

BEAUVAIL TO ILE-A-LA-CROSSE

POWER LINE REBUILD PROJECT

ABOUT THE PROJECT

SaskPower is rebuilding a power line that serves the Beauval and Ile-a-La-Crosse areas. The current line, which is about 64 kilometres long, is near the end of its life. Rebuilding it supports our commitment to ensuring reliable, sustainable and cost-effective power for our customers and the communities we serve.

The new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (operating at 72 kV) will be strung on H-frame, self-weathering steel structures that will be built within a new right-of-way, which we anticipate will be 35 metres wide. Once the new line is built and energized, we'll salvage the old line.

The project is expected to start by the summer of 2024 and be completed by March 2026.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Building this new infrastructure means that we'll need to secure easements for a new, off-set right-of-way. We recognize the impacts on landowners, rightsholders and stakeholders as we build the project. Throughout the project, we'll provide opportunities for you to participate in planning and give us your input on how we could reduce impacts.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS REQUESTED

We plan to rebuild the majority of the power line adjacent to the existing one. Your input is important. Getting involved early means your thoughts can be included before decisions are made. As time goes on, there's less flexibility to work with feedback.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Our goal is to involve you early and maintain open communication throughout the process. From our initial assessment, we've developed a potential line route. Please refer to the map provided.

We'd like to hear about how this project may impact you and what we can do to reduce those impacts. Your general knowledge of the area, including environmental and heritage resources, are also important to us. We'll be taking feedback on these and any other concerns you may have about the project.

Please call or email us to discuss:

- For Stakeholder Engagement – 1-833-233-3370 or email PublicConsultation@saskpower.com
- For Indigenous Relations – 1-306-240-5536 or email IndigenousRelations@saskpower.com

Also, let us know if there are additional ways we could make it easier for you to get involved and share your feedback.

WHAT ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT?

What we do today impacts our future. We're always working hard to reduce our impact and protect the environment.

As we plan projects, we use tools like databases, satellite imagery and field surveys to understand the environment we're working in.

As projects move forward, we'll make sure environmental protection standards are in place to reduce our impact on features like:

- Waterbodies
- Sensitive lands
- Wildlife and their habitats
- Heritage resources

We also work with the Ministry of Environment and other regulatory agencies to ensure we meet all environmental requirements.

WHAT ABOUT LAND USE?

The majority of the power line will be located on Crown land administered by the Ministry of Environment. SaskPower will ensure proper authorizations are in place prior to construction and maintenance.

The anticipated 35-metre right-of-way for this power line is needed to ensure proper clearance for its construction, maintenance and operation. We also proactively monitor and manage vegetation around our power lines throughout the province to mitigate threats to public safety and service reliability.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Consultation	Underway
Engineering / Design Complete:	Spring 2024
Easement / Permitting Complete:	Late 2024
Construction Start:	2025
Construction Complete / Power-up:	Spring 2026

THINGS WE CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING A PROJECT



ENVIRONMENT:

We consider many factors like land cover, wetlands, waterbodies, and potential archaeology, as well as potential impact on rare and endangered plants and animals and their habitats. When avoidance isn't possible, we will work with stakeholders and regulators to find the most responsible way to offset or mitigate impacts. We follow SaskPower's Environmental Beneficial Management Practices.



INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE:

We engage Indigenous communities to seek invaluable knowledge. Local and Indigenous knowledge refers to the understandings, skills and philosophies developed by societies with long histories of interaction with their natural surroundings like hunting, fishing, trapping, ceremonial and spiritual uses.



LAND USE:

We recognize that land and resource use is important to agricultural operations, property owners, communities and resource users like hunters and trappers, commercial operators, nature, environmental organizations and the public. We consider how resources or access to resources may be affected as well as community land use plans and proximity to communities, residences, habitable buildings, outbuildings.



SOCIAL:

We consider the social value communities place on landscapes, points of interest, economic benefits to local communities, job opportunities and recreation activities.



TECHNICAL:

We consider engineering and construction standards as well as access, terrain, design, system reliability, proximity to required and other existing infrastructure. SaskPower is committed to ensuring public safety and safe access for construction and maintenance activities.



COST:

We consider capital costs (project budget), operating budget (long term maintenance), land acquisition costs and impact on power rates.



WHAT ARE WE MISSING?

Email us at PublicConsultation@saskpower.com or IndigenousRelations@saskpower.com, or call us at 1-833-233-3370 or 306-240-5536, to let us know.