

Wash'ake Mayzoon Station Project

What we heard summary

Growth in the Brandon and Portage la Prairie regions, including the addition of new industrial customers, is increasing electricity demand. To meet these electricity demands, the Wash'ake Mayzoon Station is being planned in order to enhance electrical reliability in the Portage la Prairie area. To learn more, visit www.hydro.mb.ca/pace

This summer, feedback was gathered from landowners, Indigenous communities, local residents, and interested parties during the engagement processes for the project. This feedback, along with input from other studies, helped inform the environmental assessment report. The following are some key themes identified during our engagement.

Key engagement themes

Proximity to homes

Participants shared concerns about impacts to their homes, such as property values, increased noise, health impacts, and increased traffic.

The literature is inconclusive on whether stations affect property values. Research on property values associated with transmission line projects has shown that small effects on property values sometimes occur immediately after construction but diminish over time with no long-term effects. Mitigation measures have been proposed in the environmental assessment report to minimize impacts of noise and to health and traffic.

Future development

Participants shared concerns about future developments in the area, and routing of transmission lines.

Manitoba Hydro has not yet routed the future transmission line. We are planning to conduct an engagement process for the transmission line, so we can share information, listen to feedback and work to resolve any concerns.

Station name

Indigenous coordinators shared their interest in the station name being reflective of the Indigenous communities in the area. Wash'ake means power in Dakota, and Mayzoon means house in Michif.

Key survey findings

23% had concerns about the planned location of the station

71% didn't have concerns about the planned location of the station

6% said they are unsure if they have concerns about the planned location of the station

Engagement activities



Online survey & feedback portal



Virtual information session



Virtual meeting with interested party



Indigenous communities shared knowledge

Some participants shared concerns about the naming of the station. A participant shared that Burnside Station could have been a suitable name to recognize the rich history of the area. Burnside will be considered for future developments.

Ceremony

Participants shared ideas of having a ceremony at construction start and completion to respect the land in a traditional way.

Manitoba Hydro will coordinate a pre-construction and closing ceremony and invite all Indigenous communities engaged on the project to participate in the ceremonies.

Culture and heritage

Participants shared concerns about the potential for undiscovered cultural artifacts in the area, especially given the history of the area. Manitoba Hydro will be conducting a Heritage Resources Impact Assessment, including pre-construction archaeological work, and members of Indigenous communities engaged on this project will be invited to participate in associated heritage work. A heritage workshop is also planned where Indigenous communities will be invited to propose additional mitigation measures to reduce impacts to culture and heritage.

For more information:

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Available in accessible formats upon request.