

# Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission System

## Bamijikewin – Caring for the Right of Way



February 2026

### What is Bamijikewin ?

Maintaining the vegetation that grows around the line helps protect the transmission system. Bamijikewin is the Anishiniimowin name given by the Elders for Wataynikaneyap Power's Vegetation Management activities. It includes a commitment to care for the land, respect for First Nation values, and to follow the Anishinaabeg and Anishiniwag Guiding Principles while maintaining the transmission system for present and future generations.

Vegetation naturally changes over time. If left unmanaged, tall-growing brush can limit access, create safety hazards, and increase the risk of wildfire ignition.

### Each line segment will typically need bamijikewin on a 3-6 year cycle.

Trees along the edge of the Right of Way (ROW) naturally age and decline. When trees fail and are within reach of transmission infrastructure, they can cause significant damage. As per the Guiding Principles, no herbicides are used on the transmission system. Machines, like mulchers and tracked mowers, can be used in areas that are both relatively flat, and away from water courses, towers, and rock outcrops. Hand tools can be used for vegetation near water courses, towers, and rock outcrops.



### Bamijikewin includes:

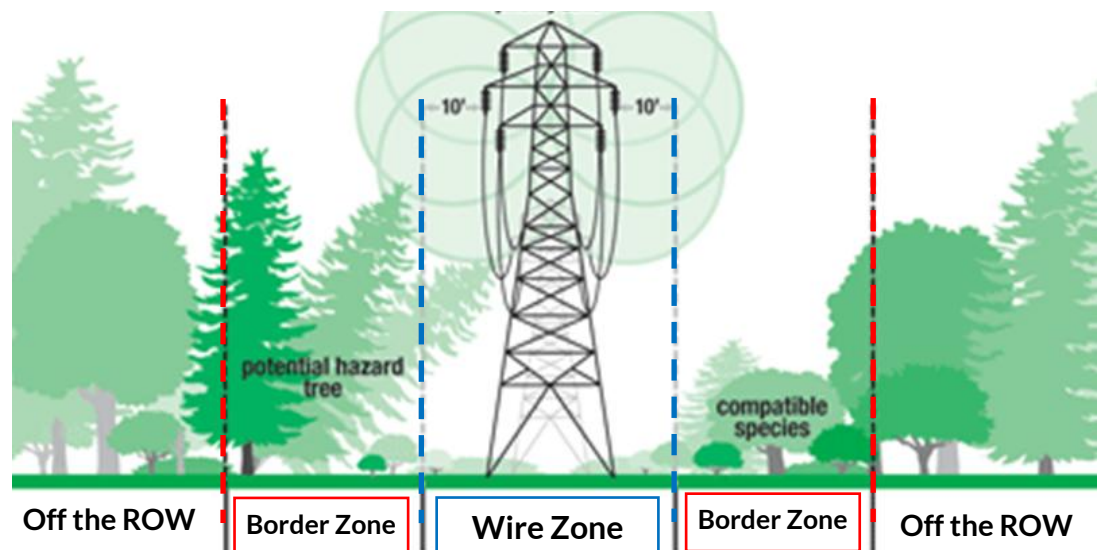
- Promoting low growth - vegetation in specific areas
- Keeping safe vegetation height to prevent overgrowth
- Avoiding damage to lines, towers, and substations
- Avoiding power outages caused by trees
- Reducing risk from fire hazards on the ROW
- Ensuring adequate access for maintenance and emergency response

Wataynikaneyap Power will continue to implement meaningful participation and involvement through engagement and communication with Participating First Nations.

### How utilities manage vegetation

*(general - not specific to Wataynikaneyap Power)*

Transmission Right of Way (40 m wide)



Area directly under the wires and extending outward about 10 ft on each side. Usually managed to promote low-growing plants like grasses, herbs, and small shrubs.

Remainder of the Right of Way. Usually managed to promote growth of larger shrubs. Trees must be cleared before becoming a hazard to conductors or guy wires.

## Bamijikewin Programs and Annual Work Schedules

To effectively manage vegetation along the ROW, bamijikewin work is organized into programs and scheduled for maintenance on a cycle frequency.

| Program                       | Purpose                                                        | Cycle Frequency |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Brush Management</b>       | Remove brush and promote low-growing vegetation within the ROW | Every 3–6 years |
| <b>High-Risk Tree Program</b> | Remove hazard trees along the edge of the ROW                  | Every 6 years   |
| <b>Condition Assessments</b>  | Monitor vegetation and ROW conditions                          | Annually        |
| <b>Off-Cycle Work</b>         | Address emerging or urgent risks                               | As needed       |

Businesses interested in working on the ROW can learn about registration and prequalification requirements through Wataynikaneyap Power's procurement and contracting processes. This typically includes meeting safety, insurance, and technical requirements.

## How Will the Right of Way Be Maintained?

Maintenance includes a combination of work activities selected based on terrain, environmental sensitivity, and community guidance:

### Manual Work Activities

Chainsaws and brush saws used near watercourses, rock outcrops, cultural areas, and structures.

### Mechanical Work Activities

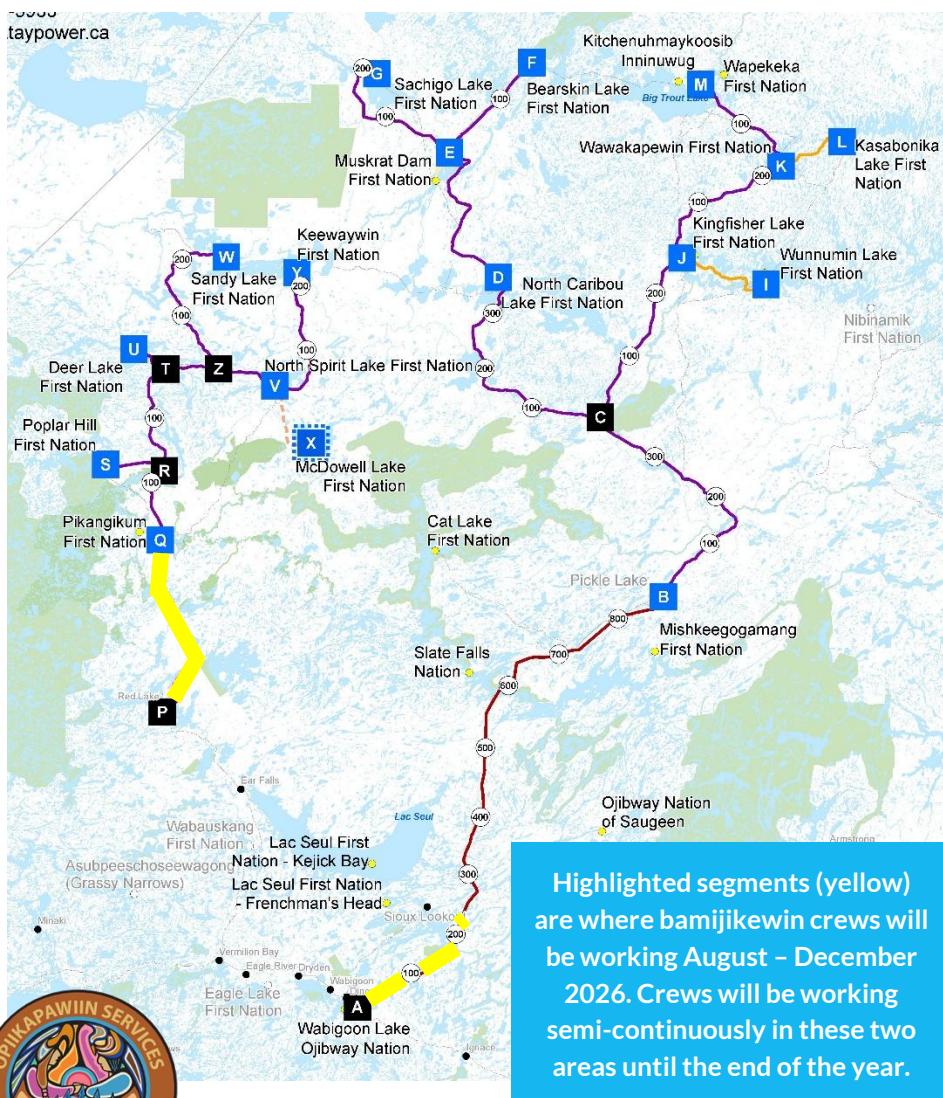
Mulchers and tracked mowers used in flat, accessible areas away from sensitive terrain.

### Cultural Practices

Selective cutting and harvesting that use existing access, respect seasonal timing, and include community guidance and monitoring.

### Biological Methods

Encouraging naturally occurring vegetation by collecting and seeding local low-growing plants.



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