

Nalcor Energy Vegetation Management Program

HERBICIDE USE Q&A

1. How do we manage vegetation?

In accordance with Nalcor's Vegetation Management Program, a combination of methods are used to control vegetation in order to maintain the safety and reliability of our lines including manual brush clearing, tree trimming and the selective use of herbicides.

2. Why use herbicides?

With over 1,800 km of lines that must be maintained, as well as geographic and terrain challenges, we cannot rely only on manual clearing and tree trimming. Early and pro-active use of herbicides as one tool within the integrated Vegetation Management Program is an efficient and cost effective way of managing vegetation over the long term.

3. How and where do we spray?

The application of herbicide products is a regulated activity by both Health Canada and the Provincial Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment. Nalcor takes great care to adhere to all regulations and application requirements. The type of products used and how the products are applied is conducted according to regulations that are in place under the Pesticide Control Regulations under the Environmental Protection Act to ensure the protection of human health and the environment. For example, operators must be licensed and must adhere to buffer zones near bodies of water, private land, wells and residential areas. We also require that Town Councils be notified if the application of herbicides occurs on our transmission and distribution line right-of-ways within town boundaries.

4. Where is spraying happening this year?

As part of our Vegetation Management Program this year, herbicides will be applied to the following areas:

Labrador-Island Transmission Link:	Labrador Transmission Assets:	Churchill Falls:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Paradise Lake access road, West to the Exploits River (near Badger)Birchy Lake, West to Route 420Terra Nova, West to Dead Wolf PondMuskrat Falls Site gate to St. Paul's access road (area adjacent to the Trans Labrador Highway)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">315 kV transmission lines between Muskrat Falls and Churchill Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Churchill Falls AirportChurchill Falls distribution feeders and Town Site66 kV transmission line (Gabbro area)230 kV transmission lines 2303 & 2304 (Ossokmanuan Reservoir area)735 kV transmission lines 7051, 7052 & 7053, South of the Churchill RiverDykes & dams forming the Smallwood Reservoir

5. How do people know we are spraying?

Newspaper advertisements are shared prior to application of herbicides. In addition, signage is posted in any areas that have been treated – on every access point to the treated area on the transmission line and on every fifth tower/pole in the treatment area. We also require that Town Councils be notified if the application of herbicides occurs on our transmission line right-of-ways within town boundaries.

6. Can you eat the berries from sprayed areas?

Herbicide products are mixed at very low rates and most of the spray (over 99%) is water. By applying the products according to the strict regulations, risks to human health and the environment are avoided. If a person were to eat sprayed berries there is no need for concern, however as a precaution people may wish to avoid consuming treated berries.

For more information, please contact us:

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