

Transmission Line Safety

The new East-West Tie Transmission Project is proposed to consist of a double circuit high-voltage 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line supported by guyed and self-supporting steel lattice structures. The structures will be placed in a cleared right-of-way on private and public lands, and across watercourses and wetlands. NextBridge will take precautions to maintain a safe environment within the right-of-way, such as managing vegetation growth to prevent contact with the transmission lines. Landowners and users of the right-of-way must also take precautions to ensure their personal safety and the safety of others.

Electricity Basics

Transmission lines are common in our communities and are designed and constructed with public safety in mind. Common sense and awareness can prevent accidents from happening.

Electricity seeks the easiest and shortest path to the ground – when people or objects come too close to or touch an electrical wire, they can become a part of an electrical circuit that can result in an instant flow of electricity through them to the ground.

Conductors allow electricity to easily flow in large amounts. All metals, waters, humans and even non-metallic materials (such as trees and ropes) can conduct electricity depending on moisture content and surface contamination, so caution needs to be applied when working, living or playing near transmission lines.

The flow of electricity through the human body can burn, severely injure or cause death.

Why don't birds get hurt when they land on transmission lines?

If a bird is sitting on a line, it doesn't mean electricity is not flowing through the line. Birds can perch on energized lines because they are not in contact with the ground or a tower. When people come in contact with lines, they are also usually in contact with the ground. This contact provides another path for the electricity through your body, to the ground. Injury, and possibly death, can be the result.

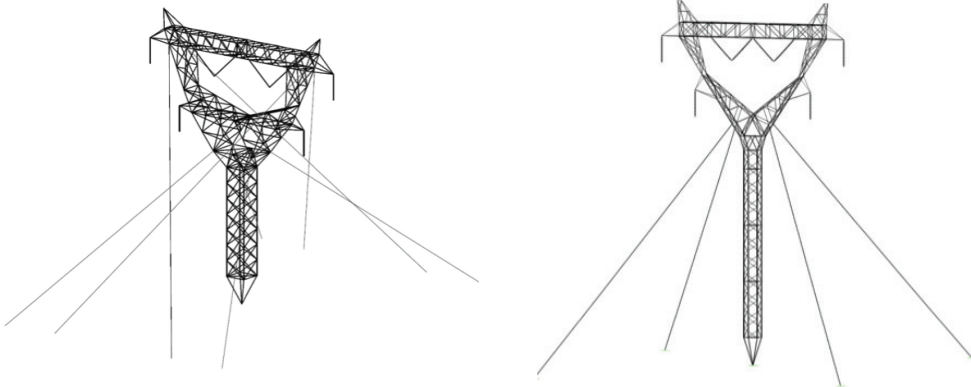
Be Electricity Smart

The protection of people and the environment is our number one priority. Our facilities are designed to meet or exceed the latest required standards to ensure safe operation and reliability.

For your safety, and to prevent potential damage to our facilities, you will require our consent before conducting excavation, construction, or other potentially intrusive activities on our transmission line right-of-way. Take extra care when working near overhead transmission lines and be careful with ladders, cranes, or excavation equipment.

Electricity can jump and often does when a potential conductor like metal equipment comes too close to a transmission line. Please keep equipment at least 7 metres away from transmission lines at all times to stay safe.

If you see a downed transmission line, always assume it is energized, and stay as far away as possible. Once you are in a safe location, **call 911**.



Be Guy Wire Smart

Guyed structures are anticipated to be used for much of the new transmission line. Users of the right-of-way, particularly recreational users, should be aware of guy wires and take necessary precautions. Guy wires will be marked for visibility to a suitable height above anticipated snow levels, but users should exercise caution in the event markers have been damaged, vandalized, or obstructed due to drifting snow or low-visibility conditions.

Safety Checklist

- **Take extra care when working near overhead transmission lines.**
- **Obey all signage and don't trespass.**
- **Don't climb transmission towers.**
- **Don't climb trees or vegetation near transmission lines.**
- **Don't fly kites or other toys in the right-of-way or allow them to come close to transmission lines.**
- **Don't construct or raise any structures or poles within the right-of-way.**
- **Stay away and report unsafe conditions such as downed lines, trees that have fallen on lines, or damaged structures as soon as possible.**

References

Electrical Safety Authority
www.esasafe.com

Manitoba Hydro
www.hydro.mb.ca