

EAST-WEST TIE TRANSMISSION PROJECT

Connecting Ontario's Northwest



The Changing Landscape for Electricity Planning in Ontario's Northwest

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA), the agency responsible for long-term electricity planning in the province, has recommended the new East-West Tie to ensure the long-term reliability of the electricity supply in northwestern Ontario, and has specified the timing and scope of this project.

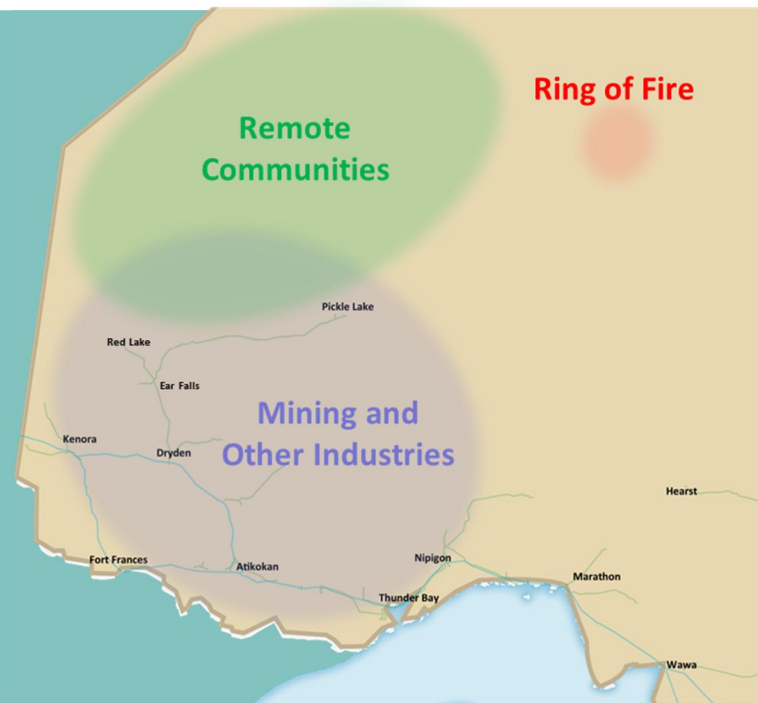
Industrial activities in northwestern Ontario, particularly in the mining sector, are expected to drive strong electricity demand growth in the coming decade. Coupled with a decrease in supply in the area, the OPA forecasts a need for around 500 megawatts (MW) of new supply in northwestern Ontario by 2018.

The identified supply needs can be met with additional transmission or generation. The OPA analyzed these alternatives and recommended expansion of the East-West Tie based on technical, economic, and other considerations.

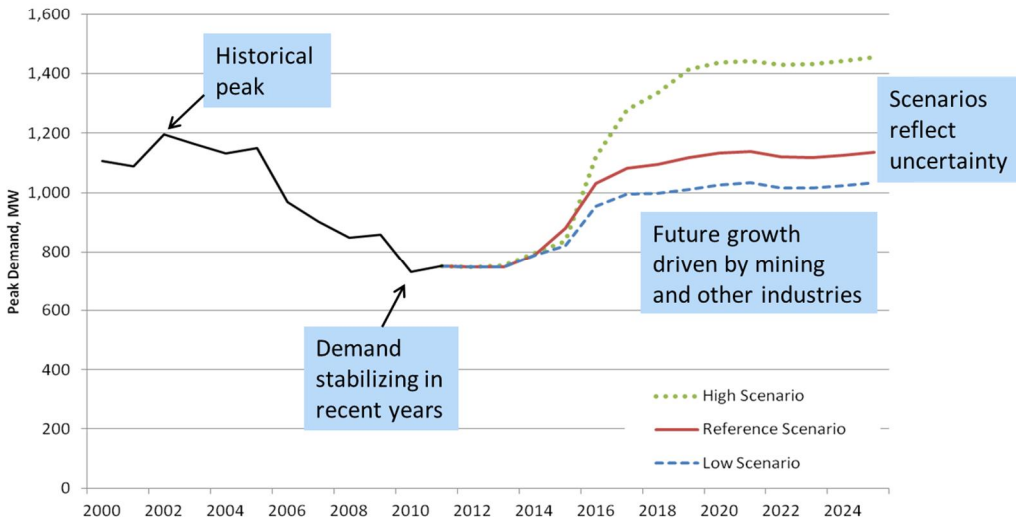
Stretching from Marathon to Manitoba, and from Minnesota to Hudson Bay, Northwestern Ontario is a vast area with unique characteristics.

Northwestern Ontario Outlook:

- Strong growth in the mining industry.
- Revitalization of pulp & paper, forestry, and other industrial sectors.
- Connection of remote communities.



Strong Demand Growth Forecast in the Northwest



At the same time, the region's electricity supply situation is changing.

Options to Meet the Northwest's Supply Need

	Transmission	Generation
Provides electricity supply for the Northwest	✓	✓
Provides supply to the rest of Ontario	✓	✓
Cost-effective	✓	
Improves system flexibility	✓	
Allows more efficient use of system	✓	

The Ontario Power Authority recommends proceeding with transmission: the East-West Tie expansion.

Additional resources can be committed in step with demand growth as it materializes, and can be utilized more effectively with the expanded East-West Tie.

How we got here

- 2010 – Government of Ontario identifies the new East-West Tie as a priority project.
- 2011 – Minister of Energy asks the Ontario Energy Board to undertake a designation process to select a transmitter to develop the project.
- 2011 – Ontario Energy Board requests a report from the Ontario Power Authority regarding the preliminary assessment of the need for the East-West Tie.
- 2011 – Ontario Power Authority need assessment recommends a new East-West Tie as the preferred alternative.
- 2011 – Independent Electricity System Operator feasibility study recommends the new double-circuit East-West Tie.
- 2012 – Ontario Energy Board directs bidders to the reference corridor and a proposed in-service date.
- 2013 – NextBridge Infrastructure selected as the designated transmitter to complete development work related to the project.
- 2013 – Ontario Power Authority updates the need assessment and continues to recommend the East-West Tie.

Keeping You Informed

Your input is very important to us, and there are many ways you can reach us. If you would like more information about this project and want to be included on the project mailing list, please contact:

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