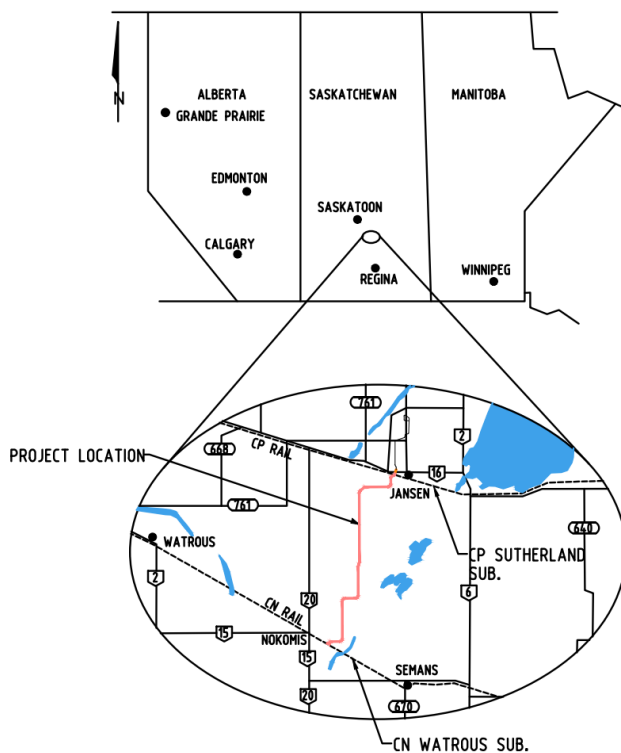




On July 27, 2023, the Canadian Transportation Agency authorized CN to proceed with the construction of the **CN Jansen Spur** to connect the BHP Jansen potash mine with CN's mainline. Located approximately 140 km east of Saskatoon, CN will use this 47 km long spur to move potash from the mine to a west coast port in British Columbia to allow for international export once production begins. The spur crosses multiple utilities, private properties, fields, existing roadways, and minor waterways. The project will bring significant economic value to neighbouring communities. More details about the project can be found on the project website: [cnjansenrailspur.ca](http://cnjansenrailspur.ca).

The coloured line in the image below shows the route the spur will take:



CN and BHP developed the route after extensive consultation and engagement with local governments and residents. Once the final route was determined, the companies partnered to gather additional feedback and host information sessions, including town hall meetings in the spring of 2022. Following these sessions and a public comment period, CN applied to the Canadian Transportation Agency pursuant to Section 98 of the *Canada Transportation Act* on June 23, 2022, for approval for the construction of the rail spur.

Over the following months, the Canadian Transportation Agency requested additional information, further stakeholder consultations, and a second public comment period as part of its review of the application.



**CN is now pleased to announce the project received approval from the Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) on July 27, 2023 (Determination No. R-2023-156).**

Prior to this date, the project advanced some construction activities that did not require federal approval, including surveying and stripping topsoil for the borrow pits on BHP property that would be required for the project. Contractors also ordered items that require extended time to assemble, such as the aggregate supply, rail materials, and box culverts. Now that CN's application to build the new railway line has been approved by the Canadian Transportation Agency, we are ready to move into the right-of-way for the rail spur and begin the actual construction project.

There are several parties involved in the delivery of this massive undertaking:

- **CN** (Rail Owner)
- **RM of Mount Hope, RM of Prairie Rose, RM of Osborne**
- **Hatch-Bantrel** (Engineers of Record)
- **Colliers Project Leaders** (Overall Project Manager)
- **EllisDon Industrial** (Civil Contractor)
- **Trek** (Geotechnical Consultant)
- **Caltech** (Surveyor)
- **WSP Golder** (Environmental Consultant)
- Rail contractors are yet to be determined

Each of these parties has a specific role to play and will work together to help minimize impacts on residents along the spur route.

Area residents can expect to see several different stages of construction over the two-year timeline of the project. Each stage involves different types of work, and each will have a different impact on communities in the area. Measures to protect the environment, including water sources, and to mitigate the spread of crop diseases like clubroot will in place throughout the spur construction.

Highlights of the project include:

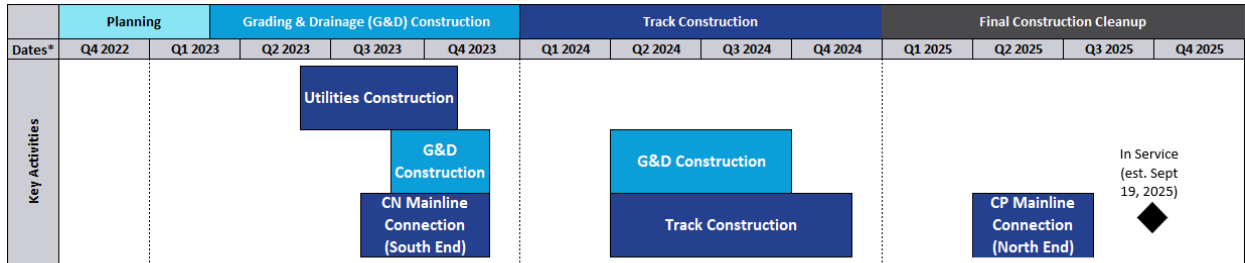
- **Utility Construction:** In this stage, utility companies will move utilities (such as power, gas, and telecommunications services) and prepare utility crossings for the spur construction. There will be heavy machinery completing this work on an intermittent basis.



- **Grading & Drainage (G&D) Construction:** For this stage, our contractor will work to prepare the ground along the route for track construction. The contractor will work in multiple locations at the same time so we can complete ground preparations as quickly as possible. This will help to minimize disruptions for residents. Residents can expect to see trucks hauling materials from pits directly to where work is being performed on the route. Our contractor will also bring in machinery to improve drainage and complete grading. This work will begin immediately and continue through the end of 2023 and into 2024. Work is not currently planned for the winter season. Throughout construction, our contractor will take measures to minimize dust from trucks on the road. The contractor will also actively monitor and repair any damage caused to roads by truck and machinery traffic. Residents can expect to see survey companies active in the project area throughout this period.
- **CN Mainline Connection (South End):** CN will install a rail connection to the CN Mainline near Township Road 292 by Nokomis, SK during this stage. Residents can expect to see specialized rail machinery working to install the track. There may be some localized increased noise levels and rail equipment engines idling in the area until this work is complete in late 2023.
- **Track Construction:** Once the main track construction begins in 2024, a contractor will work to lay railroad ties and pieces of rail along the entire 47 km length of the spur route. Most of the work during this stage will take place within the rail line right-of-way, although there will be some machinery travelling on local roads. Residents may notice temporarily increased noise levels and locomotive or rail equipment engines idling at locations along the route as we work to bring material into the area and assemble the track.
- **CP Mainline Connection (North End):** The final portion of the project will take place in early 2025. The new track will be laid north and south of the existing CP mainline by Jansen, SK, north of Township Road 325. Residents can expect to hear noise from the construction works and see some machinery travelling on local roads. Locomotive engines bringing material into the area, and rail construction equipment working on the junction may be heard idling.



The estimated timelines for each stage of the project construction are illustrated below:



\*Dates are approximate and subject to change

The new rail line is expected to be in service by September 2025. By this date, we estimate the spur construction will be complete and the rail line connected in both the north and south. Trains will be using the track and all safety warning and signal equipment will be in place and operating.

What to expect in the coming weeks:

- Topographical and boundary surveys will be conducted.
- Bird nesting surveys will be conducted.
- Site clearing and topsoil stripping activities of the right-of-way will commence.

It is the intention of CN, and all the project partners, to work collaboratively with all communities. We will provide regular updates on our progress throughout the construction project and will do our best to minimize disruptions caused by our work.

In our upcoming correspondence, we will also share a toll-free phone number with you for residents with any questions or concerns that arise during the construction period.

We look forward to working with you over the months ahead!

Scott Brown  
 CN Public Affairs Manager  
 Saskatchewan