



Waasigan Transmission Line Project

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS | NOVEMBER 2023



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Cover by artist Storm Angeconeb

“What stands out in this art piece is the symbolic representation of solar rays as ‘Bringing Power.’ We can see the environment represented through the wildlife and Ojibwe floral visuals. This artwork is an excellent representation of Hope, Life, and Opportunity, visually portrayed through the Black Bear and her two cubs.” – Storm Angeconeb

About the artist

Storm is a highly recognized visual artist from Lac Seul First Nation in Treaty #3 and currently resides in Red Lake. Many of her works include animals and birds as representations of herself or those close to her.



INTRODUCTION

Hydro One and nine First Nation partners are pleased to share the highlights of the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) report for the Waasigan project. First Nation partners are Eagle Lake First Nation (Migisi Sahgaigan), Fort William First Nation (Anemki Wajiw), Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation (Nezaadikaang), Gakijiwanong Anishinaabe Nation (Lac La Croix First Nation), Lac Seul First Nation (Obishikokaang), Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, Seine River First Nation (Chima'aganing) and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation (Waabigonii Zaaga'igan).

The Final EA report was developed with technical experts and in consultation with Indigenous community members, elected officials, government agencies and other interested stakeholders. It has been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for review and approval. Details on how to provide feedback to the Ministry are at the end of this document.

View the full Final Environmental Assessment report here.
[HydroOne.com/Waasigan](https://hydroone.com/Waasigan)



As communities, businesses and the mining sector continue to grow in Ontario, so does the demand for clean energy. Hydro One is expanding the clean electricity system to support this incredible growth and harness the wealth of minerals by developing and building the Waasigan Transmission Line.

Hydro One is working with:

- Indigenous communities
- municipalities
- residents, including directly impacted property owners
- stakeholders
- businesses
- government agencies and interested parties

Hydro One is passionate about our role in supporting northwestern Ontario as an attractive place to invest, live and work.

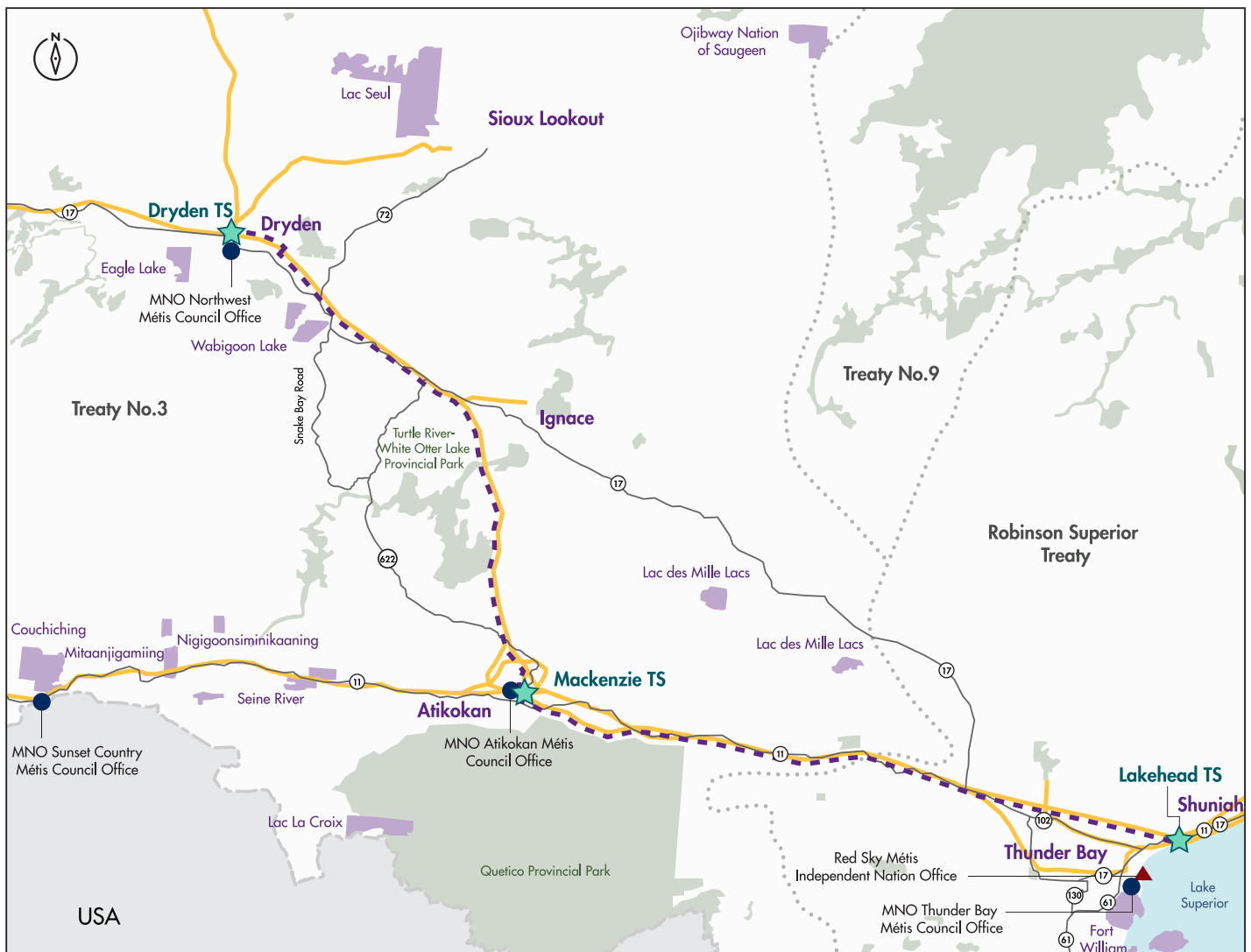


Demand for electricity in the region is expected to grow 50 to 100 per cent over the next decade, driven by potential mining developments. That's why the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has confirmed the need for this line and recommends it be built in a timely manner.

ABOUT THE WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE

The Waasigan Transmission Line is a new, proposed transmission line between Shuniah, Atikokan and Dryden, in northwestern Ontario. The line will help meet the current and future energy needs of northwest Ontario while protecting and preserving the environment. As part of our deep responsibility to energize life for people, the planet and communities, we strive to ensure that our reliable and resilient infrastructure has minimal impacts on the environment.

Waasigan Transmission Line



Map Legend

- ★ Existing Transformer Station (TS)
- - - Preferred Route
- Existing Transmission Line
- Highway
- - - International Border
- ▲ Red Sky Métis Independent Nation Office
- Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Council Office
- - - Treaty Boundary
- First Nation Reserve
- Provincial Park



Benefits to Northwestern Ontario

Clean energy

The project will provide a reliable supply of clean electricity – twice what it takes to power a city the size of Thunder Bay – which means communities and businesses can grow.

Economic growth

The new line will be the backbone for attracting economic investment to the region, including supporting locally produced goods and services. It will also support mining, forestry, electrification, critical minerals and more.

Benefits to Indigenous communities

The project is providing economic participation opportunities to Indigenous communities through training, employment and business creation, as well as 50% equity ownership for nine First Nations in the completed transmission line.



Electrifying our homes and local economy relies on critical minerals like copper and nickel, which northern Ontario is fortunate to have a bounty of. Ontario's competitive advantage in the global mining sector comes from our commitment to sustainability. The clean energy the Waasigan Transmission Line will deliver will enhance this advantage, ensuring mining benefits everyone for generations.

– Chris Hodgson, President, Ontario Mining Association

By the numbers



350 megawatts
of clean electricity transmitted



80 to 220
direct jobs during the construction period



11 mines
could be powered by the line

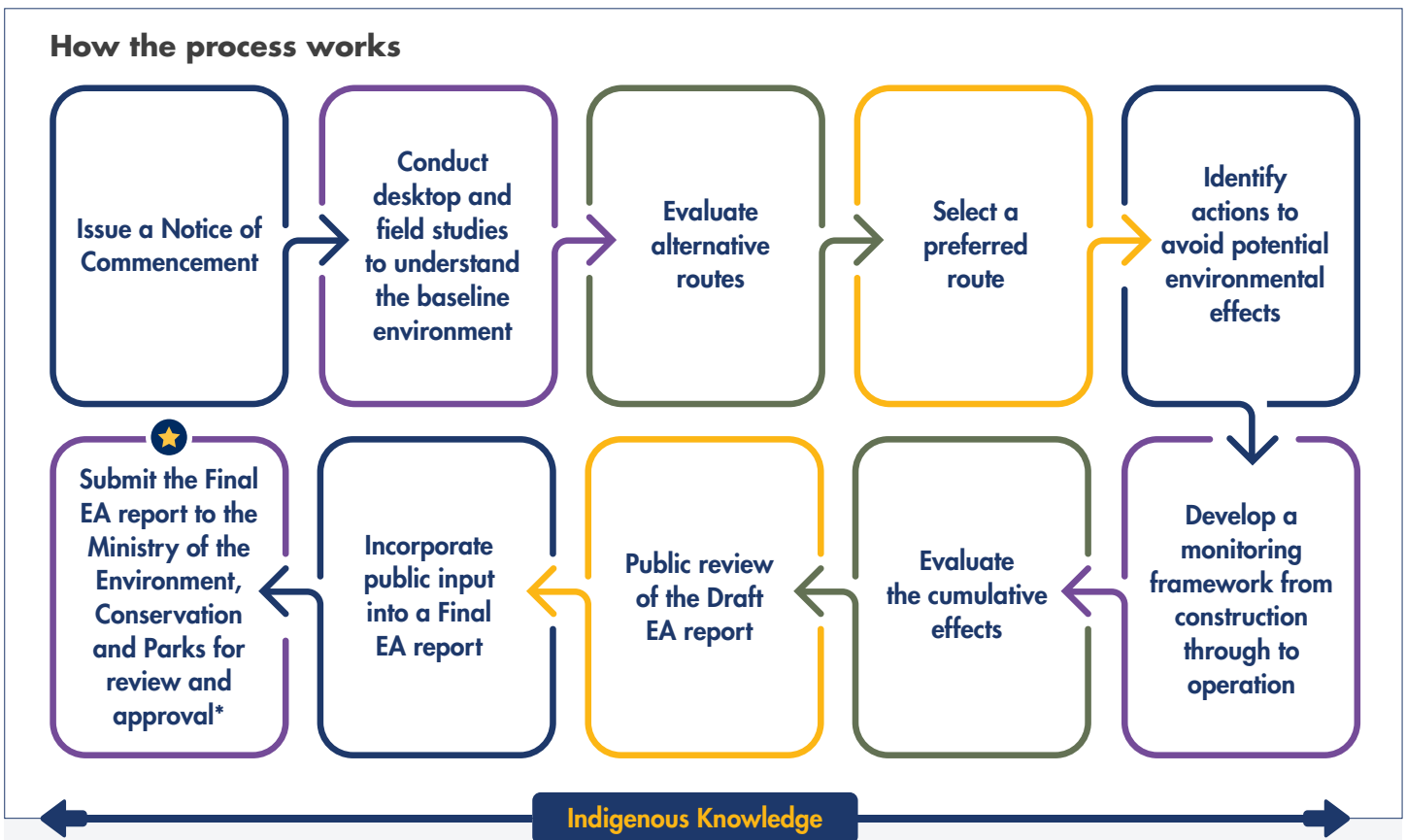


Industrial activities in northwestern Ontario – particularly in the mining sector – are driving growing electricity demand in the region.



ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

An EA is a process to identify, predict and evaluate the potential environmental effects of a proposed project. The Final EA report is a direct result of over four years of community engagement and more than 1,200 field study sites. The field study program involved 17 Indigenous monitors. Approval of a Terms of Reference is a prerequisite for starting the EA process, which Hydro One received in February 2021.



The Final EA report:

- Details the process to identify a final route for the project
- Predicts and assesses potential natural environment and socio-economic effects
- Identifies the actions we will take to minimize and avoid potential negative project effects
- Incorporates feedback received during the Draft EA review period

*Includes Ministry-led public review and comment periods



WHAT WE HEARD DURING THE REVIEW PERIOD

During the review period for the Draft EA, Hydro One received important feedback from Indigenous communities, stakeholders, and the public. These comments are included in Appendix 4.0-A of the Final EA, including responses from Hydro One.

Indigenous communities shared:

- Strong preference to avoid herbicide use during construction and maintenance of the line
- Requests for construction phase communication, monitoring, and restoration commitments to be included in the EA
- Interest in reviewing the construction Environmental Protection Plan and developing a Traditional Land and Resource Use Management Plan
- Valuable comments on the protection of the natural environment and how the assessment and mitigation measures could be improved
- Importance for the integration of Indigenous Knowledge in the Final EA, in collaboration with Indigenous communities to respect and maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information shared.

Stakeholders and members of the public shared:

- Strong preference to avoid herbicide use when building and maintaining the line
- Comments regarding route alignment and visual effects from line, including interest in the visual effects assessment
- Comments regarding trespassing and unauthorized access to the corridor adjacent to private properties
- Comments regarding the importance of protecting and understanding planned mitigation measures for the natural environment, cultural heritage of the area, local tourism and activities, such as trapping

Government agencies shared:

- Request to highlight how commitments made in the Terms of Reference are being fulfilled
- Interest in the construction Environmental Protection Plan
- Feedback on the effects assessment
- Information related to relevant regulations and approvals to be reflected in the Final EA



Our commitments

Based on direct feedback received during the Draft EA review period, we are making notable commitments, reflected in the Final EA.



We will not use herbicides during the construction of the project or for future maintenance of this transmission line



We will implement an Environmental Protection Plan for the project that will describe actions to avoid or reduce potential effects on the natural and socio-economic environments



We will implement monitoring programs, including an Indigenous Monitoring Program, to confirm whether predicted effects are happening, determine whether actions to limit those effects are effective, and provide feedback to change or take new actions



We will work to address concerns related to trespassing and the potential for increased unauthorized access to the extent possible upon completion of the project and are currently exploring options to do so



We will explore opportunities to selectively cut vegetation (trees and plants) on the new transmission line path and retain compatible species that will not encroach on the electrical clearances or safe operation and maintenance of the transmission line. This could help limit the impact on visual aesthetics and enhance the local habitat for wildlife



For residents with displacement concerns, we will continue to take steps to ensure residents who want to stay in their homes can do so



OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

The Waasigan Transmission Line project will create **no significant negative effects to the environment or communities.**

We will take specific actions to limit and avoid any potential impacts on plants and wildlife, water, quality of life and more.

The Final EA report also outlines that:

- The project is helping to meet current and future electricity needs in Ontario
- There is a potential for increased economic opportunity in the region, especially growth and jobs in mining and forestry
- The project benefits outweigh its impacts

Key actions Hydro One will continue to take

Working with property owners

We're committed to working with homeowners to understand the unique features of their property. Hydro One has worked with multiple landowners to develop local route refinements, which are included in the Final EA, to address their concerns. Collaboratively, we will find a solution to ensure residents who want to stay in their homes can.

Biodiversity initiatives

We will create a biodiversity initiative to offset habitat loss or any long-term change that may occur as a result of this project. Hydro One will engage with Indigenous communities and interested parties to discuss the implementation of the biodiversity initiative.

Enhancing community benefits

We will work with municipalities, local communities, rightsholders and stakeholders to find opportunities to contribute to the areas around our projects in a positive way, recognizing that community benefits can be varied and diverse.

Electric and Magnetic Fields safety

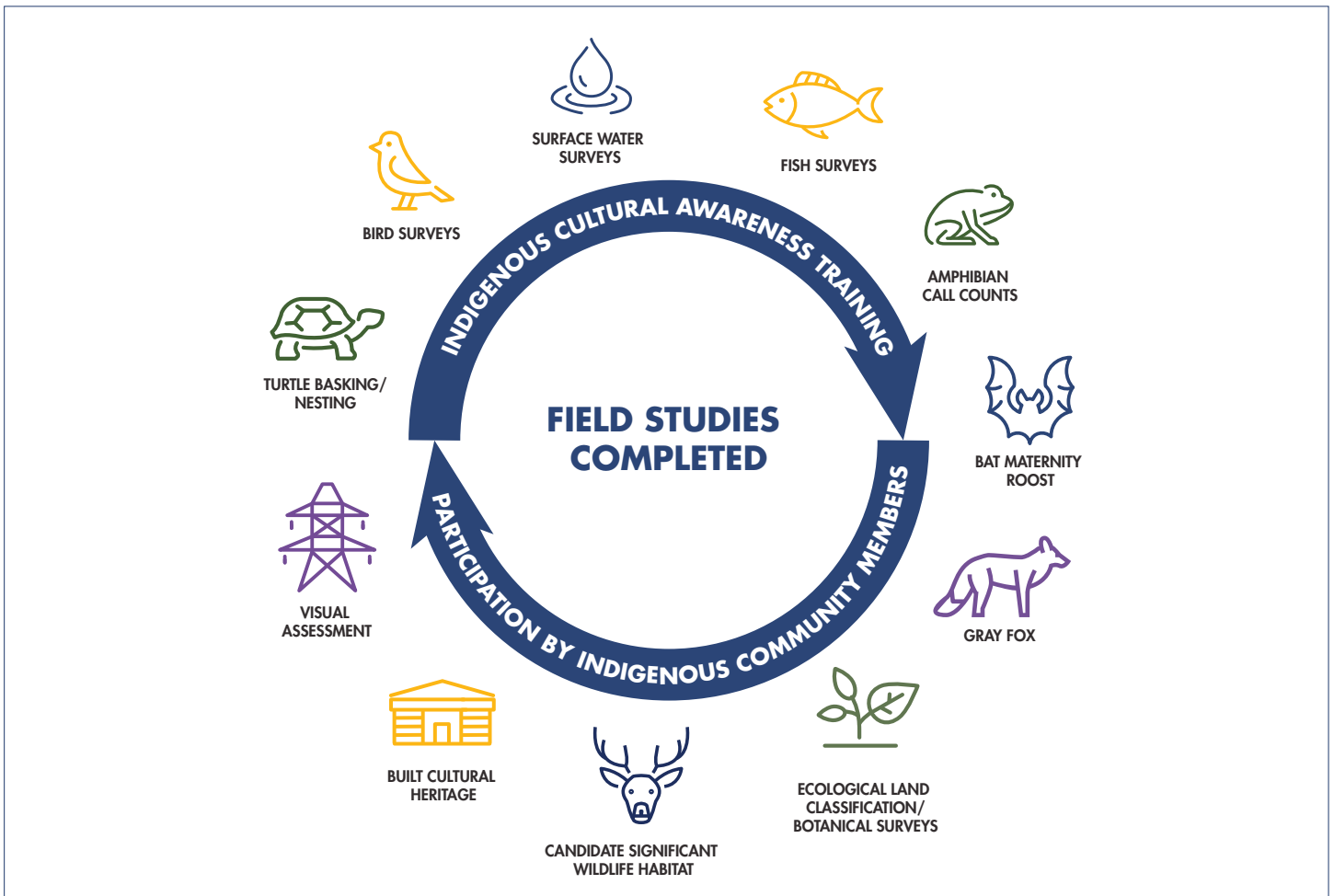
Hydro One takes safety very seriously and we design and operate our equipment in accordance with all regulatory requirements. Health Canada has found no conclusive evidence of adverse effects caused by EMF exposure from transmission lines. It also does not consider that any precautionary measures are needed regarding daily exposures to EMFs at extremely low frequencies.



Several Hydro One initiatives conserve and protect Ontario's biodiversity, such as planting to create habitat for pollinators, creating nesting platforms for birds and working with local organizations to restore wetlands.

Discover more at [HydroOne.com/Sustainability](https://www.hydroone.com/sustainability)





Incorporating Indigenous Knowledge

We acknowledge and respect that Indigenous peoples have unique knowledge and historic relationships with the lands and understand the importance of Indigenous Knowledge. We are dedicated to learning about the area’s natural environment, history, culture and traditional practices from local Indigenous communities and incorporating this information into the EA.



HIGHLIGHTS: FIRST NATION AND MÉTIS RIGHTS, INTERESTS AND USE OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

This section summarizes the project's potential impact on First Nation and Métis rights, interests and use of lands and resources. This includes the ability to practice their rights under Section 35 of *Canada's Constitution Act*, such as hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering, to experience culturally sensitive, sacred or spiritual landscapes and sites, and to maintain quality of experience and sense of place in areas within traditional territories.



First Nation Rights, Interests and Use of Lands and Resources

Anishinaabewinaakonigewinan, enwaatamang Aki.

What we found

Effects on the use of lands and resources could potentially affect Section 35 rights and interests. This may include access to Crown land, resources, and culturally sensitive, sacred or spiritual landscapes and sites that support First Nation culture and ways of life.

What we'll do

- Avoid using herbicides as part of the transmission line project
- Respect individual First Nation cultural protocols to the extent possible
- Incorporate shared Indigenous Knowledge into the next project milestone and implement appropriate avoidance or mitigation measures
- Facilitate opportunities for First Nations to participate in archaeological assessments
- Develop a Traditional Land Use and Resource Management Plan in collaboration with First Nations
- Develop Communications and Monitoring Plans in collaboration with potentially affected First Nations
- Share the Environmental Protection Plan and construction-related plans with potentially affected First Nations communities for review prior to construction
- Give advance notice of planned activities within the traditional territories of potentially affected First Nations
- Provide opportunities for pre-construction harvesting of plants and medicines in the transmission line path (right-of-way)
- Stage construction to avoid or minimize potential effects on environmentally sensitive areas or wildlife breeding cycles (e.g., breeding bird period, fisheries windows, etc.), where possible
- Ensure all project staff and contractors participate in relevant cultural awareness training

Key takeaway

Hydro One will continue to work with First Nations throughout the lifespan of the project to minimize effects on First Nation rights, interests and use of lands and resources.

The rights, interests and use of lands and resources of First Nations in Treaty #3 and Robinson Superior were considered including, but not limited to: Couchiching First Nation, Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation), Fort William First Nation (Anemki Wajiw), Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation (Nezaadikaang), Gakijwanong Anishinaabe Nation (Lac La Croix First Nation), Lac Seul First Nation (Obishikokaang), Seine River First Nation (Chima'aganing), and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation (Waabigonii Zaaga'igan).

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 7.7](#) of the Final EA report.



Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources

What we found

Effects on the use of lands and resources could potentially affect Section 35 rights that have been defined through treaties and case law, as well as other interests. This may include access to and use of Crown land, resources, and cultural and spiritual sites that support Métis culture and way of life.

What we'll do

- Avoid using herbicides as part of the transmission line project
- Collaborate with Métis communities to further identify: specific affected areas for harvesting resources (i.e., for hunting, trapping, fishing, gathering); known sites that are important for the next generations; potential refinements to the project footprint; and other site-specific measures to reduce project impacts
- Facilitate opportunities for Métis communities to participate in archaeological assessments
- Continue to engage with Métis communities on the information provided in the Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study
- Provide further engagement with Métis communities on the potential effects related to provincial parks and conservation reserves
- Develop Communications and Monitoring Plans in collaboration with potentially affected Métis communities
- Share the Environmental Protection Plan and construction-related plans with Métis communities for review before construction
- Post signage along public roadways in proximity to areas of construction activities as appropriate to alert land users that workers are in the area, such as during hunting seasons or periods of harvests indicated by Métis communities
- Stage construction to avoid or minimize potential effects on environmentally sensitive areas or wildlife breeding cycles (e.g., breeding bird period, fisheries windows, etc.), where possible

Key takeaway

Hydro One will continue to collaborate with Métis communities throughout the lifespan of the project to minimize effects on Métis rights, interests and use of lands and resources.

The EA considered the rights, interests, and use of lands and resources of the Northwestern Ontario Métis Community (the "NWOMC") and Region 2 of the Métis Nation of Ontario and of the Red Sky Métis Independent Nation.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 7.8](#) of the Final EA report.



HIGHLIGHTS: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

This section summarizes how we will limit or avoid impacts on the natural environment, such as plants, wildlife, wetlands, during construction and operation.

Physiography, Geology, Soils and Groundwater Summary

What we found

Construction activities (such as excavations and foundation construction) could potentially change terrain, soil productivity, distribution and quality, and impact groundwater. We will limit or avoid this.

What we'll do

- Locate project components, such as access roads, laydown areas (areas for temporary materials and equipment storage) and construction camps in previously disturbed areas wherever possible
- Avoid construction below the groundwater table where we can
- Maintain soil cover on the transmission line corridor as much as practicable
- Implement an Environment Protection Plan and a Spill and Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan that will include procedures to decrease the risk of accidental spills and ensure timely clean-up if one happened

Key takeaway

We will limit or avoid effects on the area's physical landscape, geology, soils and groundwater. We will do this in part by using best practices already applied across similar projects in North America.



The project is located in the Canadian Shield, and is comprised of rolling and hilly topography, formed by glacial deposits.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 6.1](#) of the Final EA report.



Surface Water Summary

What we found

Project activities could potentially affect the quality and quantity of surface water. For example, accidental spills or changes to water flow because of temporary water crossings could have an impact. We will address this with the right measures.

What we'll do

- Construct temporary water crossings where possible that will be reclaimed at the end of construction
- Implement a Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan
- Regularly service, maintain and inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks
- Reclaim areas used for construction as soon as possible after construction. We will seed some areas with a native cover crop and certified seed mix

Key takeaway

We will put the right measures in place to ensure there are no significant net effects on the quality and quantity of surface water.



The project is located within the English River, Winnipeg River and Northwestern Lake Superior secondary watersheds, and is composed of seven tertiary watersheds; all containing lakes, streams, rivers and ponds that are important to the project area and those that live within it.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Sections 6.2 and 6.3](#) of the Final EA report.



Vegetation, Wetlands, Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Summary

What we found

Plants, wildlife and wetlands are abundant in the area and it's important they are protected. Actions are needed so that project activities, such as vegetation removal, equipment use creating dust and installing watercrossings, do not result in significant negative effects.

What we'll do

- Avoid using herbicides as part of the transmission line project
- Use existing access roads or trails as much as possible to limit disturbance from construction of new access roads and trails
- Develop and implement a Vegetation Management Plan, including measures to protect rare plants and rare vegetation communities
- Reclaim temporary access roads, construction camps, waterbody crossings and temporary equipment storage areas
- Limit the construction of temporary (e.g., access roads) and permanent (tower foundations) structures in wetlands or within 30 m setback from a wetland
- Avoid vegetation removal activities within wildlife restricted activity periods, to the extent practicable
- Implement suitable vegetation management procedures to avoid and minimize the introduction and spread of noxious and invasive plants
- Allow compatible vegetation in the transmission line corridor to grow back to provide cover and reduce line of sight for predators

Key takeaway

We will take steps to minimize or avoid effects to wetlands, plants, wildlife and their habitats.



Through engagement during the Draft EA process, we heard feedback from Indigenous communities and stakeholders regarding concerns with the use of herbicides to remove and manage vegetation on the project. After extensive consideration of this feedback, herbicides will not be used during construction of the Project or for future maintenance of this transmission line. The Final EA has been updated to reflect this.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Sections 6.4 and 6.5](#) of the Final EA report.



Fish and Fish Habitat Summary

What we found

The project area contains diverse fish communities and many species with ecological, socio-economical, and Indigenous importance. Actions are needed to limit or avoid negatively changing the quality and quantity of fish and their habitats (such as physically altering waterbodies or affecting vegetation near water).

What we'll do

- Install transmission line infrastructure on land and overhead (i.e., not below water)
- Use existing access roads as much as possible
- Where new water crossing structures are proposed, structures to avoid in-water work, such as clear-span bridges and ice bridges will be preferred
- Install, maintain, remove, and decommission water crossing structures using best management practices and following environmental approval conditions (once available) for the project
- Avoid fording (crossing water at a shallow place) whenever possible. If fording is required, it will be a one-time crossing with clearing and bridge installation equipment
- Maintain buffer zones of 30 m around waterbodies, and limit removal of vegetation near water
- Limit clearing at water crossings along the transmission line corridor to a 10 m-wide right-of-way for equipment access to water crossing structures (e.g., temporary bridges)

Key takeaway

We will put measures in place to ensure no significant negative effects on fish and fish habitats result from the project.



A wide number of fish species – from brook trout to walleye and yellow perch – and hundreds of waterbodies spread across the project area were taken into account as part of the EA.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 6.6](#) of the Final EA report.



Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases Summary

What we found

Dust and tailpipe emissions from construction equipment and vehicles could affect air quality. We will take steps to avoid this. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions related to the project – such as from fossil fuel combustion from off-road and on road equipment – are expected to be minimal. We will also take steps to limit these.

What we'll do

- Implement a Dust Control/Air Quality Plan before construction
- Turn off vehicles and equipment when not in use, where reasonable
- Regularly service, maintain and inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks
- Use multi-passenger vehicles to transport personnel where possible
- Control dust (e.g., wetting with water) at work sites and on access roads
- Restore disturbed areas as soon as reasonably possible to minimize duration of soil exposure (to control dust)

Key takeaway

We do not expect any significant effects on air quality or greenhouse gas emissions.



GHG emissions associated with the construction phase of the project are expected to be less than 1% of Ontario's total GHG emissions and less than 0.1% of the Canada-wide total GHG emissions. Clean, green growth is our province's way forward. Hydro One enables that growth, delivering electricity that is approximately 94% carbon emission-free.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Sections 6.7 and 6.8](#) of the Final EA report.



Acoustic and Vibration Summary

What we found

Some project activities – such as equipment and vehicle use, helicopters, and operating temporary construction camps – have the potential to increase existing noise and vibration levels. However, we will take actions to avoid or limit this.

What we'll do

- Implement an Environmental Protection Plan and Noise Management Plan before construction
- Develop a construction vibration workplan before construction
- Comply with local noise by-laws that include restrictions for vibrations and typically occur during one 10-hour shift per day
- Locate and operate construction equipment as far as possible from sensitive receptors, such as residences
- Develop a complaint resolution mechanism so people can contact us with any concerns

Key takeaway

No significant adverse effects on noise and vibration from building and operating the transmission line are expected.



Most of the project is in areas that are expected to experience noise levels consistent with “quiet rural areas” (based on Health Canada Noise Guidance).

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 6.9](#) of the Final EA report.



HIGHLIGHTS: SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

This section highlights how we will limit or avoid impacts on communities, including access to services and quality of life, during project construction and operation.



Land and Resource Use Assessment Results Summary

What we found

Without actions, the area could experience changes in the quantity of land available for use, including parks and protected areas, outdoor tourism and recreational land use areas, and commercial industry land. In some cases, portions of private land parcels will be required for the transmission line corridor.

What we'll do

- Use existing access roads and trails where possible to limit disturbances to provincial park access resulting from the construction of new access roads
- Minimize permanent project components within provincial parks and protected areas
- Work with government agencies on any updates to provincial park management plans and conservation reserve management statements to reference the project
- Restore temporary construction access roads and areas that are being used on a temporary basis during construction, such as laydown areas, pull sites and helipads that are located on previously undisturbed lands
- Secure land use permits for the transmission line corridor and roads on Crown land
- Implement a Landowner Compensation Program for directly affected property owners
- Coordinate construction activities with mining resource land users through ongoing engagement, and continue to engage claim holders, licence holders, and other tenure holders, and where appropriate
- Ensure continued communications as construction progresses and reaches milestones
- Work with homeowners to understand the unique features of their property and work collaboratively to ensure residents who want to stay in their homes can

Key takeaway

Working with government agencies and the community, we will limit the adverse effects on the way lands and resources can be used for tourism, recreation and other uses like hunting, fishing and trapping.



The project footprint crosses a variety of land uses, including provincial parks, a conservation area, Crown land parcels and private land.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 7.1](#) of the Final EA report.



Community Well-Being, Infrastructure and Economy Summary

What we found

While the project will bring change and increased activity to the area, potential nuisances or effects on the quality of life in the area are expected to be short term. That includes effects related to air quality, noise and vibration, community and emergency services and traffic.

What we'll do

- Limit air, noise and vibration emissions from the project using the same measures described in other sections here
- Implement management plans to limit public exposure to hazards, such as a Fire Prevention and Preparedness Plan and Emergency Response Plan
- Implement policies and protocols including code of conduct for staff, drug and alcohol policies, camp curfews, limited use of personal vehicles, restrictions on non-project staff in company vehicles (including hitchhikers) and site security

Key takeaway

Potential effects on infrastructure (e.g., community services and facilities) and nuisance effects are expected to be short term.



The EA found that the project will contribute to regional economic development through job opportunities, as well as procuring project materials and services from local businesses and contractors.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Sections 7.2 and 7.3](#) of the Final EA report.



Visual Aesthetics Summary

What we found

Changes to views and the visual quality of the area will be temporary or limited during construction. There will also be some visual changes as transmission structures are set up in certain locations, such as the top of hills or roadways. We will take steps to limit the impact.

What we'll do

- Avoid vegetation removal activities where practicable
- Use existing roads and trails, and disturbed areas where possible
- Keep existing vegetation and landforms, to the extent possible, to screen the project from view
- Remove unnecessary facilities, and reclaim temporary access roads and water crossings, helicopter pads, temporary laydown areas, and temporary construction camps

Key takeaway

Changes to views and the visual quality of the area during construction will be temporary. We will make efforts to minimize permanent visual effects where possible.



The project is within the Ontario Shield Ecozone, which includes boreal forest, plus numerous lakes, streams, ponds and wetlands.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 7.4](#) of the Final EA report.



Archaeology Resources, Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes Summary

What we found

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment portion of the EA began early in 2022 to provide more time for Indigenous communities to participate in the process.

There are registered archaeological sites within the study area, plus others with the potential to contain archaeological resources (those would require additional assessments if the project footprint crosses them). There is also one cultural heritage landscape assessed to have cultural heritage value or interest.

Avoiding damage or destruction to these important resources is essential, which is why we'll undertake further assessments and take other actions described here.

What we'll do

- Complete a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment (and Stage 3 and 4 if required) in the areas of the project footprint with archaeological potential that are anticipated to be subject to project impacts
- Implement an Archaeological Resources Contingency Plan before construction
- Continue engagement with affected communities and apply protocols identified by Indigenous communities for land access and treatment of findings
- Conduct a further heritage assessment, called a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report, to evaluate the cultural heritage landscape in the project local study area

Key takeaway

We will avoid any loss or damage to known archaeological and built cultural heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes.



Archaeological resources include known and undiscovered archaeological objects, and material or physical features that may have cultural heritage value or interest. These resources are non-renewable, have spiritual and cultural significance to Indigenous peoples, and are protected under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Built heritage can include bridges and buildings and local paths.

Explore more about what we studied and found in [Section 7.5 and 7.6](#) of the Final EA report.



FINAL EA SUBMISSION

Hydro One has completed the environmental assessment (EA) for the Waasigan Transmission Line project and submitted the Final EA report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for review and approval.

How to provide comments

The Final EA report will be available for public review and comment from **November 17, 2023** to **January 19, 2024**.

Anyone wishing to provide comments on the Final EA report, must submit comments by **January 19, 2024** by **5:00 p.m. EST** to:

Stephen Deneault, Project Officer
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Environmental Assessment Branch
135 St. Clair Avenue W, 7th Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
Tel.: 437-247-3443
Fax.: 416-314-8452
Email: Stephen.Deneault@Ontario.ca

A copy of all comments will be provided to Hydro One for consideration.

The Final EA report is available for public review and comment until January 19, 2024.

Where to find the Final EA

Online

HydroOne.com/Waasigan

In person

Copies for potentially affected First Nations will be available through Band Offices. Métis citizens can access copies through the Métis Regional Councils.

Electronic and hard copies are available at the following locations:

- **Atikokan Public Library**
214 Sykes St, Atikokan
- **Dryden Public Library** 36 Van Horne Avenue, Dryden 807-223-1475
- **Ignace Public Library (USBs only)**
36 Main Street, Ignace 807-934-2280
- **Shuniah Municipal Office**
420 Leslie Avenue, Thunder Bay
807-683-4545
- **Thunder Bay Public Library Waverley Branch (USBs only)** 285 Red River Road, Thunder Bay 807-345-8275
- **Kaministiquia Community Centre**
6197 Dawson Road, Kaministiquia,
807-933-4020
- **Shebandowan Community Centre**
142 Shebandowan Road,
Shebandowan 807-926-2998
- **Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.**
Environmental Assessment Branch
135 St. Clair Avenue W, 7th Floor, Toronto



View the full Final Environmental Assessment report here.
HydroOne.com/Waasigan

If you have any questions or need further information about this project, contact Community.Relations@HydroOne.com or 1-877-345-6799

