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Alectra invests over \$9 million to improve reliability in St. Catharines

St. Catharines, ON – Alectra Utilities is addressing increasing customer electricity demands by reinforcing its power grid in St.Catharines. In 2022, Alectra invested \$6 million and plans to spend another \$3.1 million in St. Catharines to construct and renew infrastructure.

With parts of St. Catharines' system reaching the end of its life cycle, renewing the deteriorating infrastructure is necessary to maintain reliability. This series of infrastructure upgrades will stabilize the existing system and reduce outage impacts in the community.

In total, these projects will improve reliability for residential and commercial customers. The capital investment is allocated to the following areas:

- Replacing underground cable on Welland Road, Bunting Road, Carlton Street, and Cushman Road, reducing outage impacts for customers.
- Extending a new feeder line into the downtown core, providing contingency capacity to customers.
- Rejuvenating cables on Millward Avenue, Jeanette Drive, Trevor Court, Jacobson Avenue, Chestnut Street, Woodcrest Drive, Bolger Drive, Elma Street, Dorothy Street, The Meadows, Lakeshore Road, Stanley Street, Parnell Road, and Chancery Circle.

The main cause of reliability issues in St. Catharines is defective equipment and interference from vehicle accidents or animal contacts. The new builds will enable more grid flexibility and quicker service restoration.

In 2021, Alectra invested \$4.3M in St. Catharines for capital improvements. These system renewal projects included feeder line extensions, cable injections, cable replacements and automated switch installations, improving reliability for customers.

Alectra Utilities is committed to investing in the electricity grid across all 17 communities it serves to support growth and to continue to provide safe and reliable service. Learn more about our commitment to reliability at <u>alectrautilites.com</u>

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About Alectra Utilities

Serving more than one million homes and businesses in Ontario's Greater Golden Horseshoe area, Alectra Utilities is now the largest municipally-owned electric utility in Canada, based on the total number of customers served. We contribute to the economic growth and vibrancy of the 17 communities we serve by investing in essential energy infrastructure, delivering a safe and reliable supply of electricity, and providing innovative energy solutions.



Our mission is to be an energy ally, helping our customers and the communities we serve to discover the possibilities of tomorrow's energy future.

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