

Energy Transmission and Transportation

How are oil and natural gas transported?

Approximately 95 percent of Canada's crude oil and natural gas is transported by pipeline. Canada's pipeline network totals approximately 540,000 kilometres and comprises everything from thin plastic gathering lines to steel conduits more than one metre in diameter.

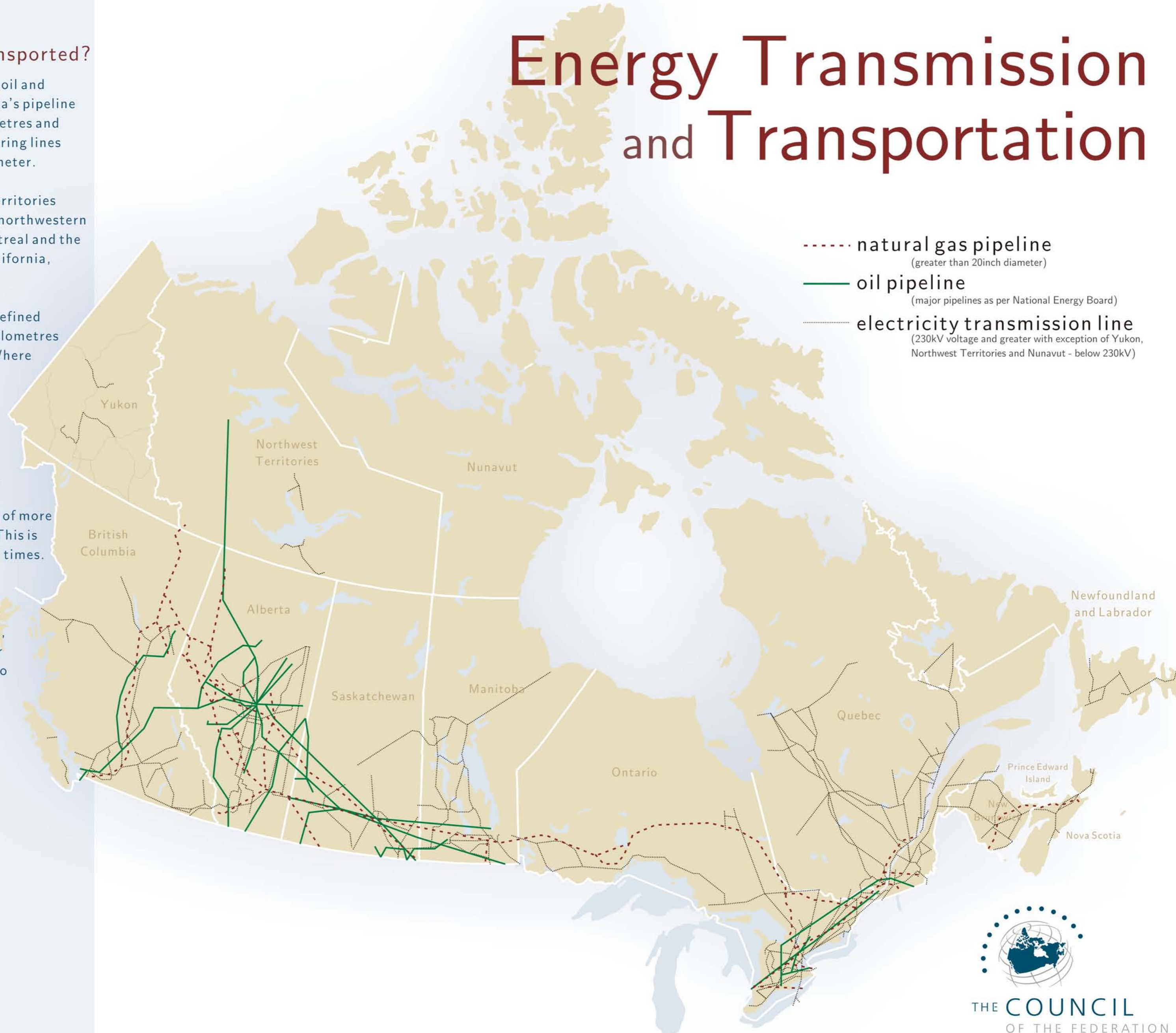
This network extends from the Northwest Territories through Alberta, west to Vancouver and the northwestern United States, east to Sarnia, Toronto, Montreal and the northeastern United States, and south to California, Montana and the United States Midwest.

Pumps move the oil, natural gas liquids and refined products through pipelines at four to eight kilometres per hour and natural gas at up to 40km/hr. Where gathering systems are not available, oil is transported by tankers and railway.

How is electricity transmitted?

Canada's bulk transmission network consists of more than 160,000 kilometres high voltage lines. This is enough to cross the entire country roughly 27 times.

Because of Canada's vast geographic size, its electricity systems require different types of high voltage lines (typically at 115 kilovolt, 230 kilovolt and 500 kilovolt levels) to deliver electricity safely, reliably and economically to customers.



- natural gas pipeline
(greater than 20inch diameter)
- oil pipeline
(major pipelines as per National Energy Board)
- electricity transmission line
(230kV voltage and greater with exception of Yukon,
Northwest Territories and Nunavut - below 230kV)