

Welcome

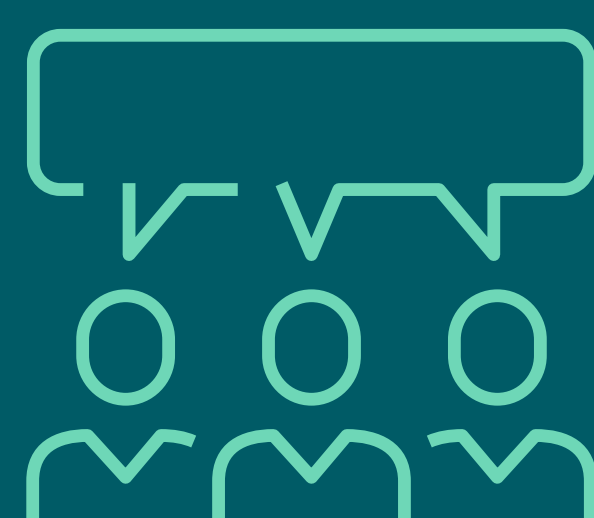
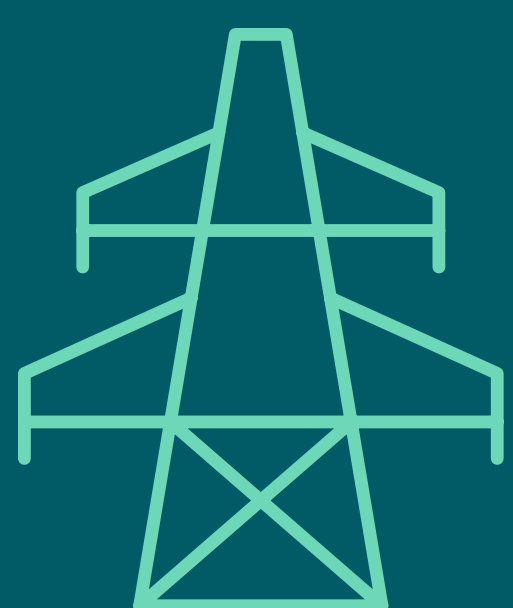
Waterloo Wellington Power Line

Community open house #1

September 2026

We are here to:

- Introduce the Waterloo Wellington Power Line project
- Discuss the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process and what we will be studying for this phase of the project
- Present the route alternatives being studied and how the preferred route will be selected
- Share project milestones and timeline
- Listen, answer questions and gather your feedback



hydro
one

Connecting power
and possibility™

Key organizations

Building infrastructure to meet the energy needs of today and tomorrow involves a number of organizations, including:



Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks

Legislative authority for environmental assessments in Ontario

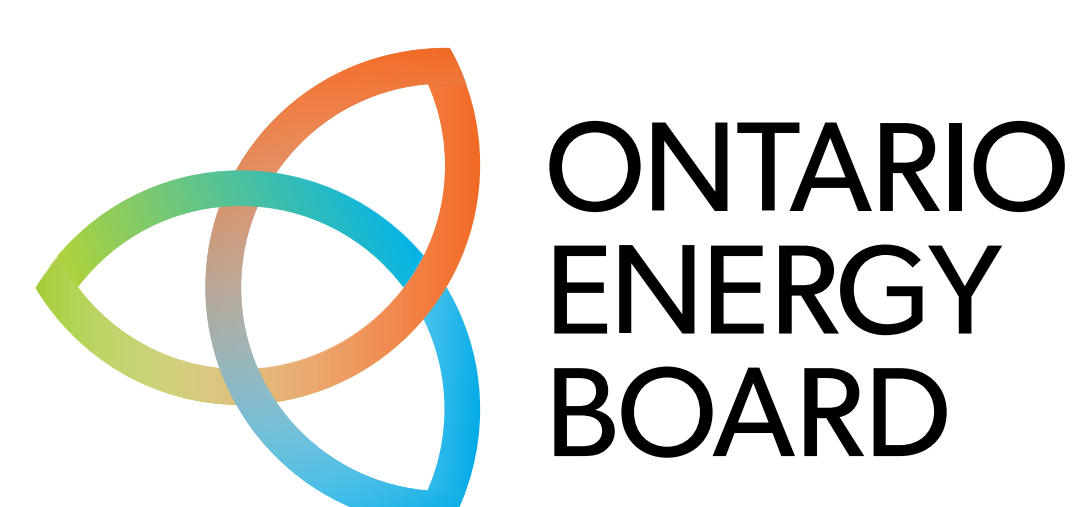


Independent Electricity
System Operator

Oversees planning to ensure electricity needs are met both now and in the future



Builds, owns, operates and maintains electricity transmission and distribution



Regulates the electricity market in Ontario, including electricity rates



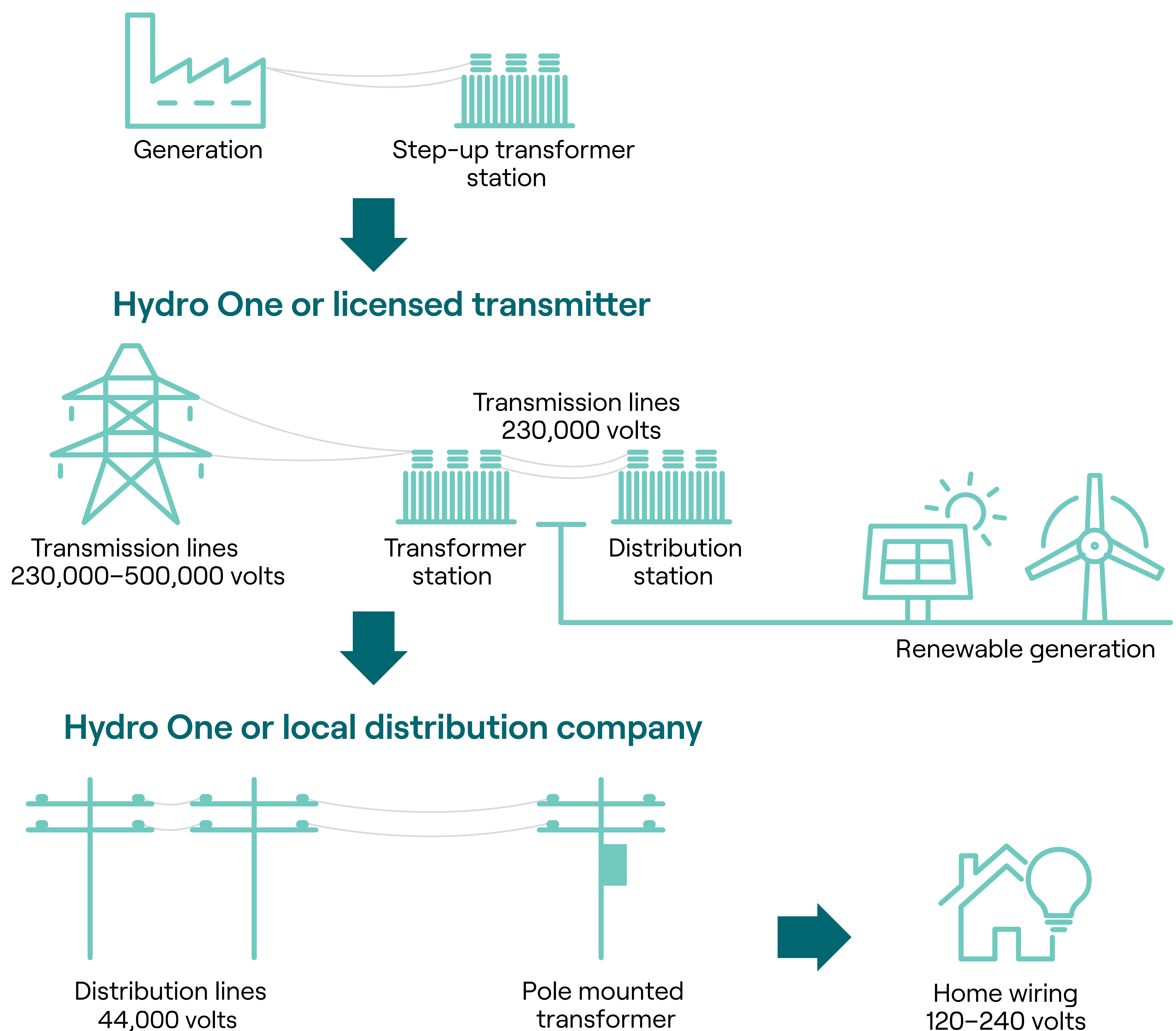
Ministry of Energy and Mines

Oversees the regulatory framework for the electricity system, including the Ontario Energy Board and the IESO

How the system works

Across the province, Hydro One builds, owns, operates and maintains the electricity transmission and distribution network that brings power to homes and businesses.

Ontario Power Generation and private generation companies



Project overview

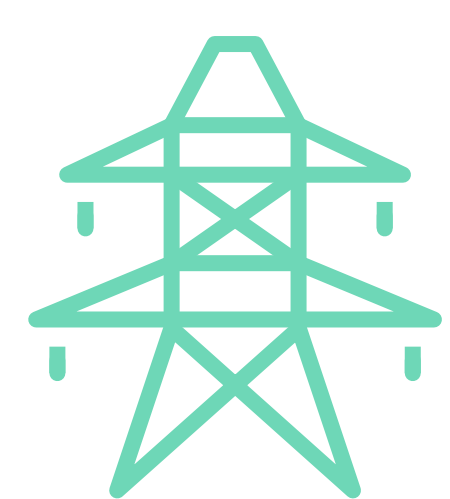
- The proposed Waterloo Wellington Power Line project includes a new 500/230-kilovolt (kV) transformer station (TS) in Puslinch (Wellington TS) and a new double-circuit 230-kV transmission line between the proposed station and existing Preston TS in Cambridge.
- This project was identified through the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO) Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge-Guelph Integrated Regional Resource Plan to improve reliability for residents and businesses, while preparing the region for future electricity needs.
- This project also includes work at existing Preston TS as well as installing a new switch in Cambridge to help manage the flow of electricity through the transmission network.

We are beginning a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project, under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Following the completion of the Class EA, the project will also require Ontario Energy Board approval under Section 92 (Leave to Construct) of the Ontario Energy Board Act.

Regional benefits

The need for electricity is expected to increase significantly across Cambridge, Kitchener, Brant and Brantford over the next 20 years. Communities are growing, businesses are being built and more people are using electricity to power their daily lives. Hydro One is investing now to improve reliability for residents and businesses, while preparing the region for future electricity needs.

Once built, the Waterloo Wellington Power Line project is expected to:



Deliver an additional 600 megawatts (MW) of electricity to the region – enough to power a city the size of Kitchener-Waterloo



Improve electricity system reliability for residents and businesses



Support growing communities and businesses for decades to come by laying the foundation for future electricity infrastructure projects that will help deliver more electricity across the greater Waterloo Region and Wellington County area

Steps of a Class Environmental Assessment (EA)

The Class Environmental Assessment (EA) is the first step towards completing the planning for this project. This project is subject to Hydro One's Class EA for Transmission Facilities (2024). This Class EA process applies to transmission infrastructure projects that are carried out routinely and have predictable environmental effects that can be readily managed and considered before construction.

As required by the Class EA process, all project planning will be shaped by:



- Engagement with government agencies, municipalities and elected officials, residents and other interest groups



- Working with Indigenous communities to identify areas of interest pertaining to culture, values and land use



- Characterization of the environment within the study area



- Identification of potential effects and proposed mitigation measures



- Evaluation of route alternatives and selection of the preferred route

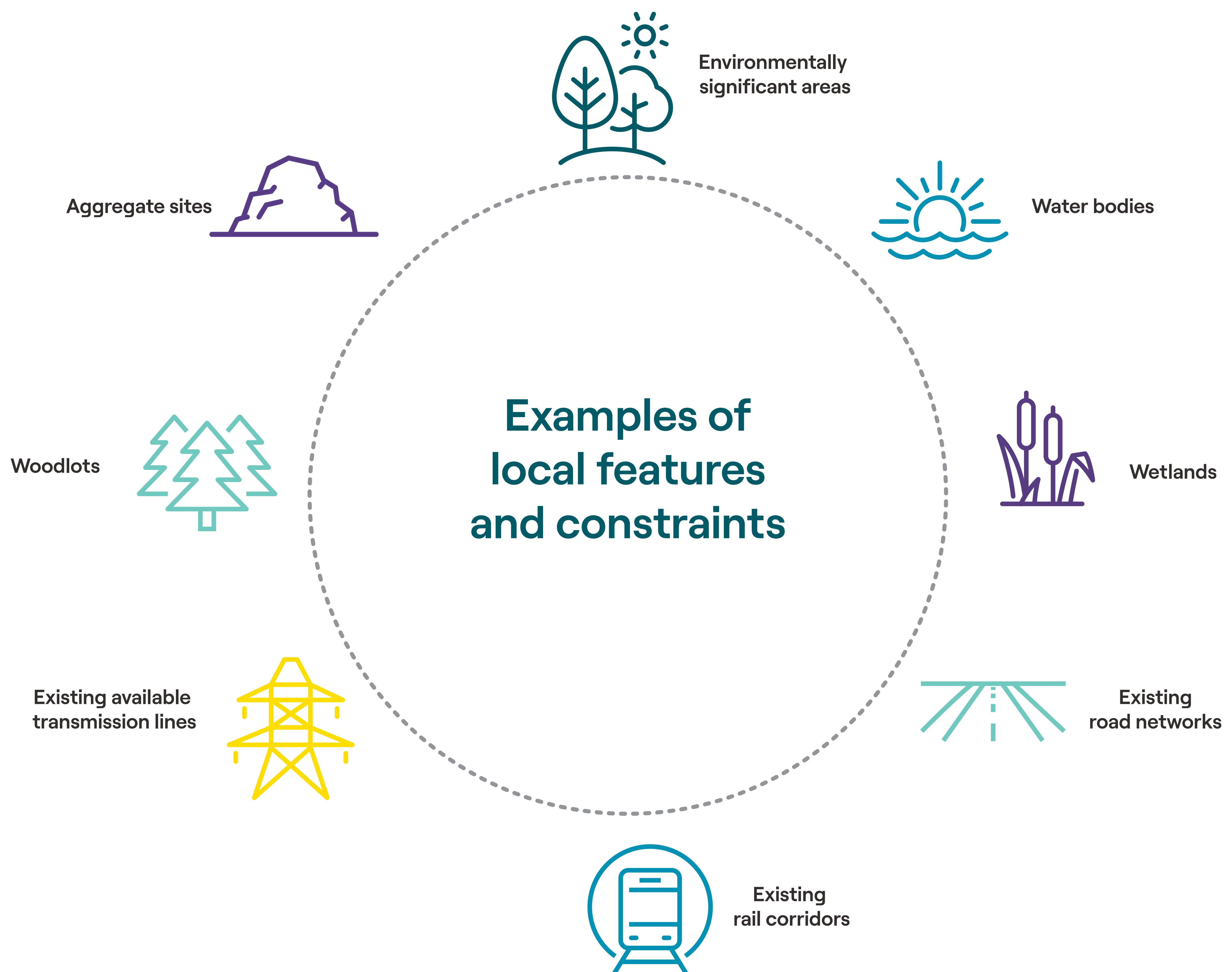


- Release Draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) for 30-day comment period

For more information, see HydroOne.com/ClassEA

Identifying route alternatives

To identify all viable route alternatives, Hydro One mapped out technical, socio-economic and natural environment constraints, and identified potential opportunities to utilize existing available transmission corridor lands. Each route alternative will be studied and evaluated to ultimately select a preferred route for the new line.



Viable route alternatives

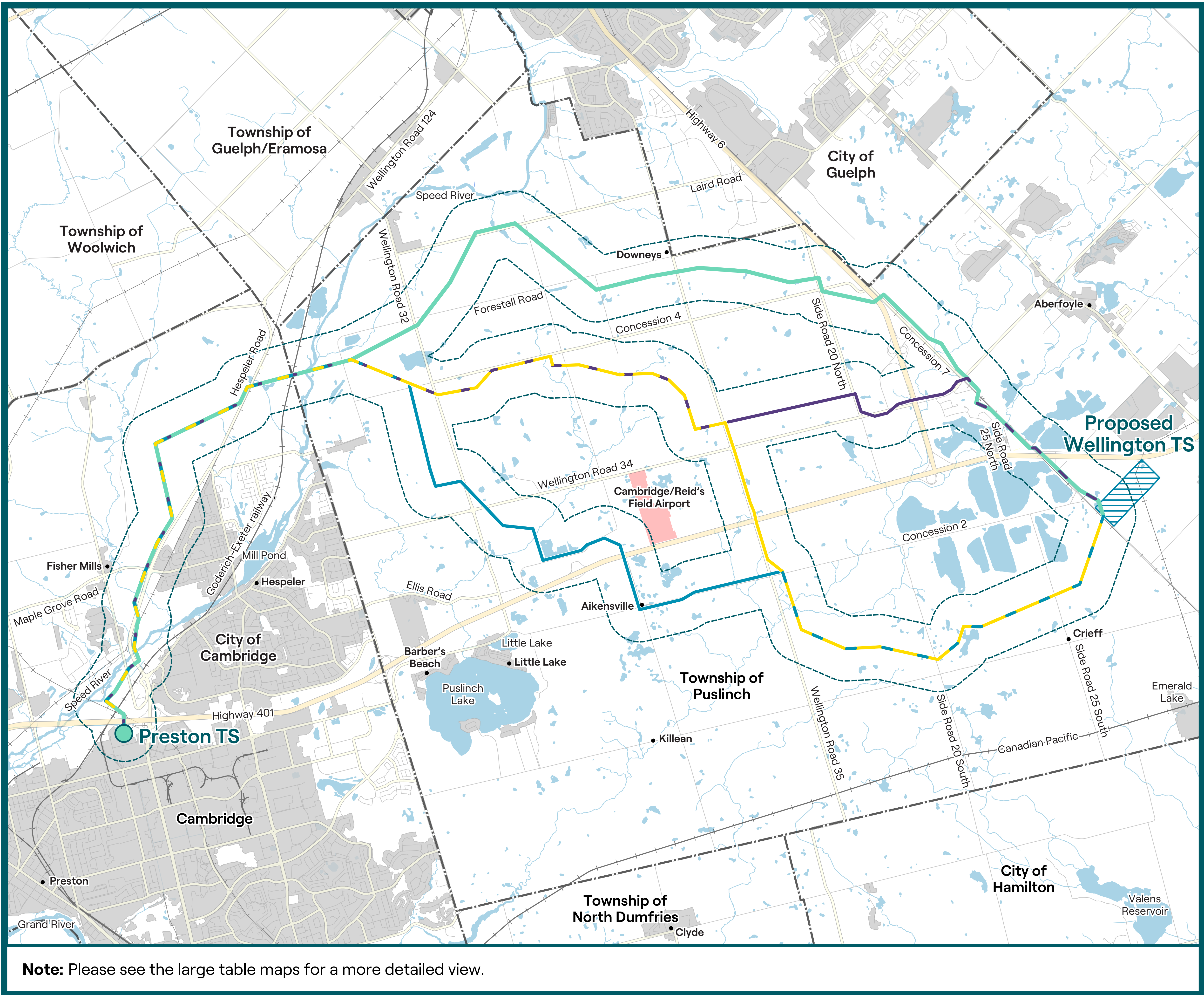
There are four viable route alternatives shown on the map on the following panel. The routes were developed by considering key constraints, including Highway 401, aggregate sites, airstrips, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, Provincially Significant Wetlands and residential buildings. All four routes converge north of Preston Transformer Station (TS) along Hespeler Road due to surrounding constraints.

Alternative 1 and 2 both head north out of the new Wellington TS. Alternative 1 travels further north to minimize impact on sensitive environmental areas and aggregate sites. Both routes converge to the west and parallel the other route alternatives into Preston TS.

Alternative 3 and 4 both exit south from the new Wellington TS and ultimately converge to the west and parallel the other route alternatives into Preston TS. Alternative 4 seeks to balance benefits of both the southern and northern route options.

Potential effects of the routes will be assessed in detail as part of the route evaluation process to select a preferred route.

Map of Route Alternatives that we're studying



Transformer Station (TS)

Alternative Routes
(Each Line has an assumed 46m right of way, pending detailed engineering.)

- Route alternative 1
- Route alternative 2
- Route alternative 3
- Route alternative 4

Local study area (500 m buffer on either side of the route alternatives)

Proposed Wellington TS (existing Hydro One property)

Community

Existing transmission line

Expressway / Highway

Major Road

County, Concession or Sideroad

Railway

Watercourse

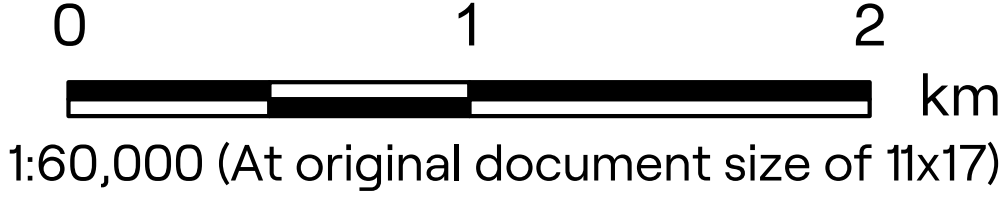
Airport

Built up area

Municipal boundary - lower tier

Waterbody

Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
2. Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence - Ontario, and the Open Government Licence - Canada, accessed 2026.



Wellington Transformer Station

Wellington TS is a new 500/230-kV transformer station that is required to step down electricity from 500 kV to 230 kV before it is transmitted to Preston TS through the new 230-kV double circuit transmission line being constructed as part of this project.

Wellington TS is proposed to be constructed on an existing Hydro One property on Concession Road 7. Benefits for this location include:

- Proximity to the existing 500-kV double-circuit transmission line which the station must connect to within Township of Puslinch
- Located west of the existing 500-kV transmission line to minimize line crossings
- Property is already owned by Hydro One with room for the station footprint

Selecting the preferred alternative

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. We will also hold 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 alternative based on criteria in the four categories below:



Natural environment

- Vegetation
- Waterbodies and aquatic habitat
- Terrestrial wildlife habitat
- Species at risk
- Wetlands, natural hazards and floodplain areas



Socio-economic environment

- Agricultural resources and operations
- Residential properties
- Commercial, industrial, institutional, recreational and other business facilities



Indigenous culture, values and land use

- Priorities for Indigenous communities (such as cultural sites, traditional use areas, historic lands and resources)



Technical and cost

- Land rights and considerations
- Construction complexity
- Line length and angles
- Co-location of existing infrastructure

*Not an exhaustive list of examples in each category

Project timeline



*Dates and milestones subject to change

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 have commenced the Class EA, we have begun requesting temporary access from select landowners across all four route alternatives to conduct preliminary field studies, which will help our team understand the local environment.

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

Community engagement

As an Ontario-based company with 9,600 employees, Hydro One works closely with the communities where we live, work and invest.

Early, meaningful and open engagement helps shape our project planning. We are committed to listening to the community as we expand our electrical infrastructure to bring more power to southwest Ontario.

We will host a wide range of engagement opportunities to gather input and feedback, which is critical as we plan the project.

We will 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/WaterlooWellington**



Working with Indigenous communities

At Hydro One, we work to build and maintain respectful, positive relationships with Indigenous communities across Ontario. Our approach goes beyond consultation.

We foster lasting partnerships rooted in respect, transparency and collaboration, ensuring Indigenous voices, knowledge and values help shape how the project is planned, executed and experienced.

Each new line Hydro One builds is also an opportunity for partnership with First Nations and to buy goods and services from Indigenous suppliers. For large-scale transmission projects like this, First Nation partners will have the opportunity to invest in a 50 per cent equity ownership stake in the transmission line component of the project.

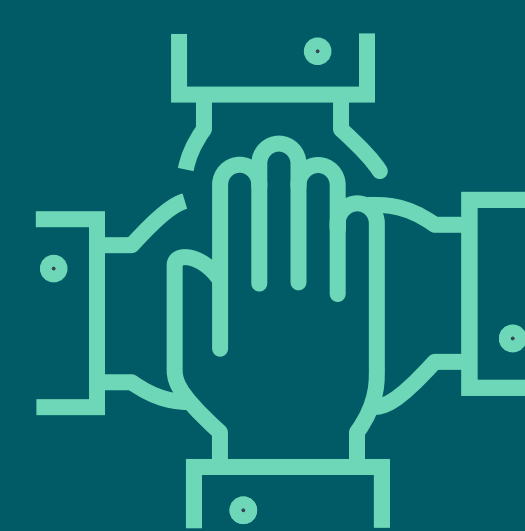
Learn more at **HydroOne.com/IndigenousRelations**



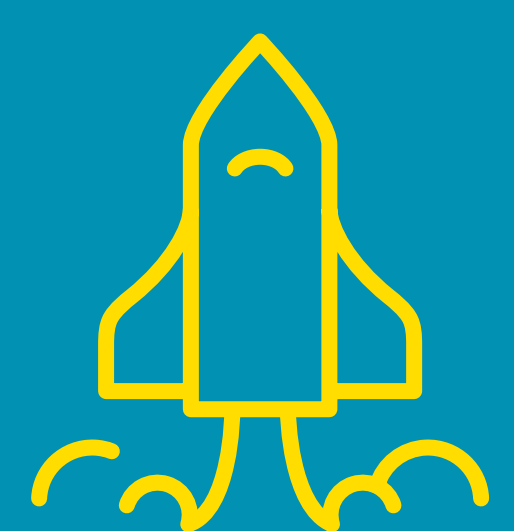
**Excelling at
engagement**



**Working with
integrity**



**Holding
ourselves
accountable**



**Breaking
barriers**



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 updates, visit our project website:



HydroOne.com/WaterlooWellington

