy IOUs entering the telecom market

### **CPUC Competition Re-Look**

- In 2016, the Commission revisited its deregulatory decisions 10 years before.
- Decision16-12-025 ("competition decision") -Physical network & economic market: two sides of the same coin.
- → <u>Poles & Conduits</u> bottlenecks, constricting competition. ... *Pressures*:
  - Time to make '96 Telco Act competition real new facilities-based providers, FTTH models
  - 5G & backhaul
  - Safety

### CPUC Decisions/Initiatives re Poles & Conduit

- Decision 16-01-046 CMRS on poles
- **Decision 16-12-025**: "poles are where safety and competition meet."
- Rulemaking17-03-009 WIA Petition CLEC access to poles turnkey backhaul solutions
- March 2017 Pole & Conduit Database & Software Workshop:
  - Asset management; Work Tracking
- Investigation 17-06-027 Census/Database?
- Rulemaking 17-06-028 Access Reform?

## Safety

- Unauthorized or Unknown facilities
- Irregular inspection & maintenance tracking (lashing wires, rotten poles, etc)
- Urban-rural interface; extreme weather; vegetation management



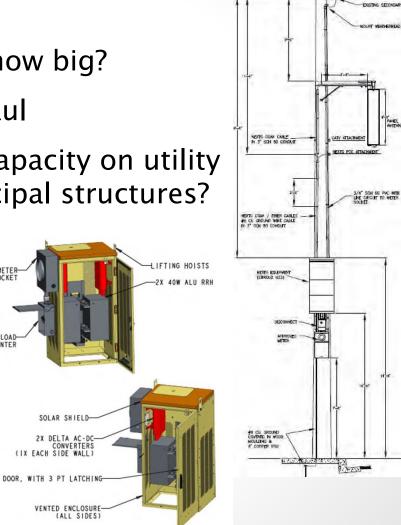
### Competition

- FTTH •
- 5G when, how big?
- Fiber backhaul •
- How much capacity on utility poles, municipal structures?

METER

LOAD





### Shared Database?

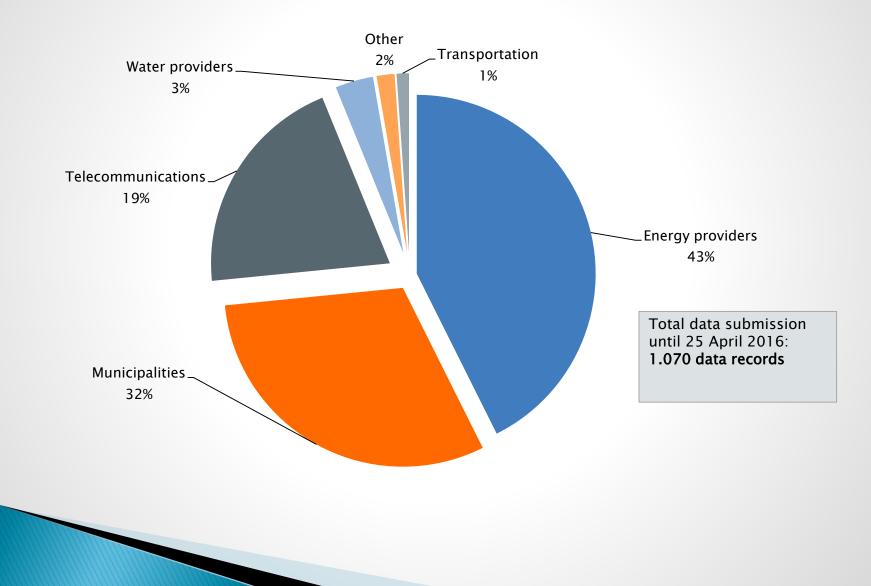
- Pro:
  - Route planning
  - Facilitate one touch make ready?
  - Safety oversight track inspections, rogue attachments, load calcs
  - Facilitate billing?
- Contra:
  - Effort and Cost



- Efficiencies of Big Data?
- Security

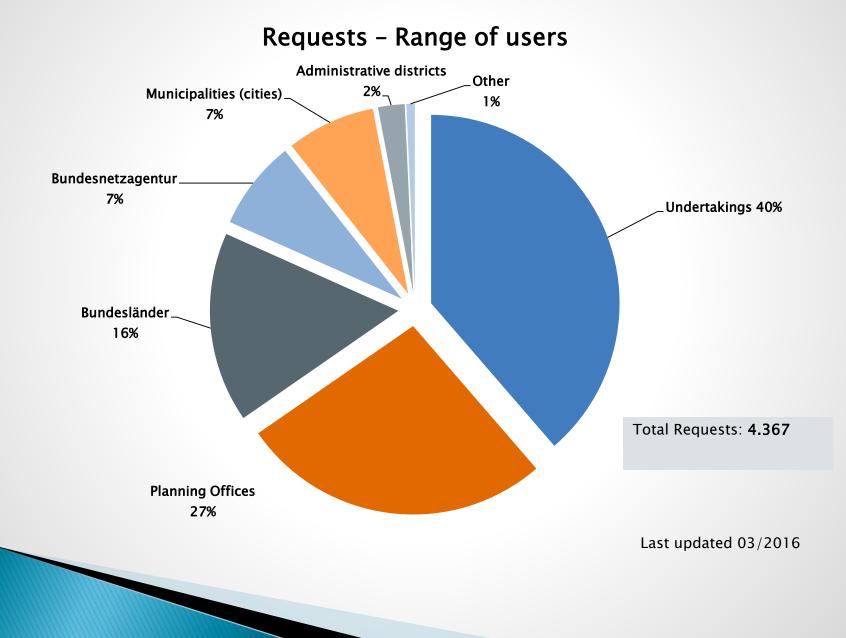
#### Germany's Infrastrukturatlas

#### Data delivery by Branches



#### Germany's Infrastructure Atlas (2)





### Access Reform

- Timelines (for Competitive Attachments)
- Competitors access to digital maps & information
- Make-Ready (One Touch? Right Touch?)
- Potential Integration of State & Local Roles re Planning and Safety

### Questions?

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