

Physical Infrastructure



Clearing the Way: Protecting Power Lines Across Saskatchewan



SaskPower manages the vegetation along thousands of kilometres of its power lines, work that quietly supports dependable electricity across the province. Overgrown trees under power lines are a contributor to power interruptions in Saskatchewan. When vegetation comes into contact with SaskPower infrastructure, it can cause power outages and, in some cases, create fire risks.

To reduce these risks, SaskPower aims to clear about 10 per cent of its total managed right-of-way each year – roughly 1,390 hectares. In 2024, crews cleared 1,015 hectares, or about 7 per cent of the total. Although this fell short of the target, it still represented significant effort to protect communities and essential infrastructure.

Strong planning also guides this work. In 2021, SaskPower updated its Geographic Information System mapping to better measure the land along power lines. This improved mapping prompted adjustments to the reported clearing totals for 2019 and 2020, giving SaskPower a clearer understanding of past progress and future needs. With this more accurate baseline, long-term planning is more precise and reliable.

Why It Matters

Vegetation management along power line corridors is a key tool for reducing outages and wildfire risk. By limiting vegetation encroachment, SaskPower helps keep electricity dependable during storms, shifting weather patterns and other forms of environmental variability. This steady, preventative work strengthens the province's overall power system and supports safe, reliable service for Saskatchewan communities.

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