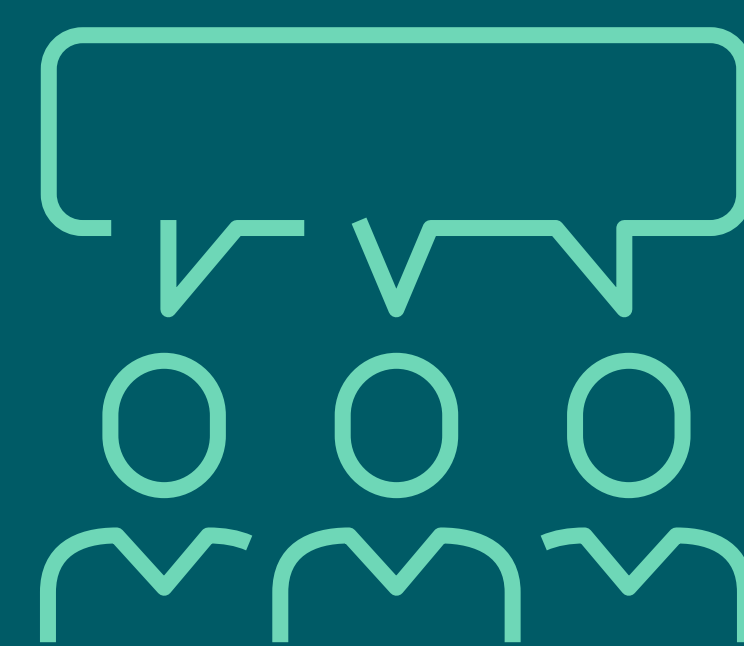
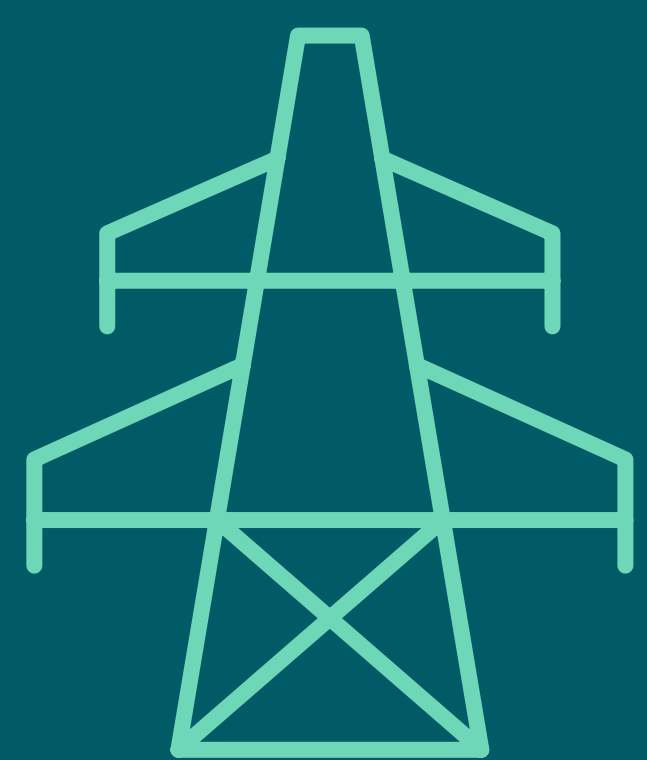


Welcome

St. Thomas Line Project Community Open House #1

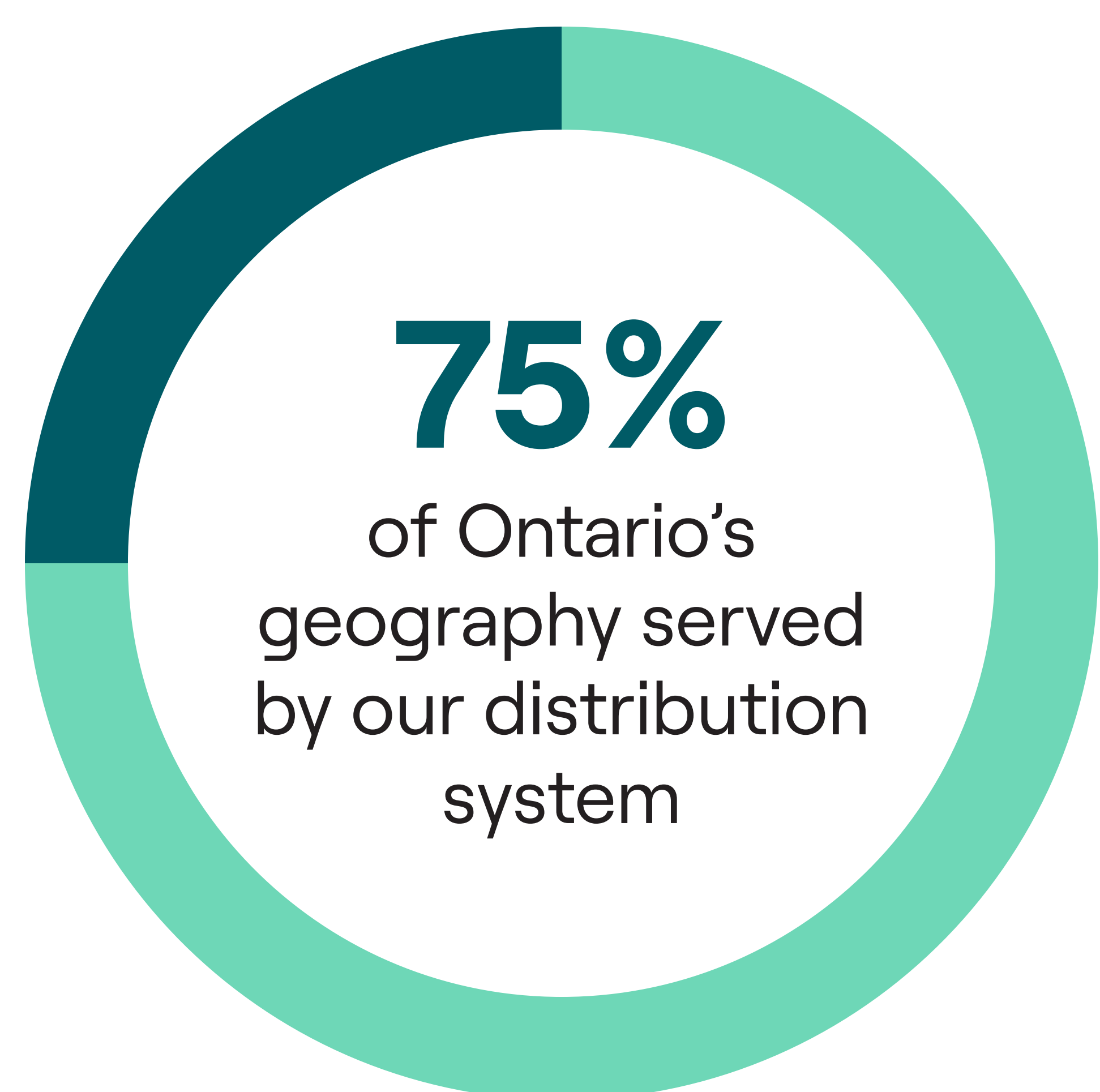
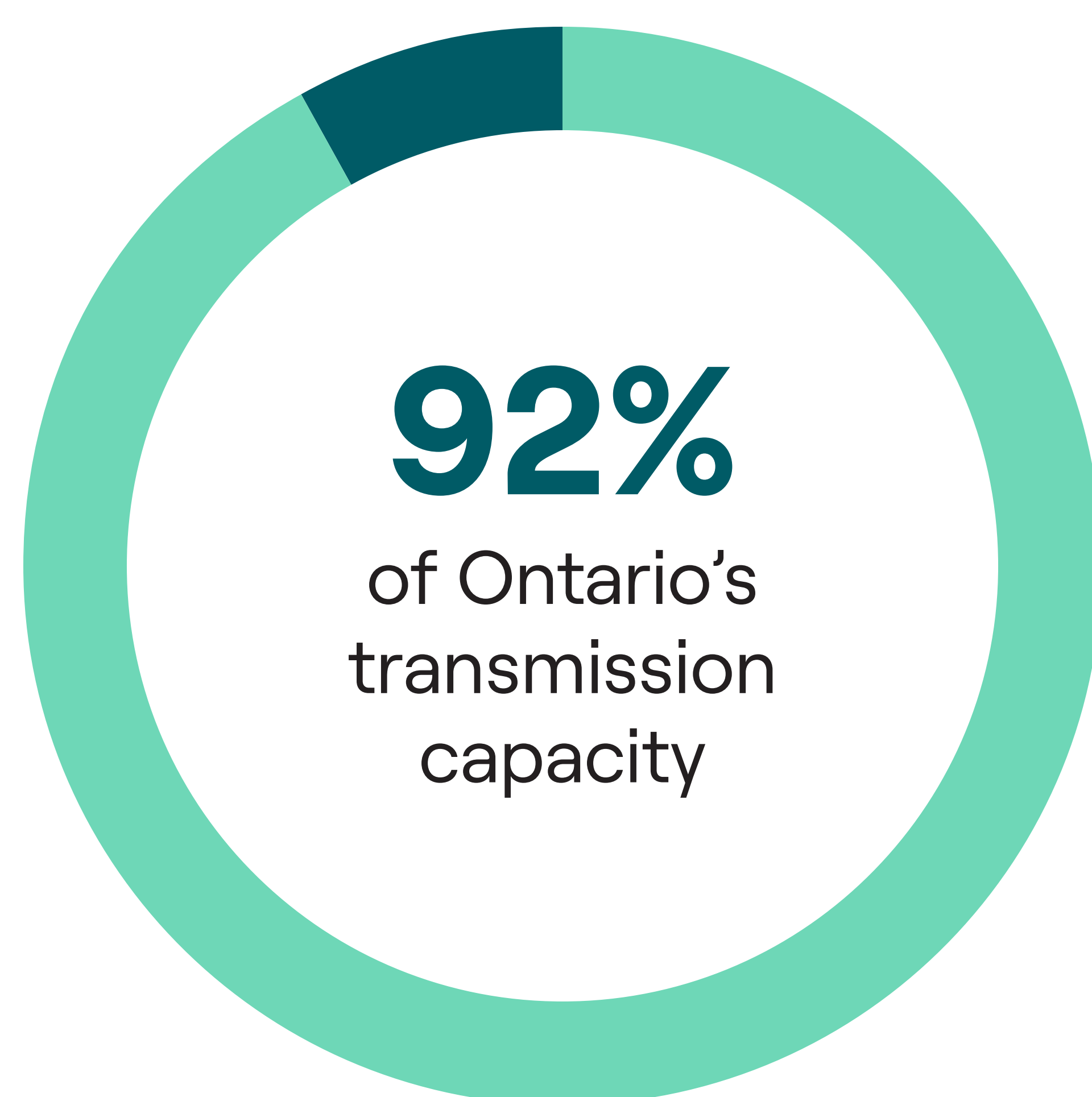


Why We're Here

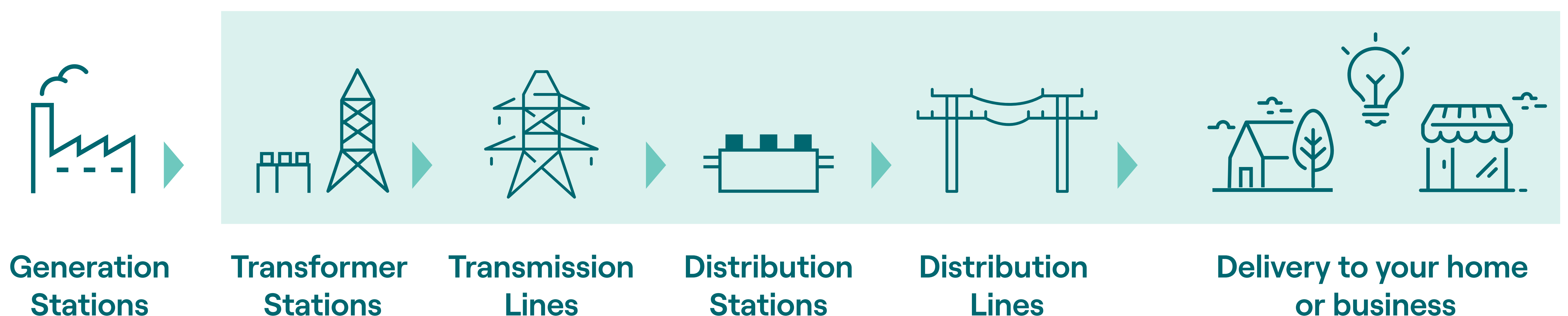
- Introduce the new transmission line project needed to energize the planned electric vehicle battery cell manufacturing facility
- Discuss the Class Environmental Assessment process
- Share details on the proposed route alternatives and the route selection process
- Present key milestones and next steps
- Answer questions and gather your feedback

How the System Works

Our team of approximately 9,300 skilled and dedicated employees proudly build and maintain a safe and reliable electricity system which is essential to energizing life in communities across the province.



Hydro One's Role in the Ontario Electric System



Energizing New Industry

As southwest Ontario continues to attract large investment to the region, we are committed to providing the power needed to support economic growth while continuing to provide reliability for homes and businesses.

The new St. Thomas Line Project will connect PowerCo Canada Inc's (owned by Volkswagen Group) largest electric vehicle battery cell manufacturing facility in North America to Ontario's clean energy grid.

To energize the future facility, Hydro One is commencing a Class Environmental Assessment for a 230-kilovolt double-circuit transmission line that will extend approximately 20 kilometres from the existing transmission line north of Highway 401 in the City of London to the planned Centennial Transformer Station (TS) in the City of St. Thomas.

This line is the second project Hydro One has commenced to meet the energy needs of the new facility – which is equivalent to energizing a city the size of Windsor.



Class Environmental Assessment

The Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Minor Transmission Facilities (2022) is the first step towards completing the planning for this important project.

This process applies to transmission infrastructure projects that are carried out routinely and have predictable environmental effects that can be readily managed to ensure that potential effects are thoroughly considered before a project begins.

Key Components of a Class EA

- Consultation with Indigenous communities, property owners, community members, elected officials, interest groups and government agencies
- Collection of environmental (natural and socio-economic) data
- Identification and evaluation of alternative methods (ex. route alternatives)
- Identification of potential effects and mitigation measures
- Selection of a preferred alternative (ex. preferred route)
- A draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) made available for public review and comment period
- Submission of Final ESR and Statement of Completion to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks

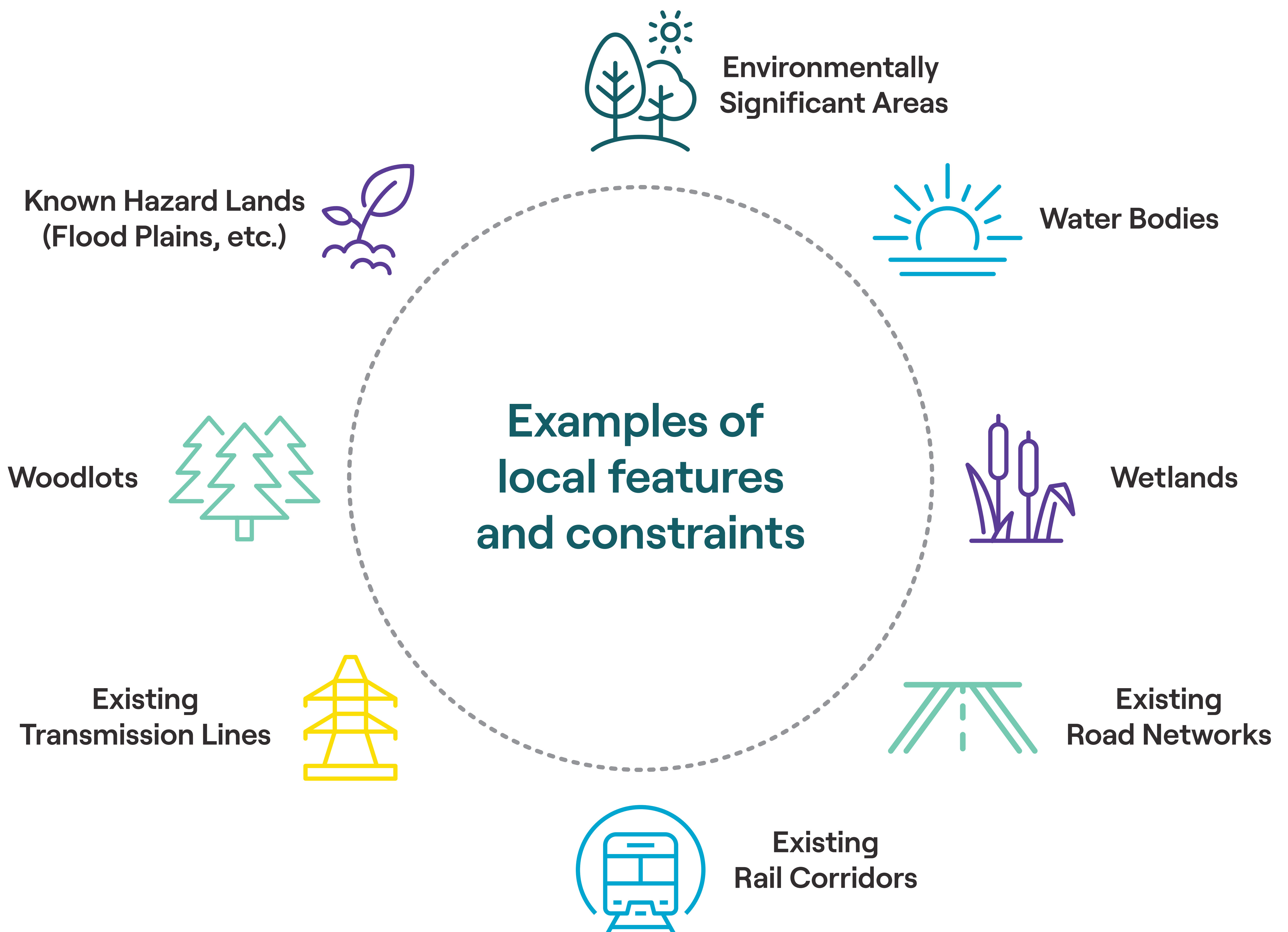
For more information, please see our handout or visit [HydroOne.com/ClassEA](https://hydroone.com/classEA)



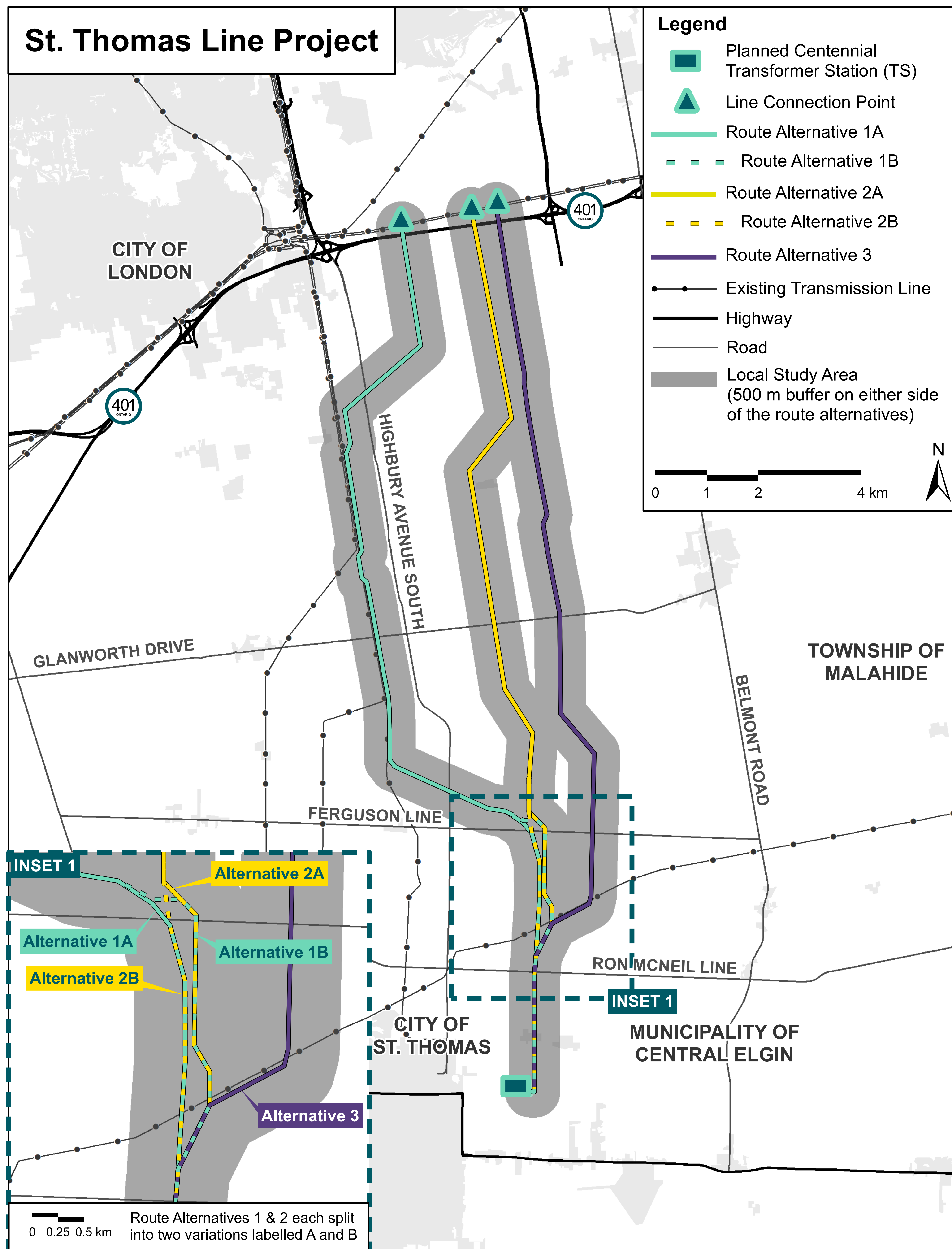
How We Got Here

Hydro One conducted a preliminary assessment to identify feasible route alternatives for the new transmission line.

This involved mapping out known environmental and technical features and constraints and identifying opportunities to parallel existing linear infrastructure where feasible.



Routes We're Studying



See our table maps for more detailed information.

Selecting the Preferred Route

Over the course of the Class EA, we will focus on studying and learning more about each route alternative by collecting data from a variety of sources, conducting environmental surveys and technical assessments, and holding a wide range of engagement opportunities to gather input and feedback. Through this process, we will evaluate and compare the advantages and disadvantages of each route based on criteria in the four categories below.

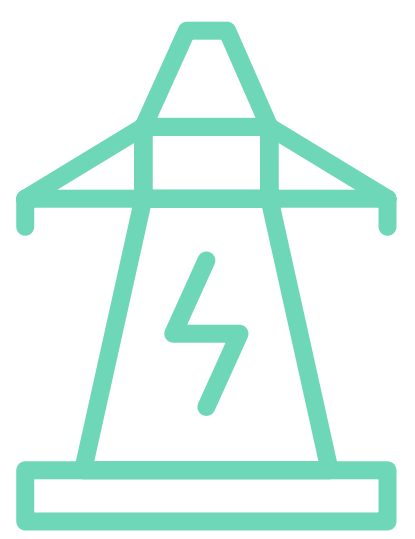
 <p>Natural Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation • Waterbodies and aquatic habitat • Terrestrial wildlife habitat • Species at risk/sensitive species • Wetlands, natural hazards and floodplain areas
 <p>Socio-economic environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural resources and operations • Residential properties • Commercial, industrial, institutional, recreational and other business and facilities • Source water protection and groundwater wells • Archeological or built heritage resources
 <p>Indigenous culture, values and land use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous interests (cultural sites, traditional areas, historic lands and resources)
 <p>Technical and cost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line length and angles • Crossings of existing infrastructure • Real estate and land rights considerations • Construction complexity

Building the New Line

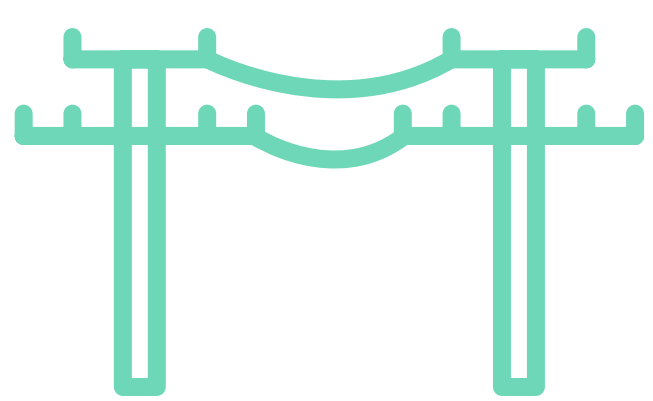
Building the new proposed transmission line will include:



Attaining property rights to construct a new transmission corridor approximately 46 meters (150 feet) wide and 20 kilometers long.



Installing new towers and wires that could carry a voltage of up to 230 kilovolts. This includes creating access roads and construction areas.



Connecting the new line to the planned Centennial TS located in the City of St. Thomas' industrial park to the existing transmission line north of Highway 401 in the City of London.



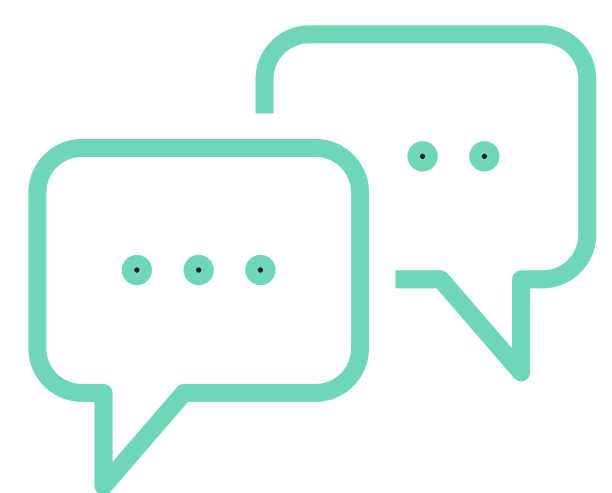
Restoring construction areas to their pre-construction state.



Working with Property Owners

Our team has a long history of building new transmission projects and working closely with property owners.

Throughout the planning and delivery of the project we will:



Engage with owners to discuss how the transmission line may intersect with their properties.



Understand existing conditions and work with owners to ensure feedback is taken into consideration as part of our route evaluation.

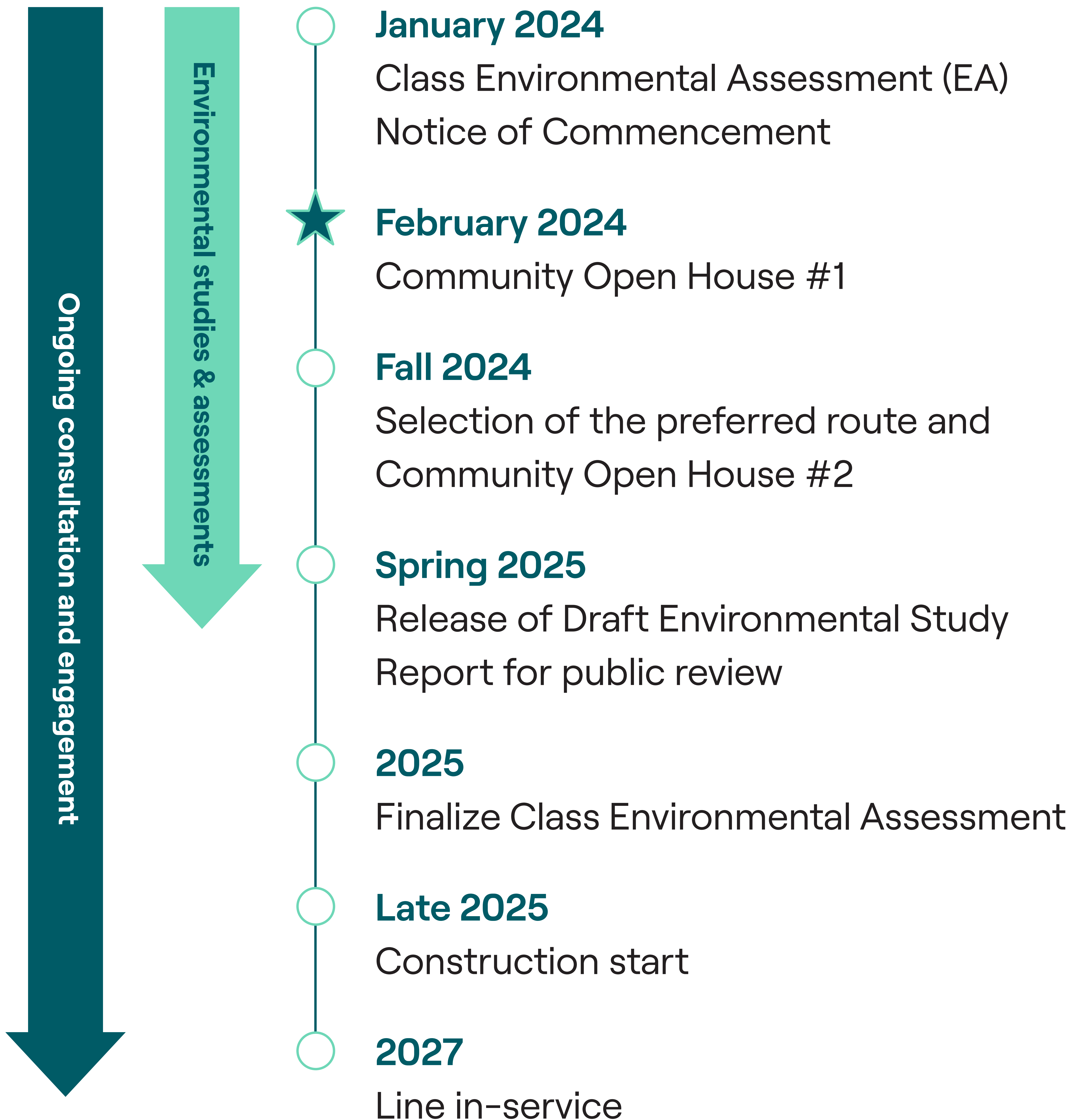


Answer questions and provide regular project information and updates.

Since we've commenced the Class EA, we've begun requesting temporary access from select landowners across all three route alternatives to conduct early field studies (ex. vegetation and wildlife surveys), which will help our team understand the local environment.

Once a preferred route is selected this fall, our real estate team will work with directly impacted property owners to discuss next steps.

Project Milestones



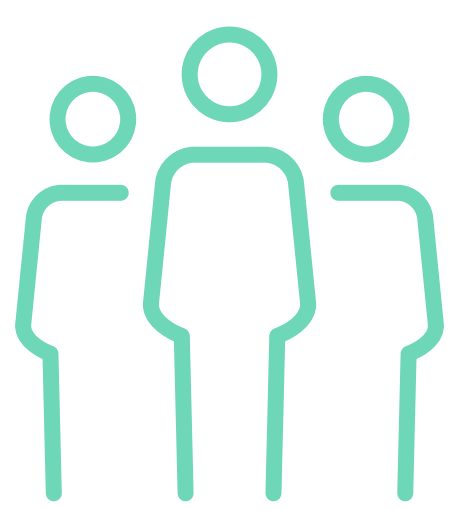
*All dates are subject to change

Engaging with Communities

We are committed to listening to the community as we plan and build the new transmission line. Throughout the duration of the project, we will:



Host a wide range of engagement opportunities to gather input and feedback.



Continue to keep communities, residents and members of the public involved in our planning and project activities.

We encourage you to sign up for our project contact list at HydroOne.com/StThomasLine



Working with Indigenous Communities

Hydro One is committed to working with Indigenous communities in a spirit of cooperation and shared responsibility.

Forging meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities based upon trust, confidence, and accountability is vital to building partnerships and advancing Reconciliation.

Our Four Pillars of Indigenous Consultation

An icon depicting three stylized human figures sitting around a table, representing a meeting or engagement.

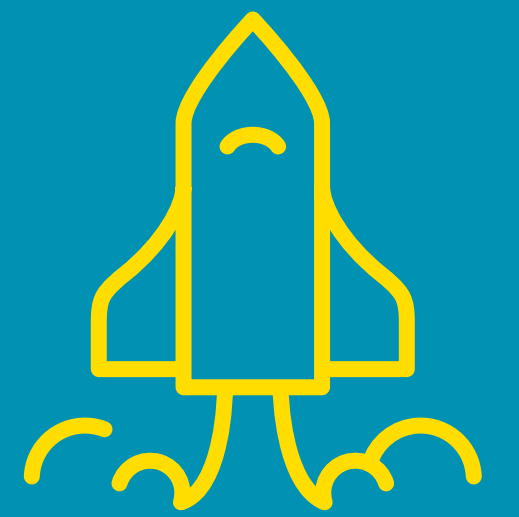
Excelling at Engagement

An icon showing a stylized human figure with three stars positioned below it, symbolizing integrity or achievement.

Working with Integrity

An icon of a hand holding a circuit board, representing accountability or technical responsibility.

Holding Ourselves Accountable

An icon of a rocket ship, symbolizing breaking through barriers or achieving breakthroughs.

Breaking Barriers

Next Steps



Hydro One will continue to conduct environmental surveys and research.



Hydro One will continue to consult Indigenous communities, landowners, members of the public, government agencies, elected officials, and interest groups to obtain feedback and answer questions about the project.



The project team will consider all feedback received and evaluate the results of environmental and technical research and select the preferred route for the new transmission line.



Details of the evaluation process and the preferred route will be presented at a community open house anticipated for later this fall.



Thank You!

Your input is important to us. Please share your feedback with our team and complete a comment form before you go. To provide comments or to be added to the project contact list, please call or email:



1.877.345.6799



Community.Relations@HydroOne.com

For the most up-to-date project information and project updates, visit our project website:



HydroOne.com/StThomasLine

