Generally, pre-engineered steel poles are used for distribution type projects rather than transmission lines due to the lower costs and ease of installation. The design of steel transmission pole structures follows a similar philosophy to that found in ANSI 05-1-2002 for wood poles.

ASCE/SEI 48-05: Design of Steel Transmission Pole Structures specifies requirements for the design, testing, assembly, and erection of cold-formed tubular members and connections for steel electrical transmission pole structures.

ASCE 48-11: Design of Steel Transmission Pole Structures specifies requirements for the design, testing, assembly, and erection of cold-formed tubular members and connections for steel electrical transmission pole structures.

In the ASCE 48-11, Design of Steel Transmission Pole Structures, three specific methods used to place a steel transmission pole into the ground are pointed out:

1. Drilled Shaft Foundation with Anchor Bolts
2. Direct Embedded versus Drilled Pier Foundation
3. Well

The ASCE 48-11 standard is a comprehensive guide to the design, testing, and construction of steel transmission poles. It is widely recognized in the industry as the standard for designing steel transmission poles.