

# MEADOW LAKE AREA

## REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

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May 2023



## ABOUT THE PROJECT

SaskPower is building new power lines and a new switching station to improve power reliability in the Meadow Lake, Glaslyn and Spruce Lake areas.

What we're building:

- a new switching station southwest of the existing one located south of Meadow Lake.
- a new 230 kilovolt (kV) power line that will be about 16 kilometres long to connect an existing 230 kV power line in the area to the new switching station.
- a new 138 kV power line that will be about 4 kilometres long to connect an existing 138 kV power line in the area to the new switching station.
- a new 138 kV power line that will be about 100 kilometres long to extend an existing line from the Spruce Lake Switching Station to the new switching station.

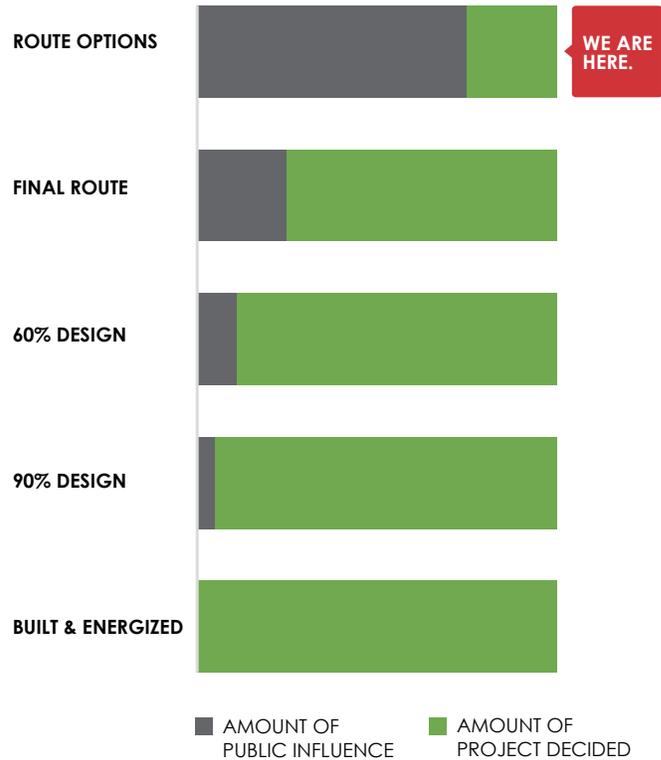
This investment supports our commitment to ensuring reliable, sustainable and cost-effective power for our customers and the communities we serve. The project is expected to be completed close to the end of 2027.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Building new infrastructure means we'll need to secure easements. We recognize the contributions of landowners and the impacts to them, as well as rightsholders and other stakeholders, as we build projects across the province. Throughout the project, we'll provide opportunities for communities, rightsholders and stakeholders to participate and provide input on how we could reduce impacts.

## YOUR FEEDBACK IS REQUESTED

Your input is important as we search for the best overall route for the new power lines. Getting involved early means your thoughts can be considered before decisions are made. As time goes on, there's less flexibility to work with feedback.



## COME TALK TO US

Our goal is to involve you early and maintain open communication throughout the process.

**From our initial assessment, we've developed some potential line routes. Please refer to maps for details.** For planning purposes, each route is shown with a 300-metre corridor. The final power lines will have a 35 or 40-metre right-of-way.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Call or email us to share your comments, ask questions or discuss additional ways we could make it easier for you to get involved:

- ◇ Indigenous Relations – 306-240-5536 or [IndigenousRelations@saskpower.com](mailto:IndigenousRelations@saskpower.com)
- ◇ Stakeholder Engagement – 306-566-3370 or [PublicEngagement@saskpower.com](mailto:PublicEngagement@saskpower.com)

## WHAT WE'LL BE TAKING FEEDBACK ON

- Power line route options.
- General knowledge of the area, including environmental and heritage resources.
- Concerns and how we can reduce impacts.
- Structure placement once the final routes are determined.

## HOW WE USE YOUR FEEDBACK

Since early 2023, we've been talking to stakeholders and rightsholders, including landowners, for feedback. Next, we'll take that feedback and use it with our routing considerations to narrow the options to preferred routes for the 138 kV and the 230 kV lines.

Once the preferred routes have been determined, we'll reach out again to directly impacted landowners for more comments. This will allow us to discuss the details, including where structures will be placed on your property. We'll also look at any possible accommodation that could be made to address your concerns.

## WHAT ABOUT LAND USE?

Landowners play a major role in bringing power to our homes and businesses. If the power line ends up on your land, we'll work with you to secure an easement. That's an agreement between SaskPower and the landowner for a right-of-way, which is needed to ensure safety for the construction, operation and maintenance of the transmission line. When we get to this stage, SaskPower's Land Specialist will contact impacted landowners to discuss compensation for land impacted by the right-of-way.

## 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, knowledge of the area from stakeholders 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.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

<b>Initial consultation:</b>	Underway
<b>Follow-up consultation:</b>	Near end of 2023
<b>Engineering/design complete:</b>	Summer 2025
<b>Easement/permitting complete:</b>	Summer 2025
<b>Construction start:</b>	Fall 2025
<b>Construction complete/power-up:</b>	Near end of 2027

## PLANNING SASKATCHEWAN'S POWER FUTURE

We're on track to reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 50 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. And now we're working on how to make even deeper cuts to GHG emissions – like achieving a net zero future. There's a wide range of supply options to get us there, although no one option can meet all our province's needs.

We're looking for public input to help us develop our plan. Visit [saskpower.com/engage](https://saskpower.com/engage) to add your voice.

## 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?**

Tell us in the feedback form provided.