

EAST-WEST TIE TRANSMISSION PROJECT

Connecting Ontario's Northwest



Transmission Line Safety

The new East-West Tie Transmission project is proposed to consist of a 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 bays, rivers and creeks. NextBridge Infrastructure (NextBridge) will take precautions to provide a safe environment within the right-of-way, such as managing vegetation growth to prevent contact with conductors (the power lines). Landowners and users of the right-of-way must also take precautions to ensure their personal safety and the safety of loved ones.

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.

The flow of electricity through the human body can kill – less than one ampere of electricity can burn, severely injure or cause death.

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 whenever working, living or playing near power lines.

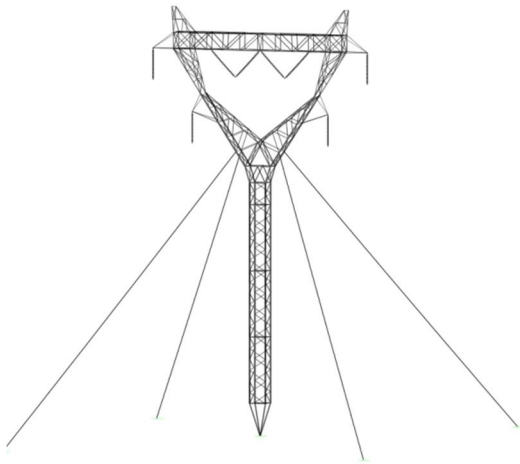
Why don't birds get hurt when they land on Transmission Lines?

If a bird is sitting happily on a line, it doesn't mean electricity is not flowing through the line. Birds can rest on energized lines because they are not in contact with the ground. 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

Electricity can jump and often does when a potential conductor like a metal ladder comes within a certain distance of a power line. For high-voltage lines, such as a 230 kV transmission line, electricity can jump, or arc, up to 4.5 metres. To be safe, keep equipment at least 7 metres away from transmission lines and stay at least 10 metres away from downed lines.

Take extra care when working near overhead power lines and be careful with ladders, cranes, or diggers.



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 for recreational purposes, should be aware of the presence of guy wires and take necessary precautions for any activity. Guy wires will be marked for visibility to a suitable height above anticipated snow levels, but users of the rights-of-way must use 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 power lines.
- Obey all signage and don't trespass.
- Don't climb transmission towers.
- Don't climb trees or vegetation near power lines.
- Don't fly kites or other toys in the right-of-way or allow them to come close to power lines.
- Don't construct or raise any structures or poles within the right-of-way.
- Stay away and report any 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

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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