

# APPENDIX 3-I

Indigenous Community Open House #2 Presentation

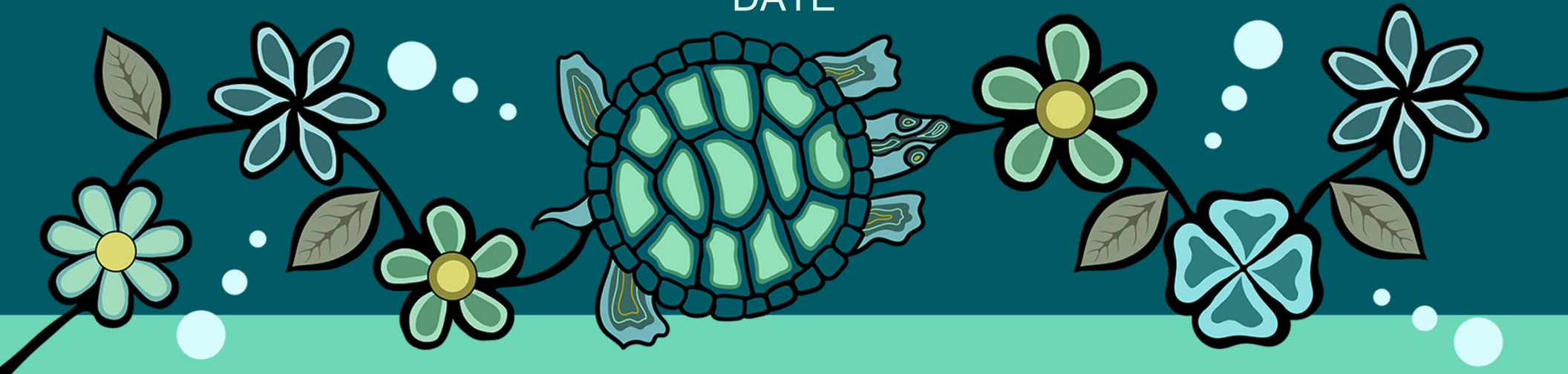


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# North Shore Link and Northeast Power Line Project Community Meeting

## Indigenous Community

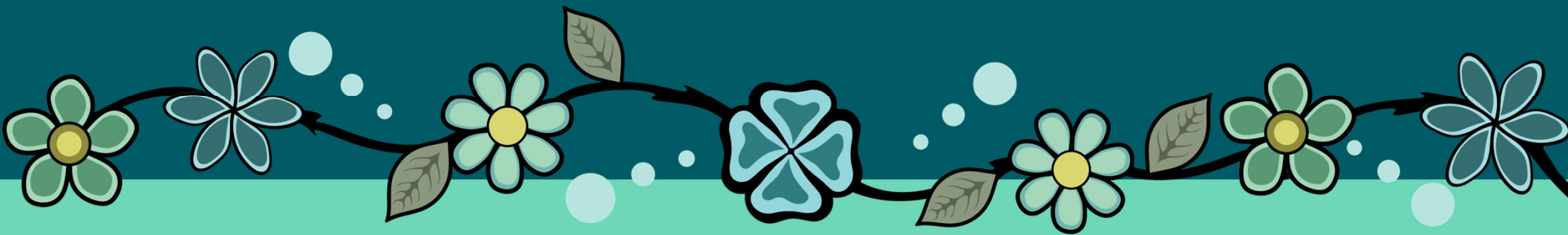
DATE





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# Welcome & Introductions



# Meeting Agenda

Opening

Welcome & Introductions

Partnership Overview

Energy 101

## **North Shore Link Project (NSL)**

- Project Overview
- Project Timelines
- Class Environmental Assessment Process
- Next steps
- Q&A

## **Northeast Powerline Project (NEPL)**

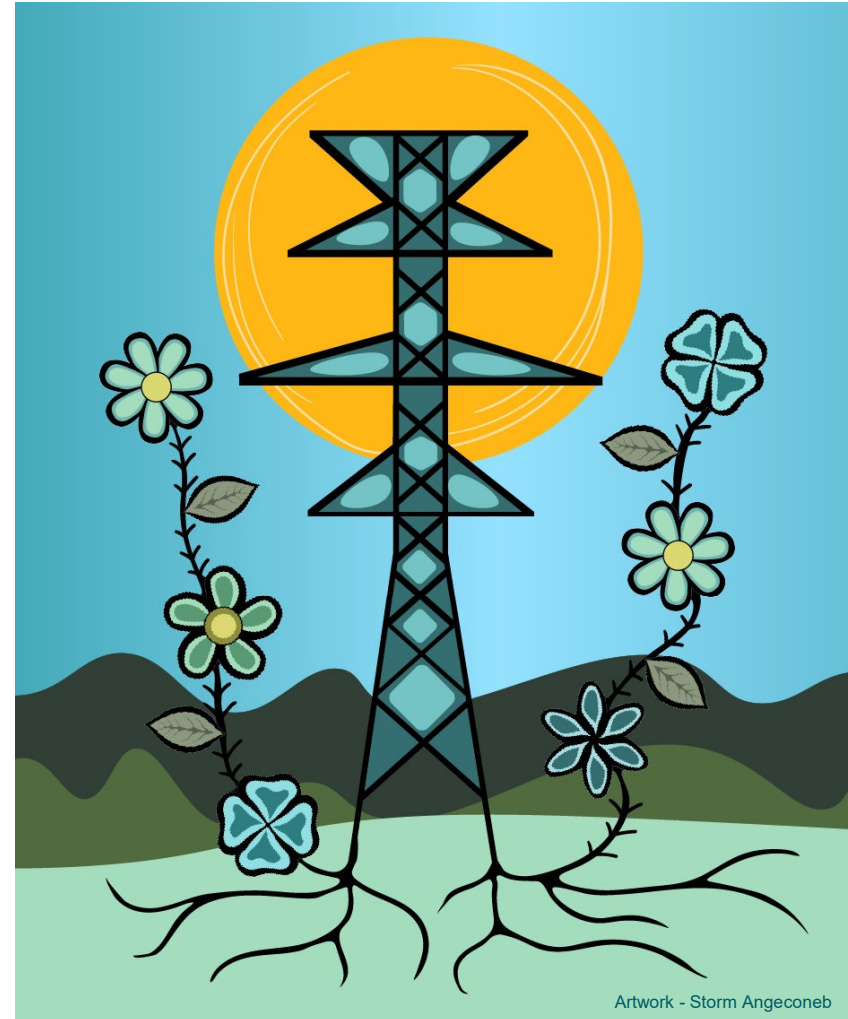
- Project Overview
- Project Timelines
- Environmental Update Process
- Next steps
- Q&A

Capacity Funding

Closing Remarks & Open Session

# Goals for our meeting

- Share Project information and work to date
- Present the First Nation Equity Partnership Model
- Overview of the NSL Class EA process and community involvement and update on the NEPL project
- Understand how communities want to be engaged for these projects
- Review of next steps



Artwork - Storm Angecneb

# Hydro One is Listening, With Waasmoowin Energy Inc, we are Transforming

Indigenous Communities in Ontario have told us they want:



A voice with a seat at  
the table



Employment and  
Procurement



Investment  
Opportunities



Equity Ownership



Sustainable Revenue



Partnerships



Early and On-Going Engagement  
(Projects and Operations)



A Partner They Trust



# Working with Indigenous Communities

- Hydro One is committed to working with Indigenous communities in the spirit of cooperation and shared responsibility.
- Forging meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities based upon trust, transparency, and accountability is vital to building partnerships and advancing meaningful Reconciliation.
- Our engagement, advocacy and strategic direction are set by the Indigenous Relations Policy and led in collaboration with the Indigenous communities we work with every day.
- The Hydro One First Nations equity partnership model will apply to this project, and we are in discussion with potential First Nation partners.



Excelling at  
Engagement



Working with  
Integrity



Holding  
Ourselves  
Accountable



Breaking  
Barriers

# First Nations Equity Partnership Model

- New transmission lines in Ontario with a capital expenditure exceeding \$100 million in rate base.
- Net-zero supporting greenfield infrastructure.
- Meaningful commitments to early engagement and collaboration on decision making from the beginning.
- Support and collaboration on project financing, buy-in at electrification.
- Significant construction procurement and employment commitments for Indigenous community members and businesses.

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hydro  
one



# Waasmoowin Energy Inc.

- Partnership of 9 First Nations
  - Wahnapiatae First Nation
  - Atikameksheng Anishnawbek
  - Whitefish River First Nation
  - Sagamok Anishnawbek
  - Serpent River First Nation
  - Mississaugi First Nation
  - Thessalon First Nation
  - Garden River First Nation
  - Batchewana First Nation



## Waasmoowin Energy Inc. (cont.)

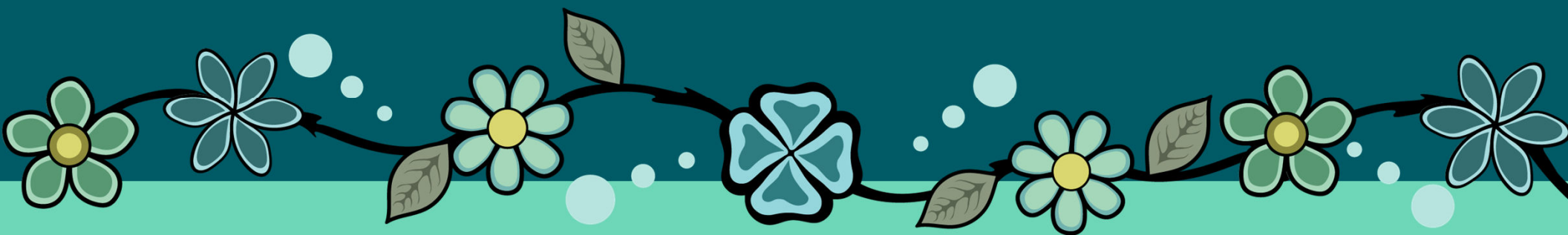
- Comprised of:
  - Board of Directors
  - Council of Elders
  - Project Team
    - Project Manager
    - Finance Lead
    - Administrative Lead
  - Traditional Knowledge Advisor
  - Environmental & Archaeological Advisors
  - Legal Advisor

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# Energy Sector 101



# Electricity Sector Overview

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Hydro One enables electricity supply by building and maintaining the transmission grid.



The Ministry of Energy sets the overall policy for the energy sector, mainly through laws and regulations.



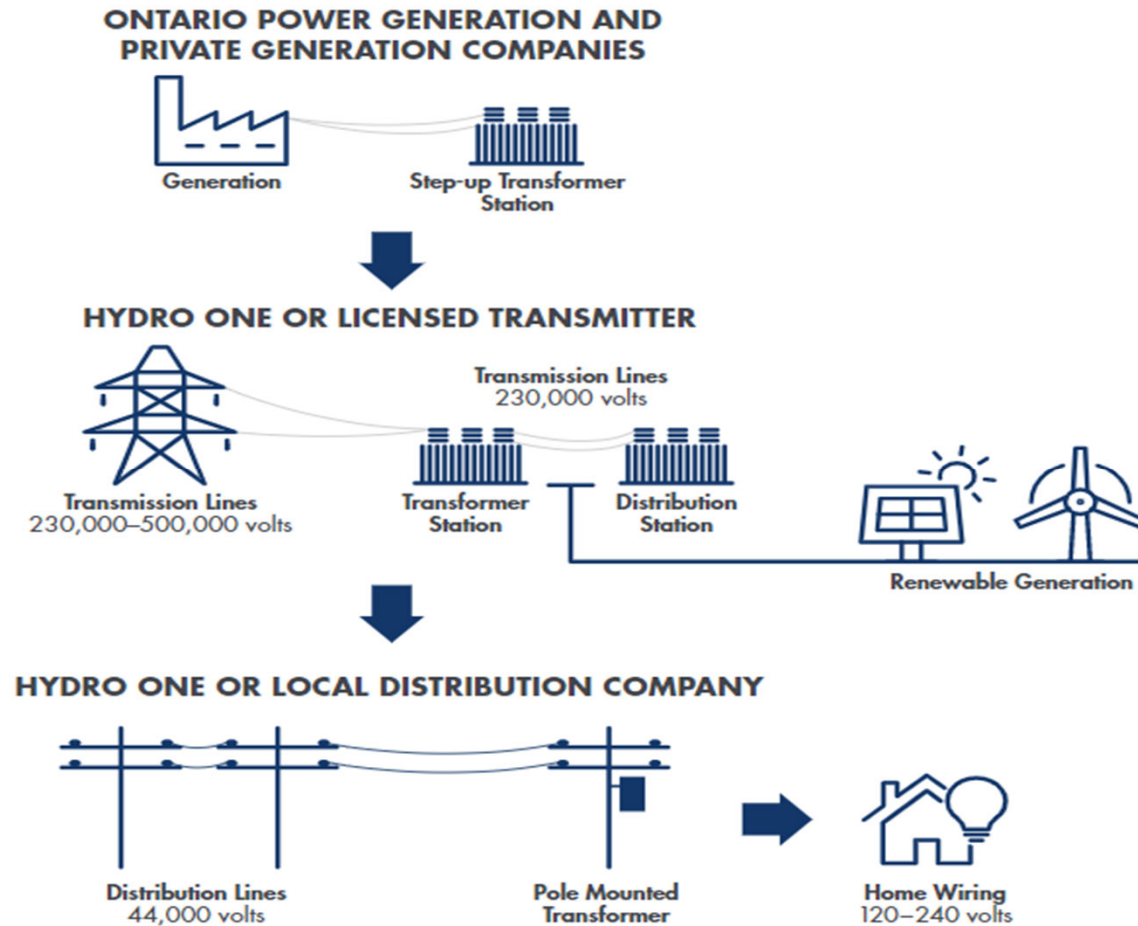
The IESO plans for the bulk transmission and generation resources needed to meet Ontario's future electricity needs.



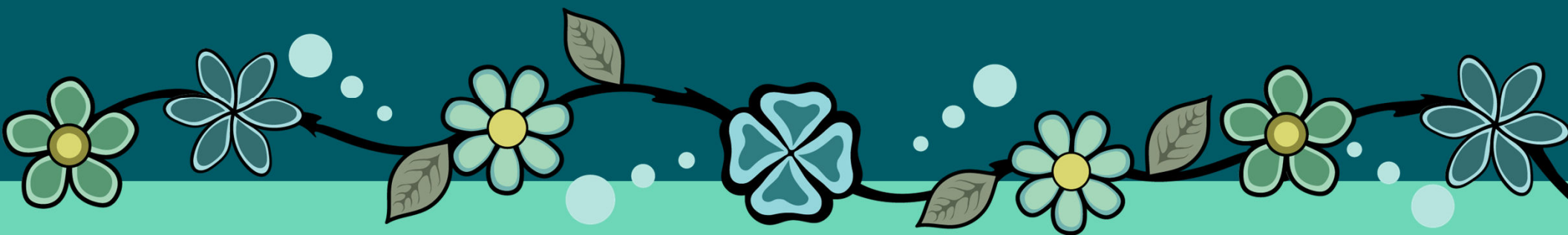
The Ontario Energy Board is the independent electricity and natural gas regulators in Ontario.

# How the System Works

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# North Shore Link (NSL) Project Overview

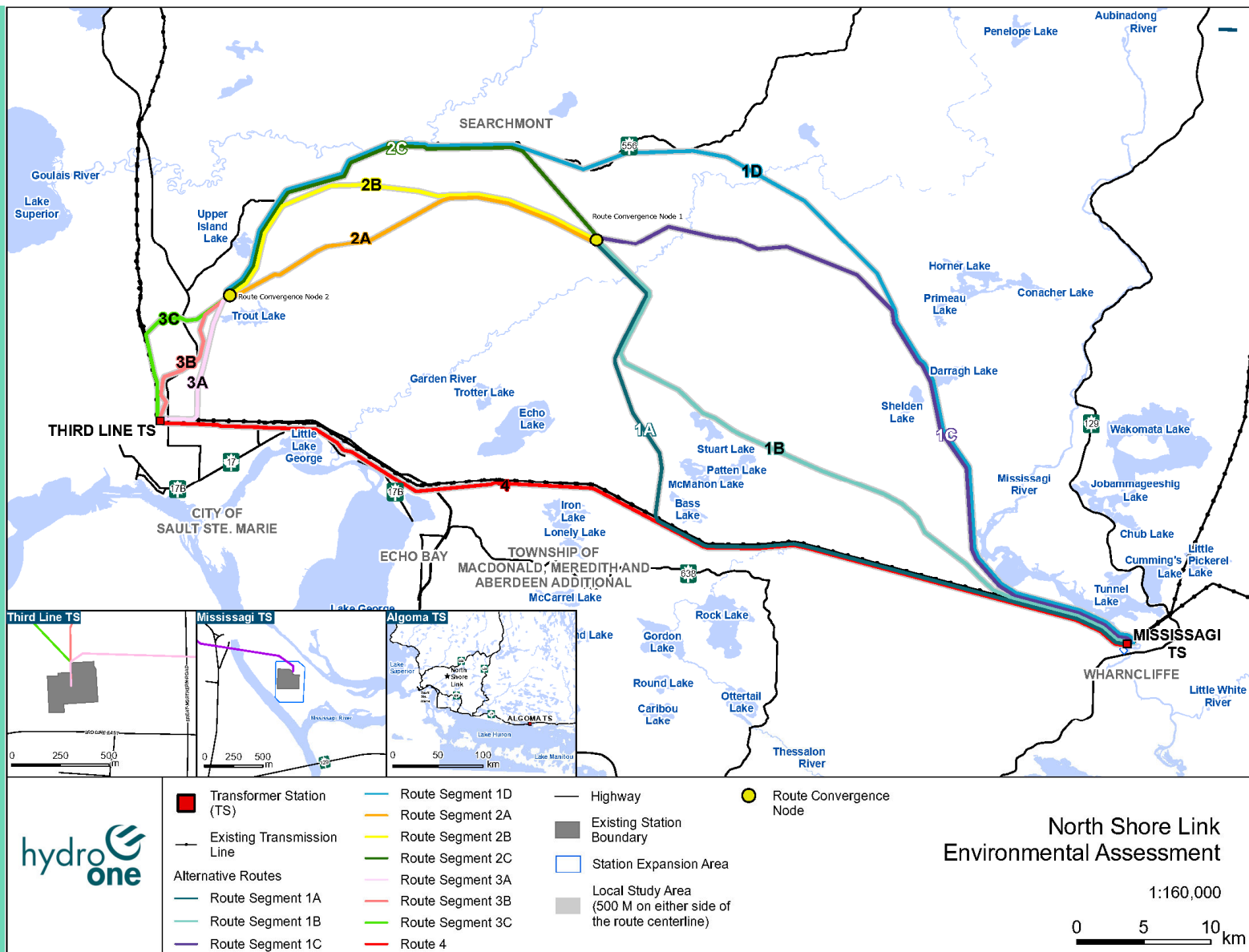


# Project Information - NSL

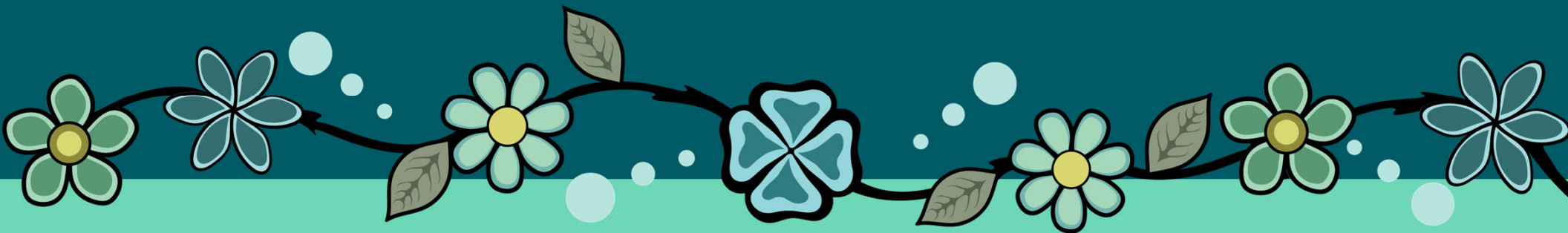
- Demand in Northeast Ontario is expected to significantly increase due to growth in provincial electricity demand from decarbonization and electrification initiatives.
- The North Shore Link was identified as part of the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO) electricity plans to address future growth in the region and improve the overall resiliency of the northern Ontario transmission network.

## North Shore Link Project

- The North Shore Link is a new double circuit 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will extend between Mississagi Transformer Station (near Wharncliffe) and Third Line Transformer Station (in Sault Ste. Marie)
- As part of the Class Environmental Assessment, alternative routes have been identified for the new line. These alternatives are being studied and evaluated to ultimately select a preferred route for the line.



# North Shore Link Class Environmental Assessment Process



## Project Team - NSL

- Project Proponent
- First Nation Partners
- Environmental Consultant
- Archaeological Consultants



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**AECOM**



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# NSL EA Process

## What is a Class Environmental Assessment?



Ongoing Engagement

### Steps of a Class EA:

- Engage with Indigenous communities, the public, municipalities, interest groups and government agencies
- Collect environmental information
- Identify and evaluate route alternatives
- Select a preferred route
- Identify potential environmental effects and mitigation measures
- Prepare a draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) that will be made available for a 30-day public review and comment period
- Submit the final ESR



Artwork: Storm Angeconeb

# NSL – Evaluation of Route Segments

Over the course of the EA, we will continue to learn more about the existing environment within the study area by gathering:

- Information obtained through Indigenous engagement and local community consultation.
- Data from existing reports, plans, maps, aerial photographs and other sources.
- Field data collected from environmental surveys such as fish/fish habitat and vegetation surveys.
- Project specific research such as an archaeological assessment.

Through this process, we will evaluate and compare the advantages and disadvantages of each of the alternative route segments and select preferred route segments. The set of route segments chosen through this process will ultimately form the preferred route.

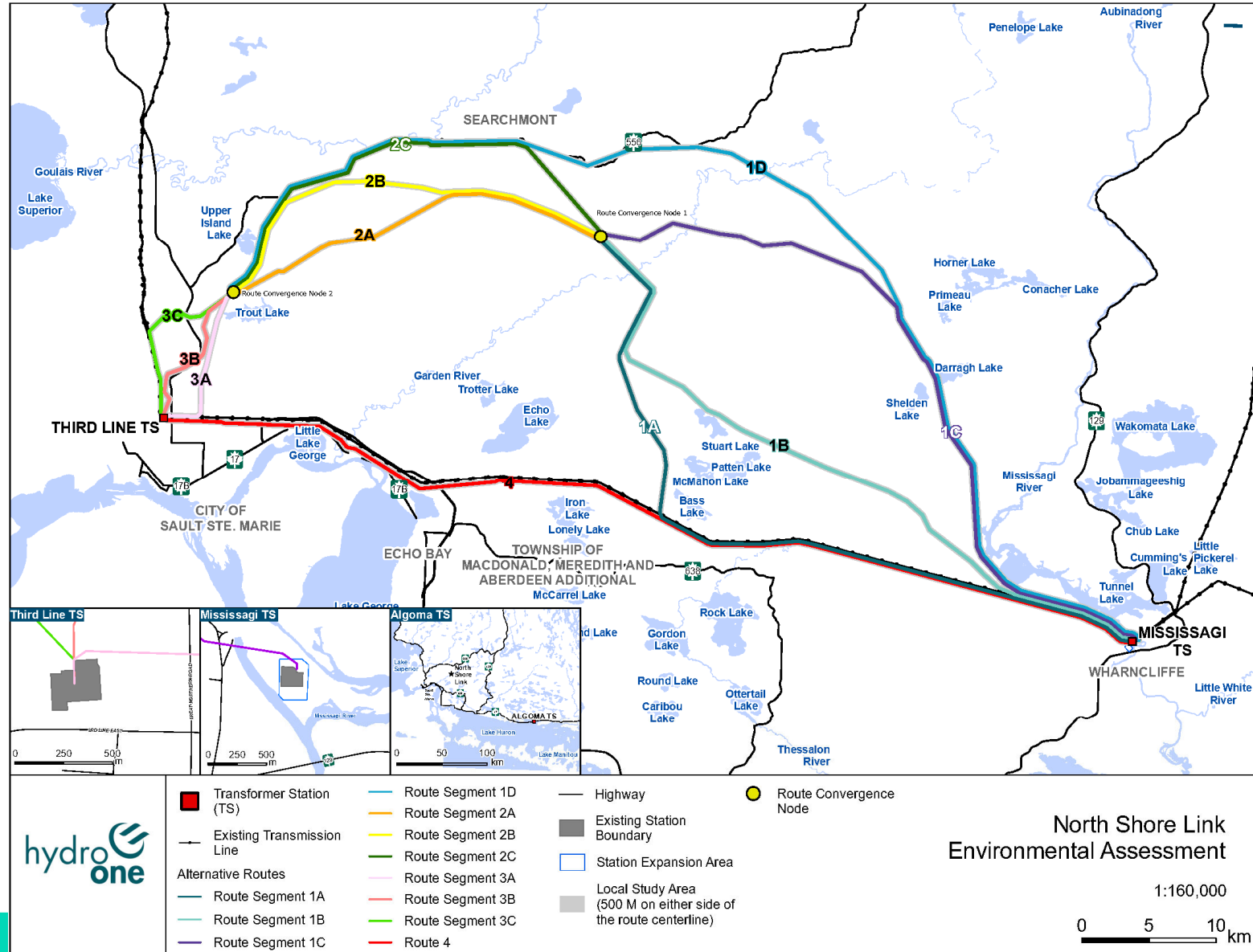
# Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

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- First Nation Technical Advisory Committee has been formed with representatives from each of the 9 FN partners communities.
- Opportunity to gather input on route evaluation and criteria.
- Sharing of Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge values as input into the assessment.
- Information Sharing Agreements to be implemented between HONI and First Nations.
- 3 TAC workshops over the course of the evaluation. #1 & #2 are complete. TAC Workshop #3 will be held in April 2025

# Route Segments



# Alternative Route Evaluation Criteria Overview

The preferred route will be selected based on an evaluation process that balances project specific criteria in four categories:

| Category                                                                                                         | Examples                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>Indigenous Community Values | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traditional land use areas</li><li>• Areas of known Indigenous cultural significance</li><li>• Values identified from Indigenous Knowledge</li></ul>                                                                                                                            |
| <br>Natural Environment         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wetlands</li><li>• Provincial Parks</li><li>• Waterbodies</li><li>• Species at risk</li><li>• Conservation areas</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                      |
| <br>Socio-Economic Environment  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commercial and industrial facilities</li><li>• Mining claims</li><li>• Urban/residential areas</li><li>• Properties/land parcels</li><li>• Archaeological sites</li></ul>                                                                                                       |
| <br>Technical Considerations   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reducing the number of angles</li><li>• Crossing of physical features like rivers, lakes, buildings and/or steep terrain features</li><li>• Real estate and land rights considerations</li><li>• Construction complexity and ability to complete construction on time</li></ul> |

HydroOne.com/NSL



Artwork - Storm Angeconeb

# Near-Term Project Activities - NSL

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| Activity                                        | Date                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Community Open Houses Round 2                   | Winter 2025                                                      |
| Outreach for field participation                | Ahead of 2025 field season; notice of 2-week upcoming field work |
| Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (AA)          | Winter 2025                                                      |
| Stage 2 AA outreach for monitors/techs          | Spring 2025                                                      |
| Stage 2 AA field work                           | Spring/Summer/Fall 2025 & 2026                                   |
| 2025 field season for environmental surveys     | Spring/Summer/Fall 2025                                          |
| Environmental Study Report public review period | Spring 2026                                                      |
| Environmental Study Report                      | Fall 2026                                                        |

# NSL

## Natural Environment Field Work

- **Bat Maternity Roosting** – Spring 2025 (before leaf out)
- **Bat Acoustic Recording Units (ARU)** – June 2025
- **Background Findings** – 8 Species of bat are present in the study area, 4 are currently listed as Species at Risk and 3 others are expected to be listed this year.
- **Amphibian Surveys** – Spring 2025
- **Background Findings** – 9 Species of frog/toad and 5 species of salamanders are known to occur in the study area.



# NSL

## Natural Environment Field Work

- **Turtle Overwintering** – Spring 2025 (after ice out)
- **Background Findings** – 4 Species of turtle and are known to occur in the study area. Three are listed as Species at Risk.
- **Least Bittern/Wetland Birds** – May/June 2025
- **Background Findings** – 70 Species of wetland bird species and are known to occur in the study area for breeding or migration. Four are listed as Species at Risk.



# NSL

## Natural Environment Field Work

- **Breeding Birds** – June 2025
- **Background Findings** – At least 122 woodland/open habitat bird species have been observed in the study area. Fourteen are listed as Species at Risk.
- **Crepuscular Birds** – June/July 2025
- **Background Findings** – Common Nighthawk and Eastern Whip-poor-will listed as Species at Risk.



# NSL Natural Environment Field Work

## ELC/Wetlands/Botanical Surveys

- Survey 1: July 29 – August 2
- Survey 2: September 16 – 22
- Spring/Summer/Fall Surveys for 2025

**Background/Preliminary Findings** – 18 different communities classified to ecosite level with over 150 different plant species. Butternut and Black Ash are listed as Species at Risk.



# NSL Natural Environment Field Work

## Fish and Fish Habitat

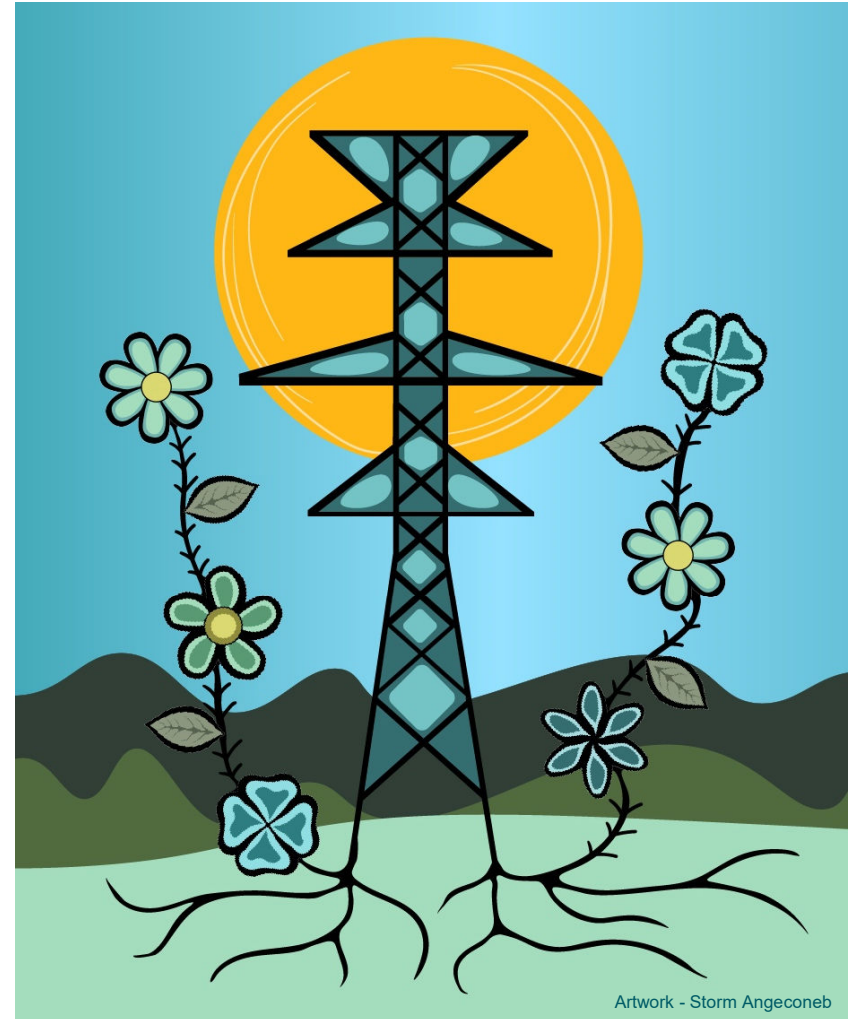
- Survey 1: August 26 - 30
- Survey 2: October 16 – 19
- Survey 3: November 1 – 4
- Summer/Fall Surveys for 2025

**Background/Preliminary Findings** – 19 Aquatic Habitat assessments were carried out as well as electrofishing or eDNA sampling. 67 Species of fish and 8 species of mussel are known to occur in the study area. Three fish species and one mussel species are listed as Species at Risk.



# NSL Natural Environment Field Work

- First Nation Monitors to participate in surveys for 2025 field season
- Hydro One will continue to follow-up for interest & availability, we will update dates and schedule ahead of the 2025 field season and provide a 2-week look-ahead schedule once we begin the season

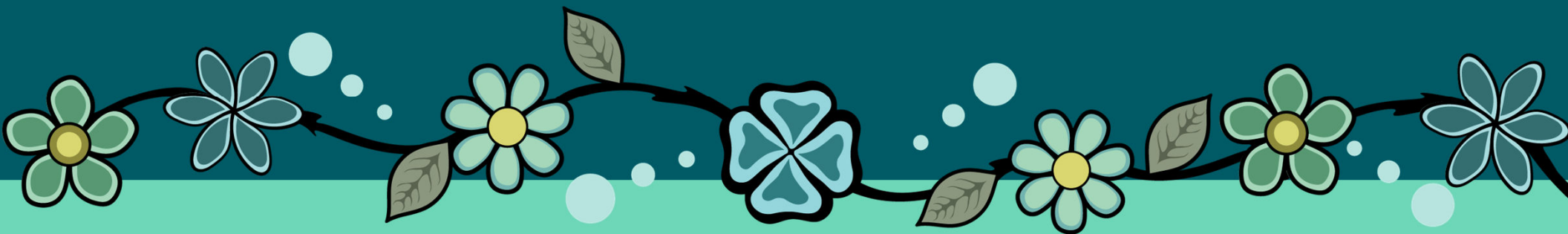


Artwork - Storm Angecone

## Key Input Opportunities & Next Steps - NSL

- First Nation monitor participation in environmental field surveys
- First Nation monitor participation in archaeological assessments
- Community open houses
- First Nation Technical Advisory Committee Workshops
- Environmental Study Report
- Hydro One will be providing opportunities for meaningful Indigenous community involvement and input along every step of the Project

# North Shore Link Project Timelines



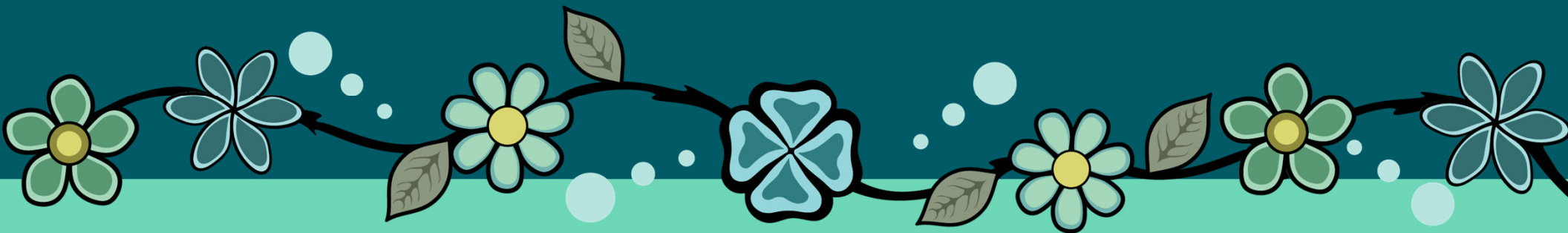
# Overview: Project Timelines - NSL

| Milestone                                                                                   | Date                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Early engagement with communities                                                           | 2023                                                   |
| Designation of Project to Hydro One                                                         | October 2023                                           |
| Routing Study (and engagement with communities on route alternatives to be carried forward) | December 2023 – July 2024                              |
| Notice of Commencement                                                                      | July 2024                                              |
| Community Open House to introduce Project and Route Evaluation Process                      | Fall 2024                                              |
| Field surveys (including natural environment & archaeology)                                 | Summer and Fall 2024<br>Spring/Summer/Fall 2025 & 2026 |
| Route Evaluation including Technical Advisory Committee Workshops with Communities          | Fall 2024/Winter 2025                                  |

## Overview: Project Timelines – NSL (cont'd)

| Milestone                              | Date        |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Preferred Route Announcement           | Spring 2025 |
| Draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) | Spring 2026 |
| Final ESR to complete the Class EA     | Fall 2026   |
| Permits & approvals (including S.92)   | 2026-2027   |
| Construction start                     | 2027        |
| Project in service                     | 2029        |

# Northeast Powerline Project Overview



# Project Information - NEPL

- Demand in Northeast Ontario is expected to significantly increase due to growth in provincial electricity demand from decarbonization and electrification initiatives.
- In 2022, IESO triggered a bulk system study and identified the need for three major transmission projects to support the development of the area, including NEPL and NSL.

## Northeast Power Line Project

- New single-circuit 500 kV transmission line (approx. 205 km in length) between Hanmer TS, located in the City of Sudbury, to Mississagi TS, located in the District of Algoma.
- An EA was conducted for this project in the 1980s. This project will undergo an Environmental Update to re-do all field surveys (including archeology)



- Transformer Station (TS)
- Highway
- Existing Transmission Line
- Existing Corridor for Future Northeast Power Line
- First Nation Reserve
- Municipal Boundary

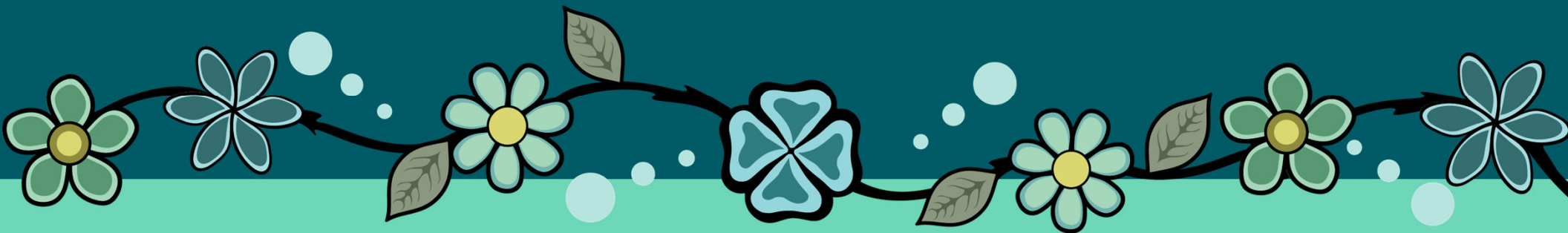
Northeast Power Line:  
General Area Map

1:500,000

0 10 20 km



# Northeast Powerline Project (NEPL) Environmental Update Overview



## Project Team - NEPL

- Project Proponent:
- First Nation Partners
- Environmental Consultant
- Archaeology Consultant



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Archaeological  
Services  
Inc.



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## NEPL Environmental Update Process

- We will be re-doing all the technical environmental surveys along the approved corridor to update to today's standards.
- We will have 2 field seasons, in 2024 and 2025 to study the approved route corridor.
- Waasmoowin Partners and Hydro One will review the Environmental Update Report including results from field surveys at the end of both field seasons.
- First Nation environmental and archaeological monitoring will be implemented during each field season.

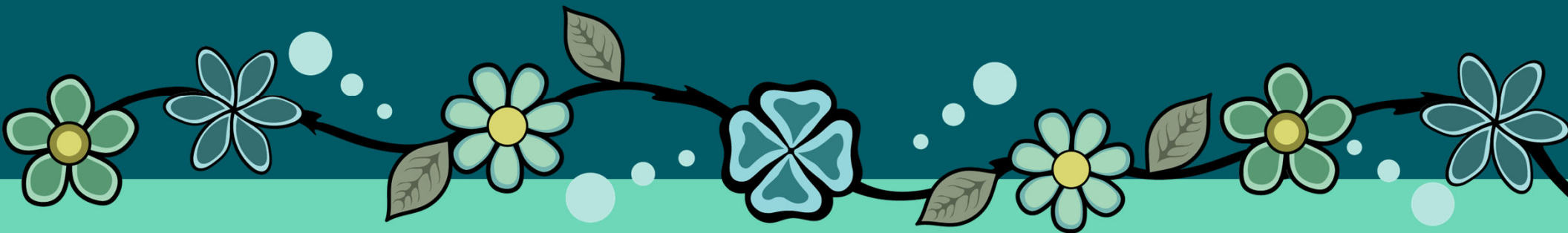


# NEPL Environmental Update Report

- Summary of field survey findings
- Effects and mitigation of the project
- Summary of archaeological assessments
- Record of consultation and engagement



# Northeast Powerline Natural Environment



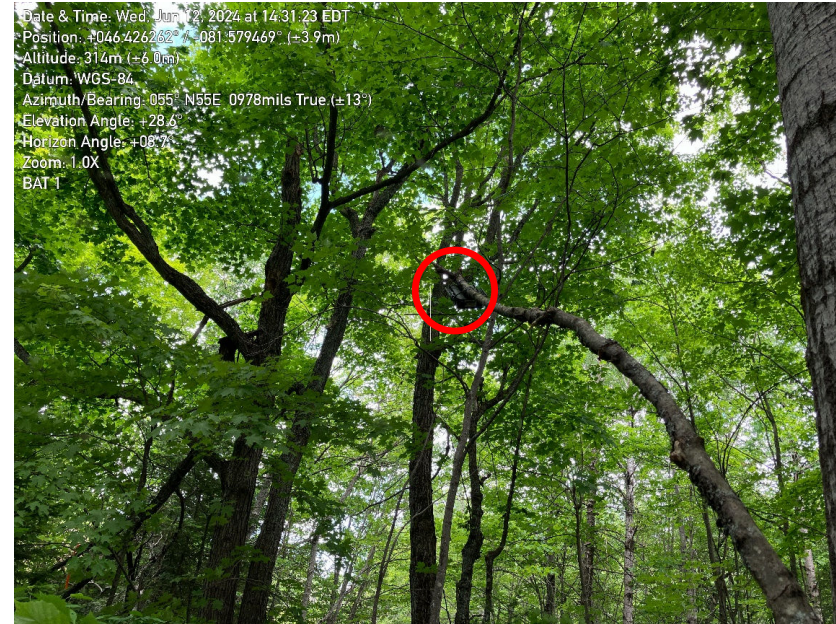
# Natural Environment Field Work

- **Bat maternity** - April 22-29 (Completed)

**Preliminary findings:** Mixed and deciduous forest across the study area have moderate to high potential as bat roosting habitat.

- **Bat Acoustic Recording Units (ARU)** -  
Deploy week of June 10 & retrieve week of  
July 2 (Completed)

**Preliminary findings:** 11 Acoustic monitoring locations detected 7 bat species including 3 Species at Risk bats.



# Natural Environment Field Work

- **Least Bittern/Wetland Birds (Completed):**

- Survey 1: May 20-24
- Survey 2: June 17-21
- Survey 3: July 8-12
- Will also setup/take down ARUs for amphibian recordings

**Preliminary findings:** 31 Wetland bird species were identified from point count surveys and ARU data. Most common species were Canada Goose, Common Yellowthroat, Sandhill Crane, and Swamp Sparrow



# NEPL Natural Environment Field Work

- **Turtle Overwintering Survey: (Completed)**

- Survey 1: April 22-26
- Survey 2: May 6-10
- Survey 3: May 27-31
- Survey 4: June 3-6

**Preliminary findings:** Approximately 60 individuals observed at 7 different locations. Primary species was Midland Painted Turtle with Blanding's Turtle recorded at one site. Three sites meet the criteria to be confirmed overwintering habitat based on observations.



# Natural Environment Field Work

- **Breeding Bird Surveys: (Completed)**

- Survey 1: June 10-14
- Survey 2: June 24-28

Preliminary Findings: 63 bird species were detected from Point Count and ARU surveys. 7 species listed as Species at Risk were identified.

- **ELC/Wetlands/Botanical Surveys: (Completed)**

- Survey 1: May 27-June 3
- Survey 2: July 2-9
- Survey 3: August 12-16

Preliminary Findings: more than 165 plant species identified from surveys of 32 ecosites. Butternut and Black Ash are listed as Species at Risk.



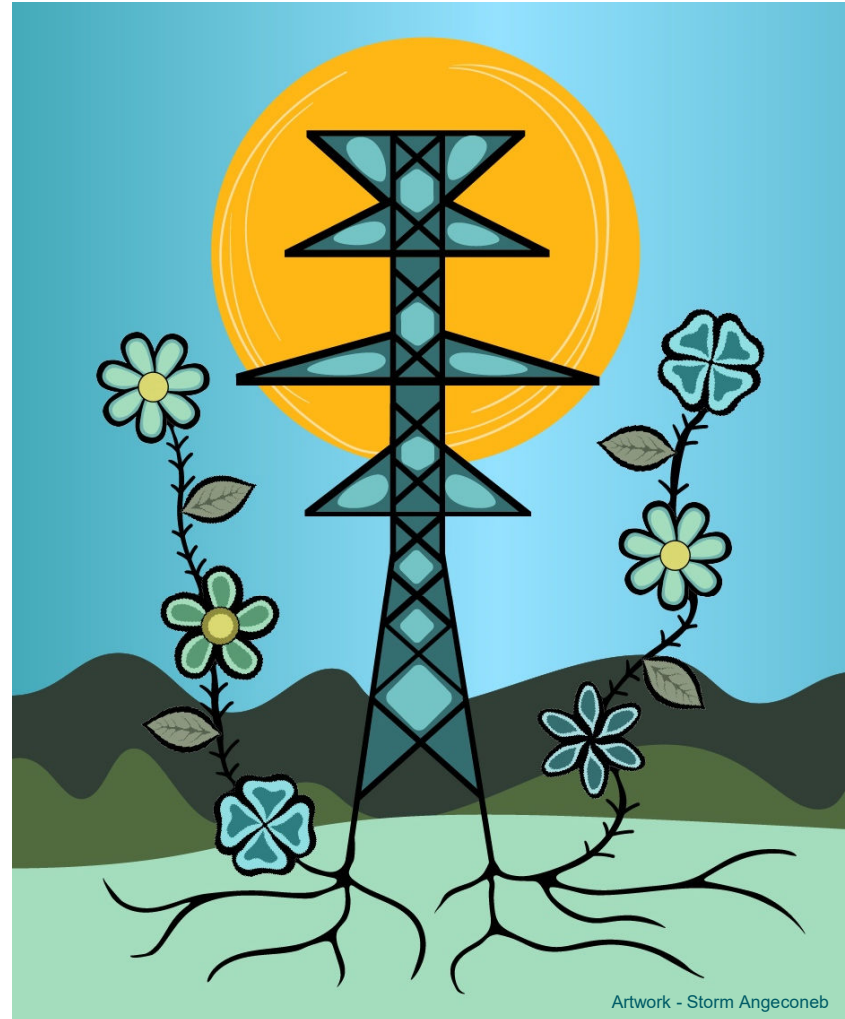
# NEPL Natural Environment Field Work

- **Fish and Fish Habitat** – August 27-September 1 and October 16-19 (completed)
- 9 Aquatic Habitat assessments were carried out as well as electrofishing or eDNA sampling. 22 Species of fish were confirmed as present within 1km of the sampling points. Three fish species and one mussel species are listed as Species at Risk. None were identified from sampling.



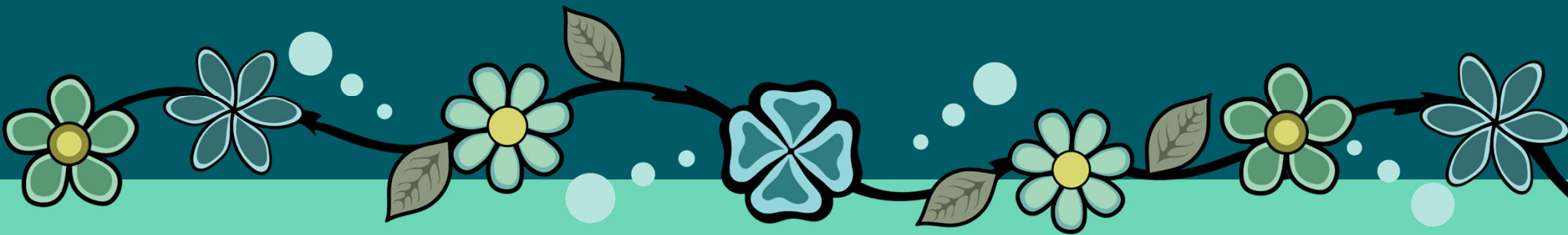
# NEPL Natural Environment Field Work

- First Nation monitor opportunities for surveys for 2025 field season
- Hydro One will continue to follow-up for interest & availability, we will update dates and schedule ahead of the 2025 field season and provide a 2-week look-ahead schedule once we begin the season



Artwork - Storm Angecneb

# Northeast Powerline Archaeological Assessment



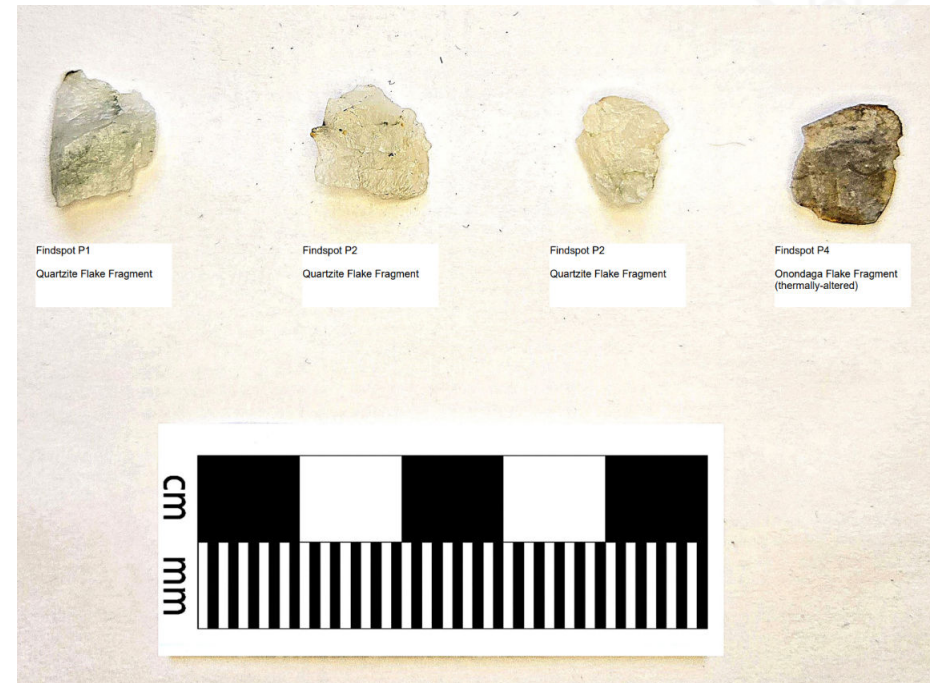
# NEPL Archaeological Assessment – Property Inspection

- ASI has been conducting property inspections throughout the 2024 field season to confirm accessibility and areas of archaeological potential
- Property inspections will continue in spring 2025



# NEPL Archaeological Assessment – Stage 2 test pitting

- ASI has been conducting Stage 2 test pitting on areas determined to have archaeological potential throughout the 2024 field season
- Stage 2 field work wrapped up in Nov, continue in spring/summer/fall 2025
- 16 site finds in 3 general areas
  - West limit (Mississagi River) - 5+ artifacts
  - Fairbank East Road – 8 artifacts
  - Big Moon – Highway 108 – 70+ artifacts



# NEPL Archaeological Assessment – Stage 2 test pitting

- Most artifacts found are lithic flakes
  - Quartzite flake fragment
  - Chert flake fragment
- Some artifacts are still being processed in the lab
- Sites will either require further intensification or Stage 3 AA or be confirmed non-cultural (no further work required)



# Near-Term Project Activities - NEPL

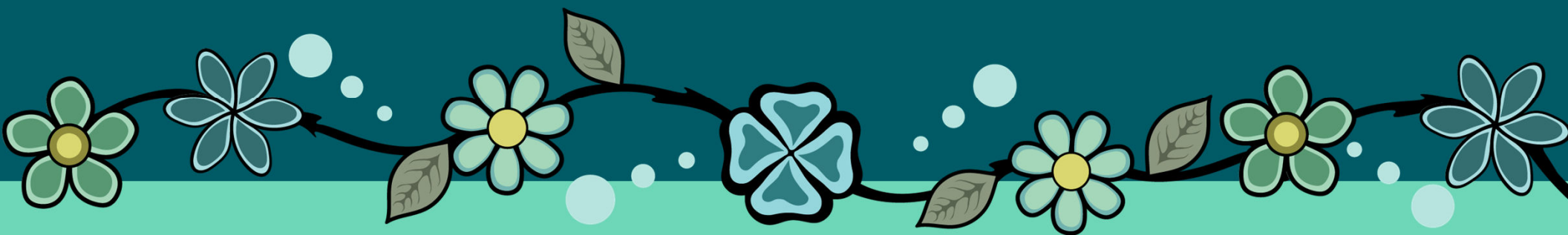
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| Activity/Opportunities to Participate                                                        | Date                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (AA) – <i>Review/ Comment</i>                              | Completed May 2024                                   |
| Stage 2 AA field work – <i>Participation of Monitors/ Technicians</i>                        | July to end of fall 2024,<br>spring/summer/fall 2025 |
| 2024 Field Surveys Summary Report- <i>Review/ Comment</i>                                    | Spring 2025                                          |
| 2025 field season for any outstanding surveys – <i>Participation of Monitors/Technicians</i> | April to July 2025                                   |
| Stage 2 AA Report – <i>Review/ Comment</i>                                                   | Q4 2025                                              |
| Environmental Update Report (EUR) – <i>Review/ Comment on EUR</i>                            | December 2025                                        |

***Hydro One will be providing opportunities for meaningful Indigenous community involvement and input along every step of the Project***

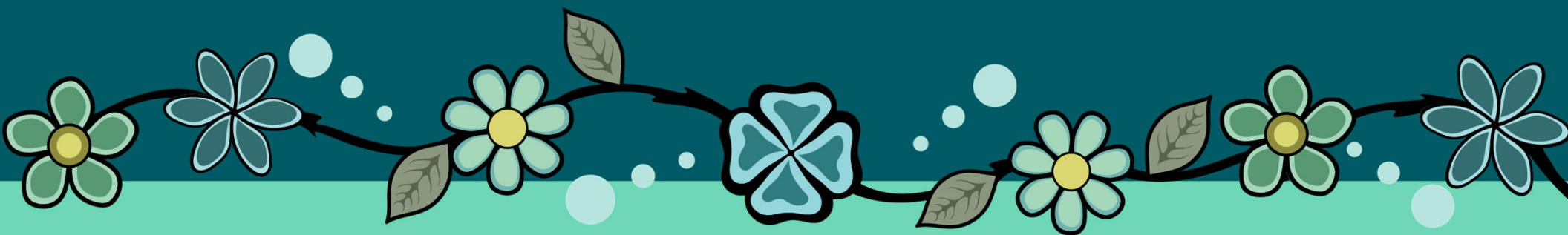
# Northeast Powerline Project Timelines

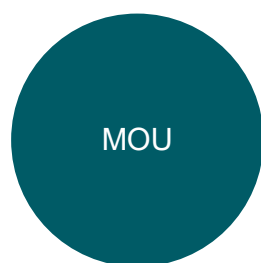


# Overview: Project Timelines - NEPL

| Milestone                                                   | Date                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Early engagement with communities                           | 2023                         |
| Designation of Project to Hydro One                         | October 2023                 |
| Project Announcement of Environmental Update                | February 2024                |
| Field surveys (including natural environment & archaeology) | Spring/Summer/Fall 2024-2025 |
| Permits & approvals (including S.92)                        | 2026-2027                    |
| Construction start                                          | 2027                         |
| Project in service                                          | 2029                         |

# Capacity Funding





Expenses incurred during initial early project engagement activities

Early engagement with Chief and council and representatives

Agreement implementation activities and costs



Professional and advisory services and expenses

Project related community engagement activities and costs

Community led studies, including Indigenous knowledge, and traditional land use

Internal/external engagements, including meetings with Hydro One

Agreement Implementation activities and costs including administrative support

Other expenses



Funding to support costs incurred by corporation

Professional and advisory services and expenses

Consultation undertaken as a collective corporation

Costs to close equity investment

Partnerships  
also include:

**Community led Initiative:** funding commitment for community need to support engagement on this and future projects

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**Community investment funding:** funding provided during the term of the Agreement, based on project milestones

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**Core capacity funding:** annual funding provided during the term of the Agreement to support ongoing liaising between Hydro One and community

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**Project engagement funding:** a set budget to support specific engagement tasks, to support community built workplans and deliverables

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# Highlights of types of Funding Support

# Miigwetch



# Our Work To Date - NEPL

**Feb. 2023**

Early engagement with eight North Shore communities.  
HONI hosted NE roundtable.

**Oct. 2023**

HONI officially designated both TS lines.

**Dec. 2023**

Capacity Funding Agreement tabled.

**Feb. 2024**

HxM Environmental Update Announcement  
Technical Committee Workshop.

**Apr. 2024**

**Chief and leads meeting.**  
Technical Committee Workshop.

**Aug. 2023**

Chief and leads meeting at Garden River First Nation.  
Nations submitted letter of support for HONI to the Ministry of Energy.

**Nov. 2023**

Project Kick-off and Environmental meeting with Technical Committee.

**Jan. 2024**

Chiefs and leads meeting.

**Mar. 2024**

HxM Community Open House in Elliott Lake, and Hanmer.