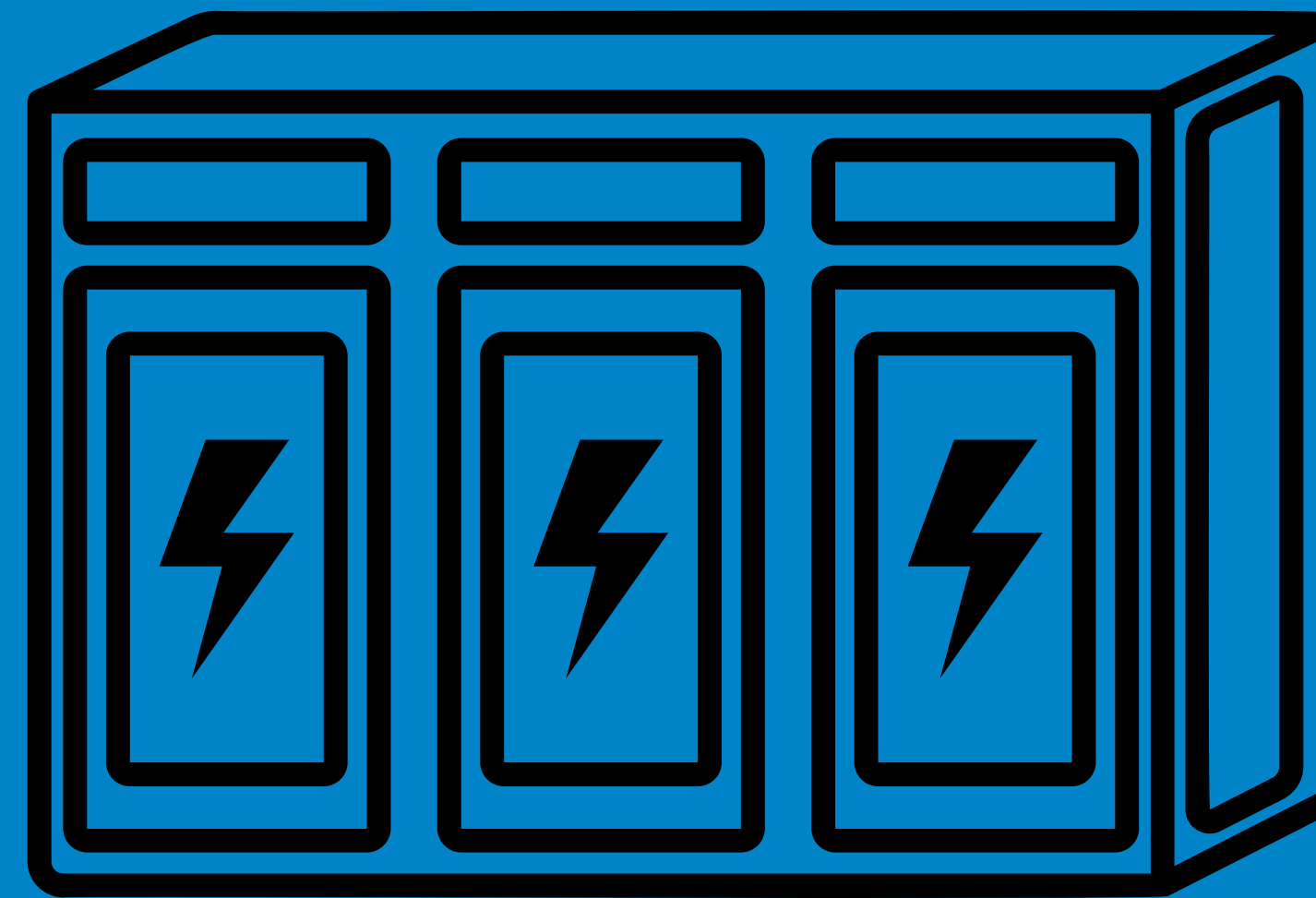


WELCOME

SSM Battery Energy Storage Projects

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE



SSM Battery Energy Storage Projects

- PUC Services Inc. and partners are partnering on five battery energy storage projects in Sault Ste. Marie to support local energy sustainability.
- The projects align with Ontario's Long-Term 2 (LT2) procurement process, which seeks new electricity storage capacity by 2030 to meet growing provincial demand and support electrification.
- Environmental assessments and community consultation will guide the design to ensure ecological protection and regulatory compliance.
- The project will provide lasting value to Sault Ste. Marie through local job creation, improved grid reliability, and clean energy storage that supports continued economic development.



This image is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent the final design, layout, equipment, fencing, or appearance of the proposed battery storage facilities. Actual project details may change based on permitting, engineering, and community input.

Why Battery Energy Storage in SSM?

Enhance Grid Reliability

Battery Energy Storage systems strengthen local grid stability by storing excess energy and releasing it during periods of high demand, reducing the risk of power outages and supporting consistent service for residents and businesses.

Optimized Use of Renewable Energy

By capturing surplus renewable generation (such as solar and hydro) and dispatching it when needed, the project helps maximize clean energy utilization.

Provincial Capacity Support

The project contributes to Ontario's long-term capacity needs under the IESO's LT2 procurement, ensuring reliable, on-demand energy for the province's growing electricity system while supporting northern participation in the grid.

Local Energy, Local Benefits

Construction and ongoing maintenance of the battery energy storage facilities will generate local employment opportunities and support partnerships with local suppliers.

Environmental Sustainability

By improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with peak generation, the facilities align with both PUC's Net Zero goals and the City of Sault Ste. Marie's broader sustainability objectives.



Battery Energy Storage Projects: Total Footprint

- ~49.5 MW capacity
- Distribution System Connected



All Proposed Battery Storage Locations

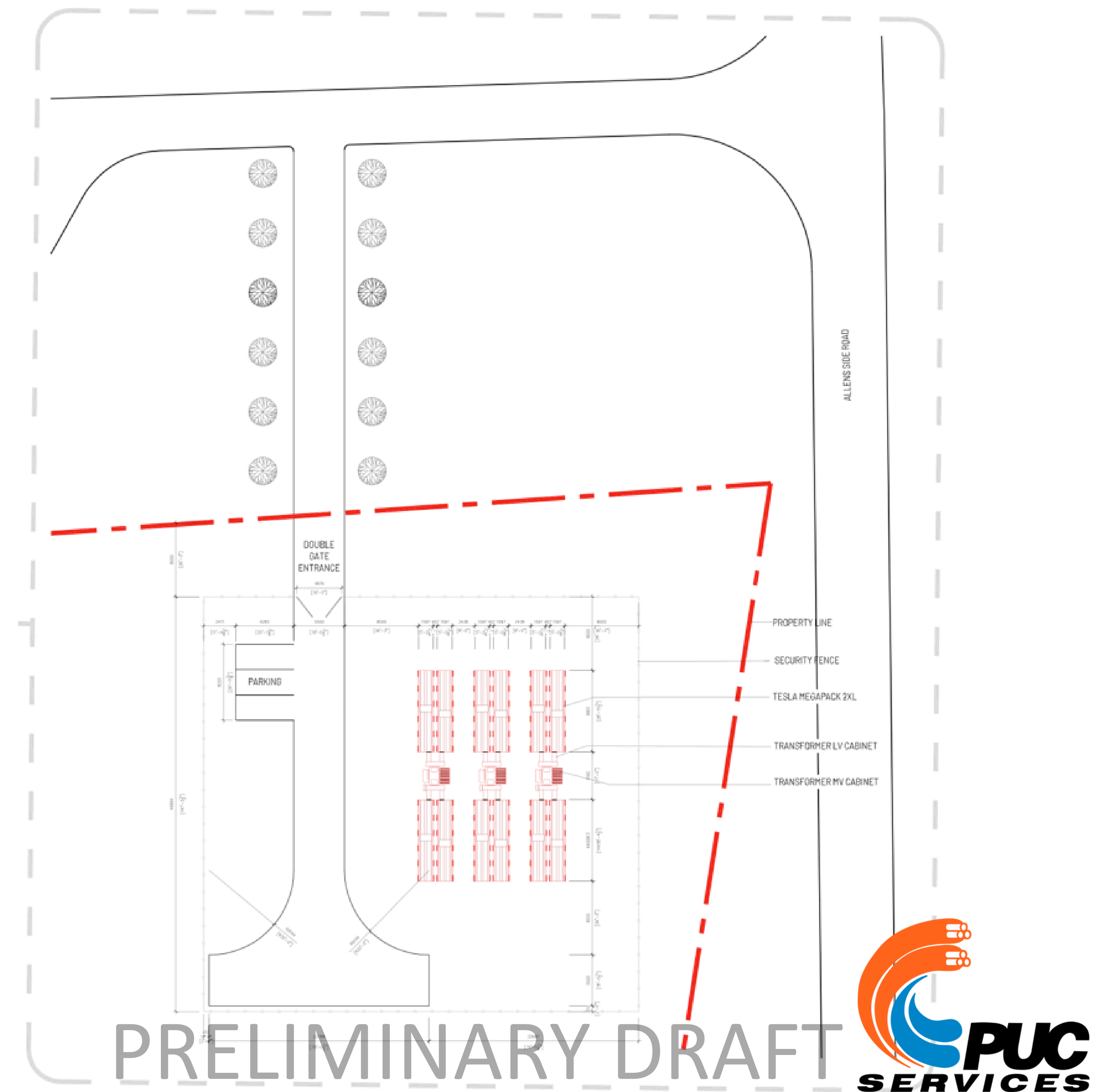
Sept 22, 2025 Revision 1

Boundaries shown are approximate representations and are not to be interpreted as survey grade measures and locations.



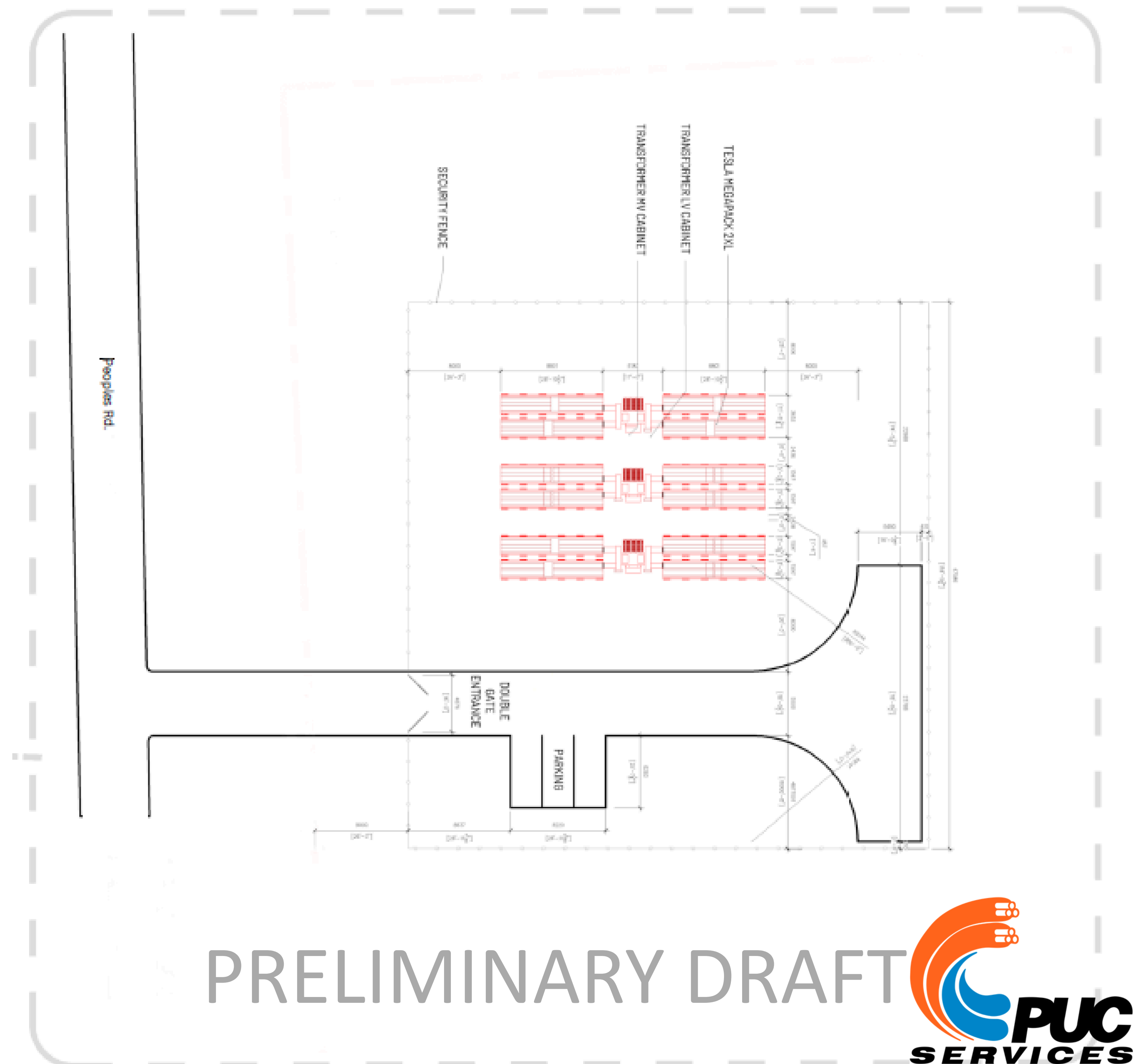
Battery Energy Storage Projects: Allen's Side Road Site

- ~9.9 MW
- Distribution System Connected
- Each site will include buffer landscaping and fencing where necessary



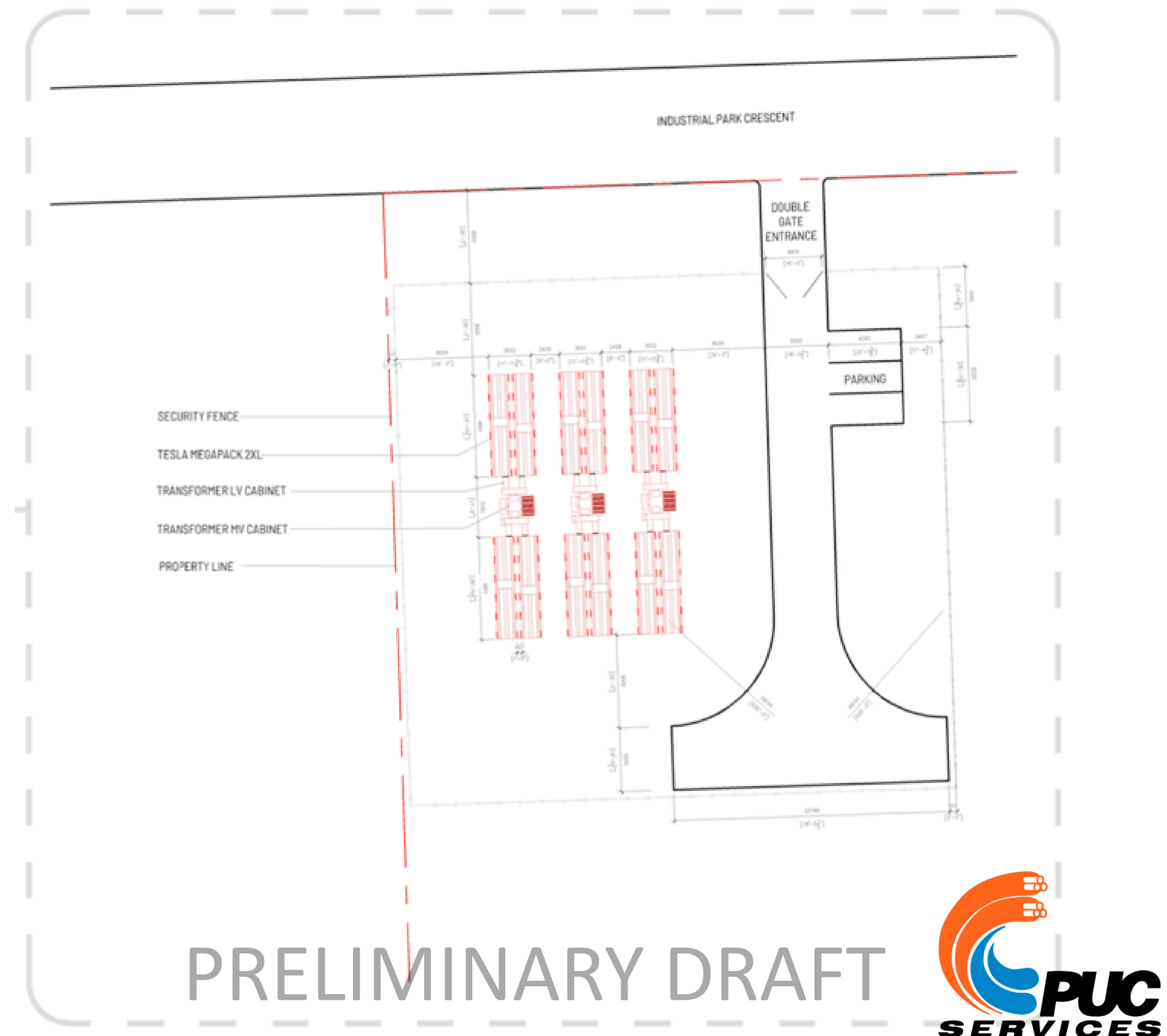
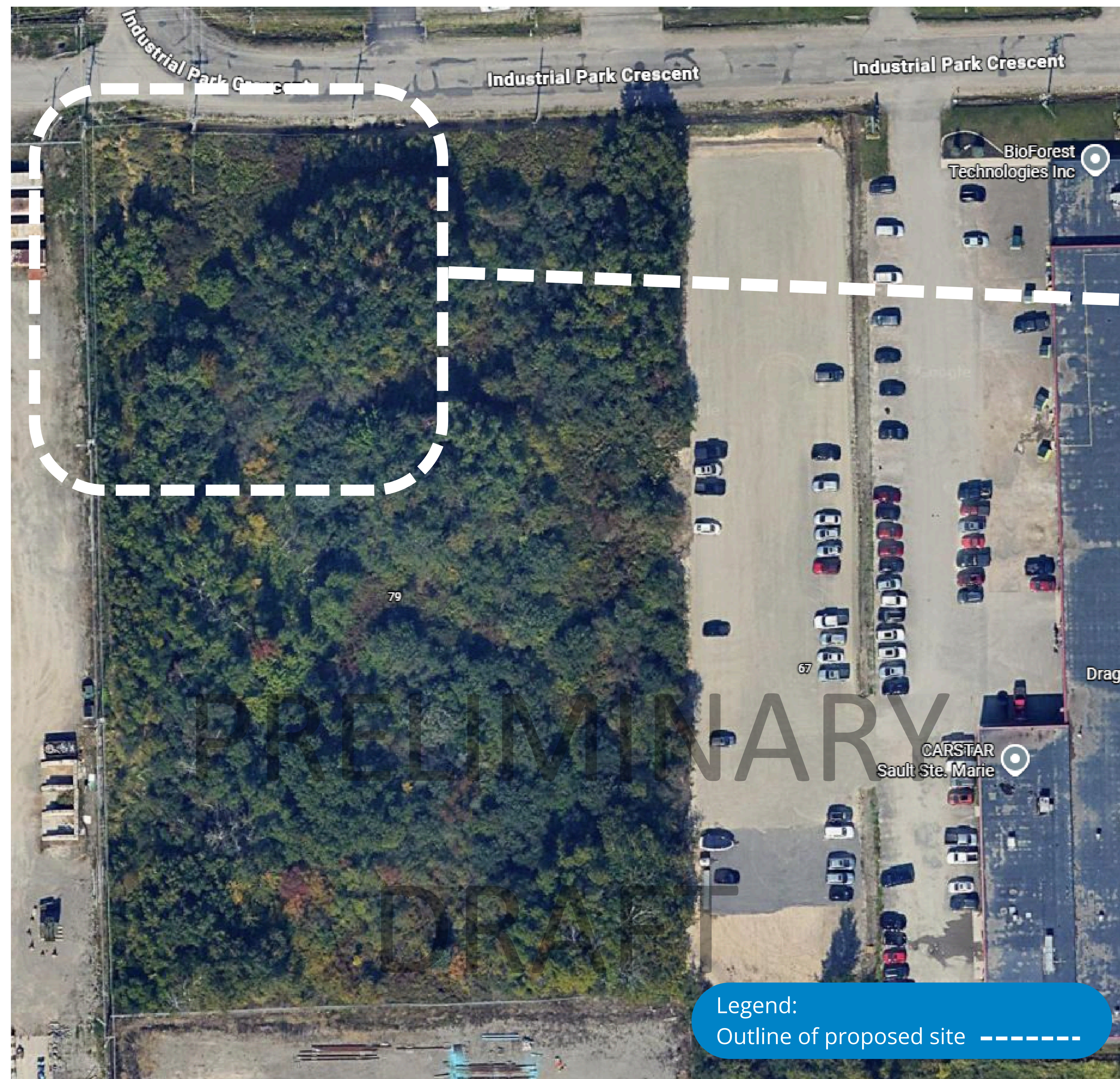
Battery Energy Storage Projects: Peoples Road Site

- ~9.9 MW
- Distribution System Connected
- Each site will include buffer landscaping and fencing where necessary



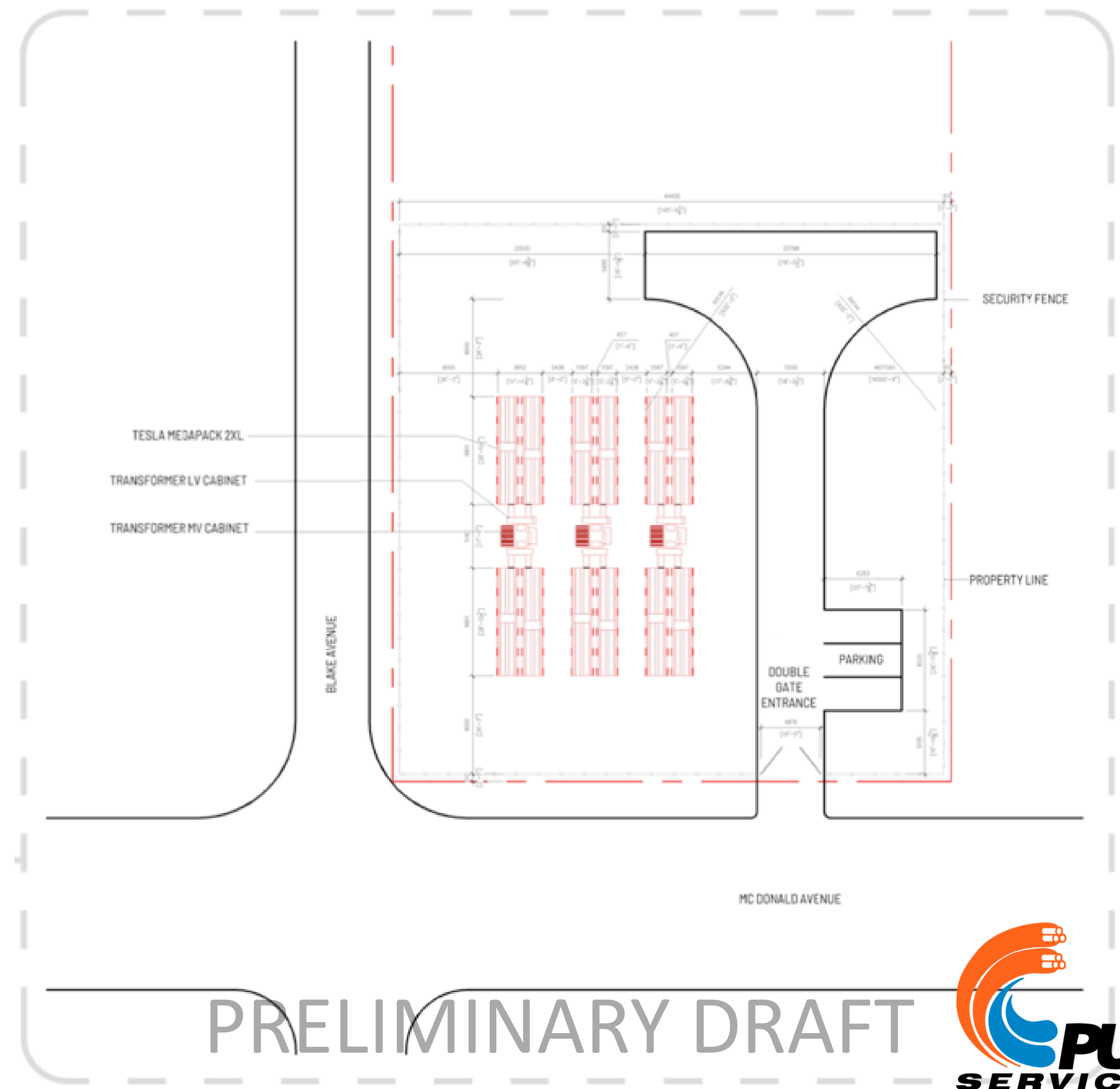
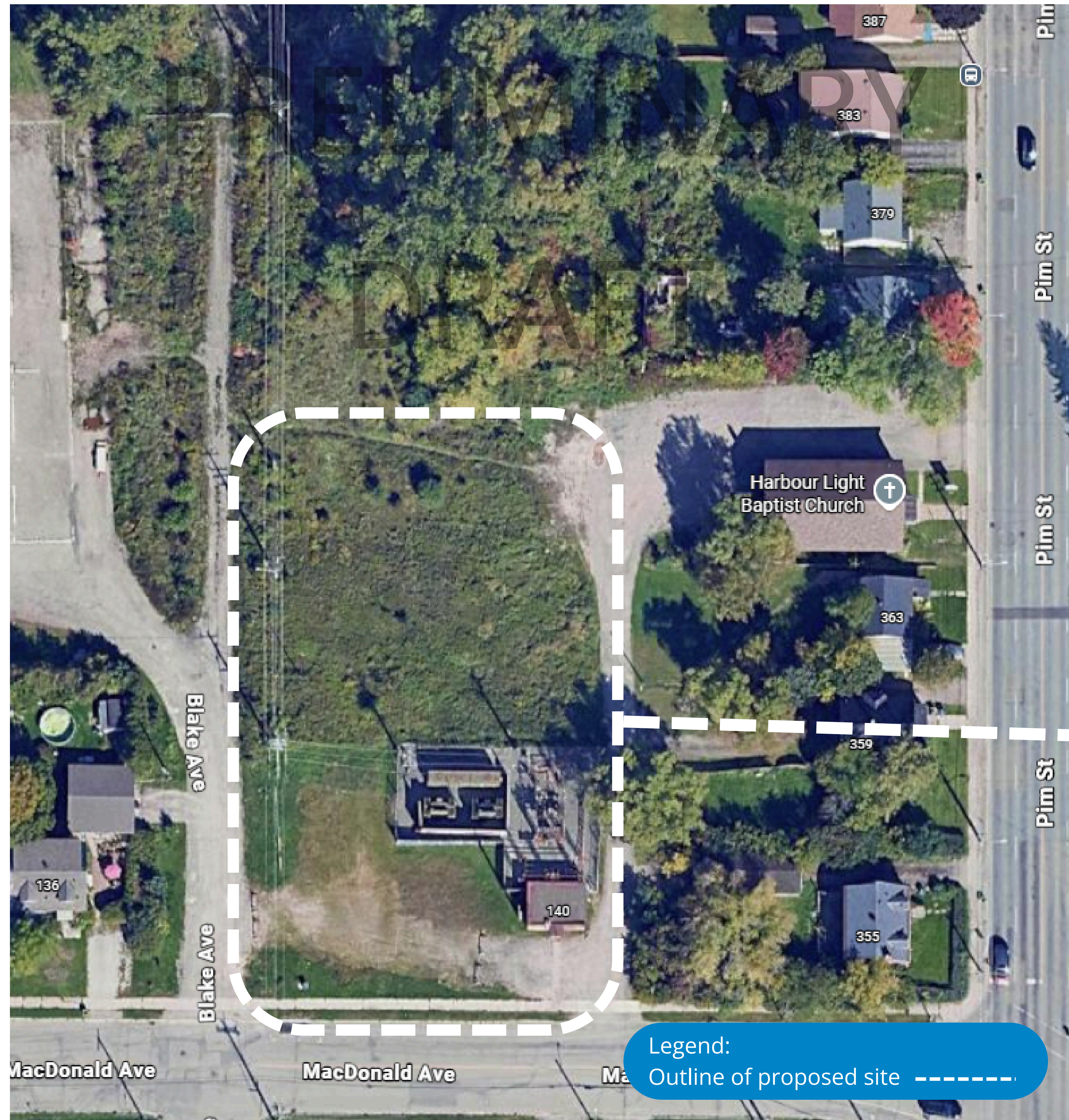
Battery Energy Storage Projects: Industrial Park Crescent Site

- ~9.9 MW
- Distribution System Connected
- Each site will include buffer landscaping and fencing where necessary



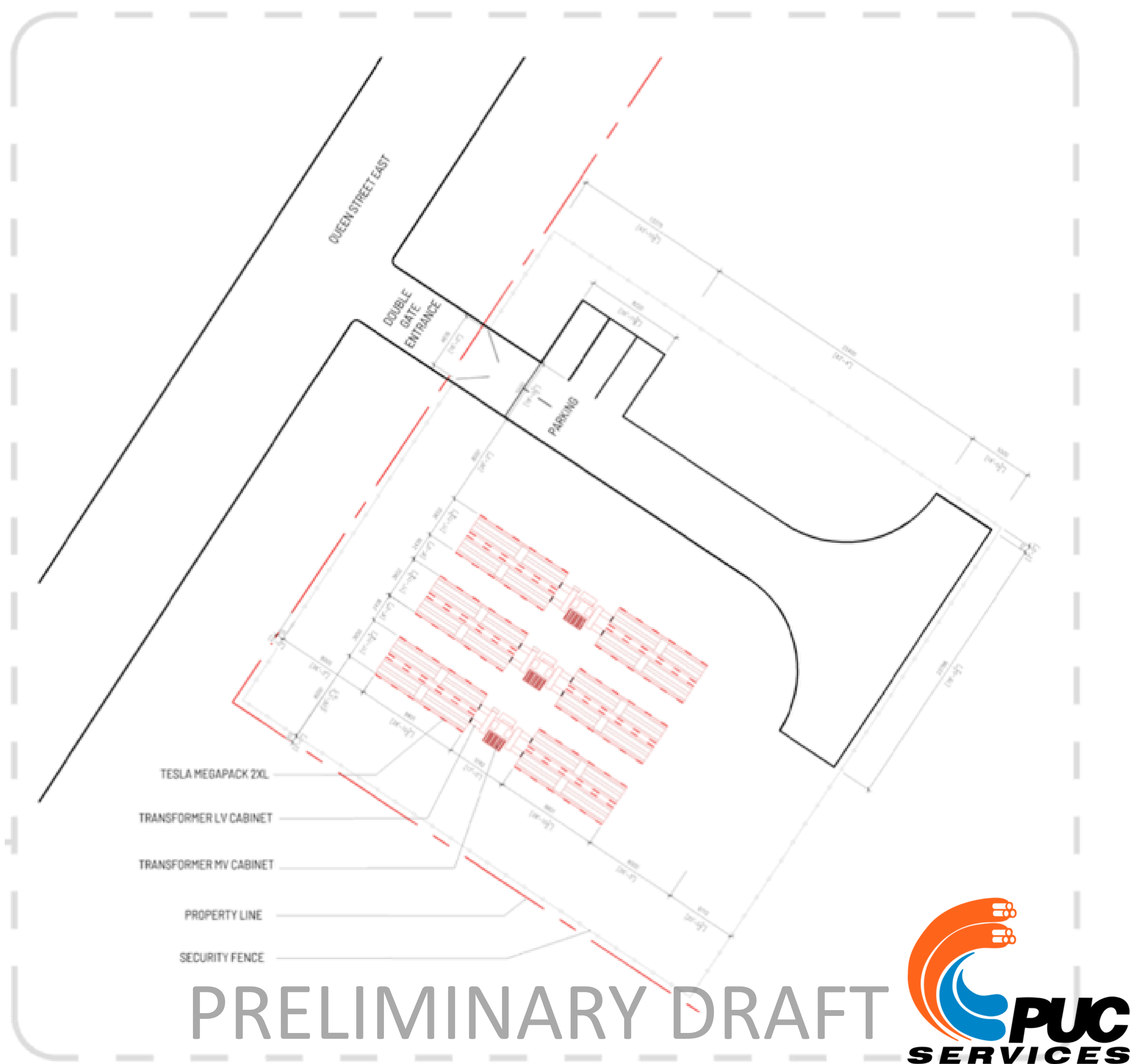
Battery Energy Storage Projects: MacDonald Avenue Site

- ~9.9 MW
- Distribution System Connected
- Each site will include buffer landscaping and fencing where necessary

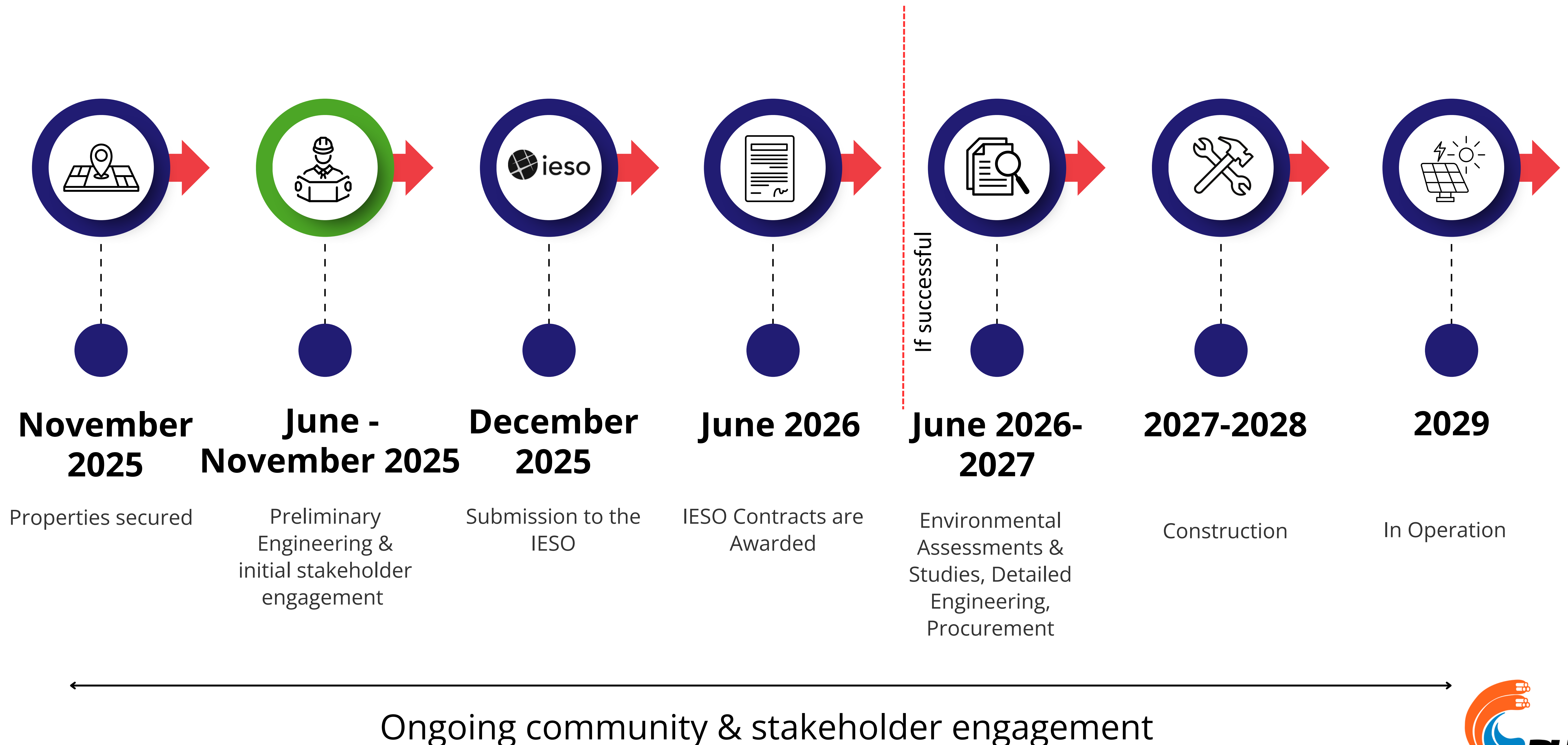


Battery Energy Storage Projects: Queen Street Site

- ~9.9 MW
- Distribution System Connected
- Each site will include buffer landscaping and fencing where necessary



Preliminary Timeline



FAQs

What is a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)?

A battery energy storage system stores electricity for use at a later time. It charges when electricity is abundant or inexpensive, and discharges when demand is high, helping to balance supply and demand on the grid.

Why are battery storage projects important?

Battery storage supports Ontario's clean energy transition by:

- Improving reliability and grid stability
- Reducing reliance on fossil-fuel peaking plants
- Enabling greater use of renewable energy (solar and wind)
- Supporting community energy resilience during outages.

Why is PUC proposing these projects?

Ontario's electricity demand is increasing, and the province needs more capacity to ensure reliable service. The IESO's LT2 procurement program encourages local utilities to develop storage projects that support grid stability and enable more renewable energy use. These projects position Sault Ste. Marie as a leader in clean, reliable energy.

What types of batteries will be used?

The proposed systems will use lithium-iron phosphate battery technology, the most widely used and proven solution for grid-scale energy storage worldwide. These systems are designed with multiple layers of safety, including monitoring, cooling, and fire suppression systems.

FAQs

Are there any safety concerns with battery energy storage?

Safety is a top priority. All systems are designed to meet strict standards; PUC is working directly with the Sault Ste. Marie Fire Services and regulatory authorities to ensure emergency response plans and safety protocols are in place before any construction would begin.

Are BESS systems noisy or visible?

Noise is minimal - similar to background traffic or a household air conditioner. Units are housed in quiet, climate-controlled containers with noise barriers if required. Landscaping and fencing minimize visual impact.

How will this project affect my property or neighbourhood?

PUC is committed to minimizing visual, noise, and environmental impacts. Each site will include landscaping and fencing where necessary. We are committed to working with residents on these site plan details. The SSM BESS Project will consist of lithium-iron phosphate battery cells connected in stacks and installed inside an enclosed area, like a shipping container or a small enclosure. The enclosed area will also house the balance-of-plant equipment such as an inverter, a battery management system and a dedicated HVAC unit for proper ventilation. The battery packs feed inverters that connect to a transformer tied to the power grid.

What are the environmental impacts?

Battery systems have no emissions, no combustion and minimal water use. Several Environmental studies will assess land use, drainage and species protection before construction. At end of life, batteries are recycled through approved facilities.



FAQs

How long do batteries last?

Typically around 20 years, after which modules can be replaced or repurposed. The site can continue operating with updated equipment.

What is the timeline for these projects?

PUC plans to submit its proposal to the IESO under the LT2 procurement process later this year (2025). If the proposal is successful, construction could begin in 2028, with the systems to be operational by 2030.

Who is responsible for operating the BESS once built?

PUC, along with its development partners, will own and operate the facilities. Local operations will be supported by trained staff based in Sault Ste. Marie, ensuring community-based oversight and maintenance.

Where will the proposed battery storage sites be located?

Five sites have been identified across Sault Ste. Marie based on technical feasibility, land availability, and proximity to existing electrical infrastructure. Each location is being assessed for environmental, zoning, and community considerations.

How can community members provide feedback or stay informed?

Community input is valued and essential. You can:

- Speak directly with project representatives at the open house
- Complete a feedback form (available at event and online)
- Visit the project website www.pucbatterystorage.com for ongoing project updates and contact information.

