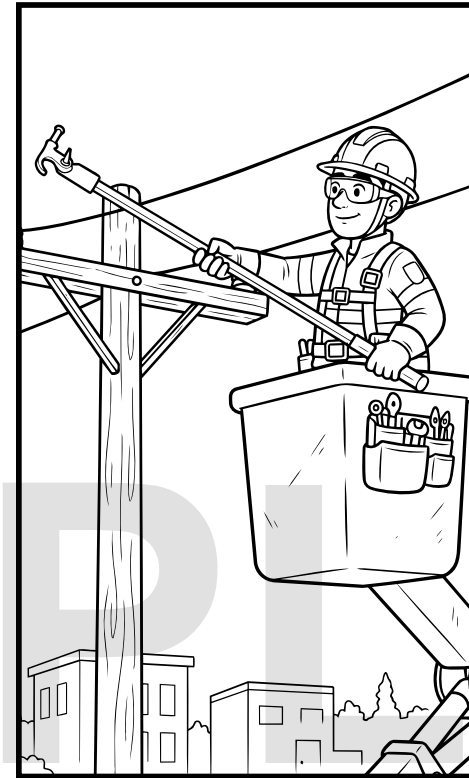


PUBLIC POWER

Energizing Your Community!

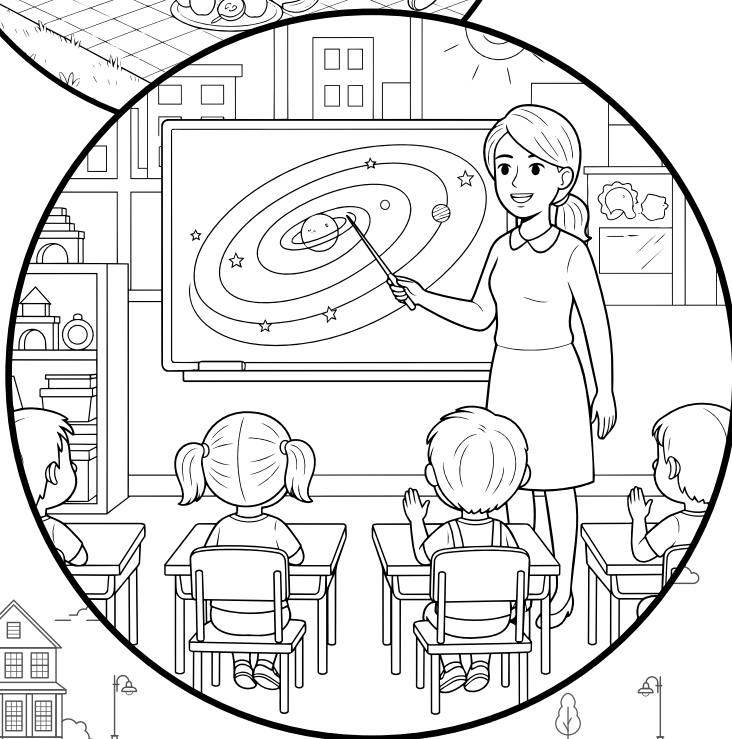
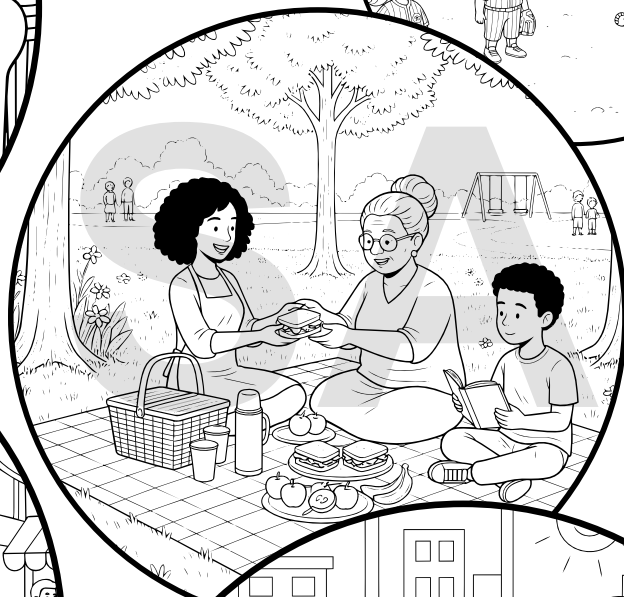
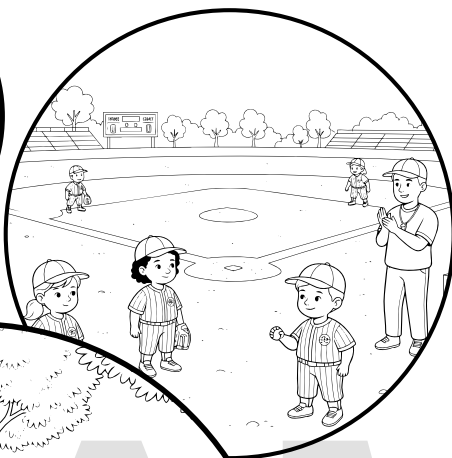
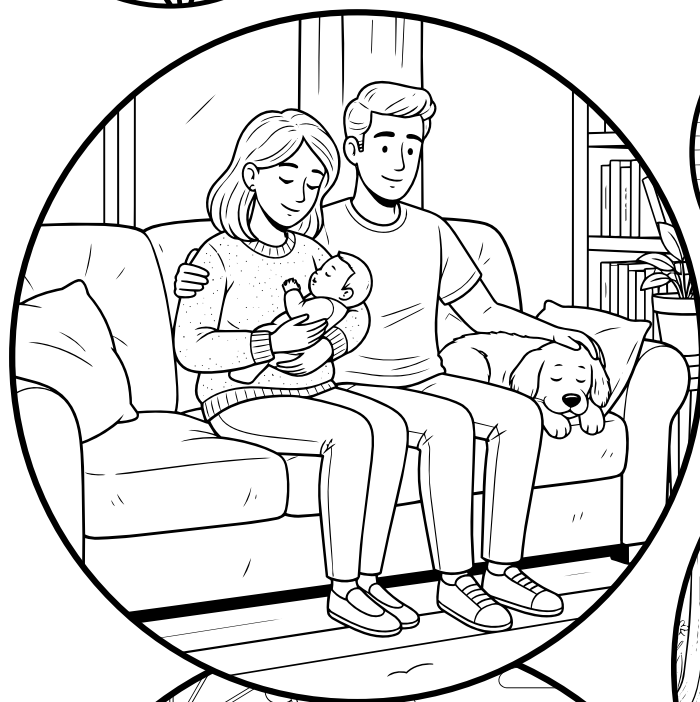


Electricity doesn't just appear by magic! A whole team of people at your local public power utility work every single day to make sure you have safe, reliable power.

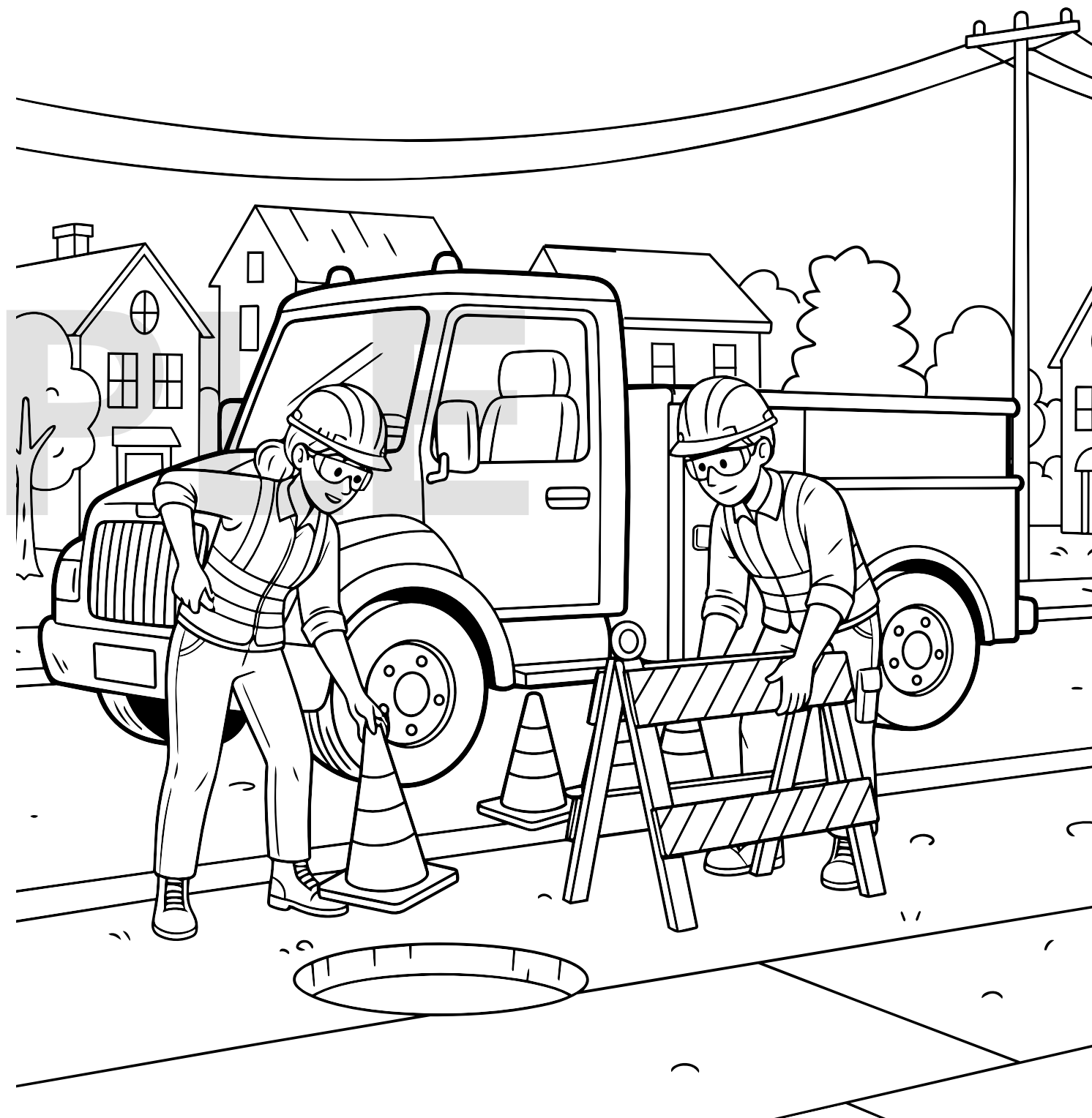




A public power utility is owned by the city or town it serves. That means it belongs to the whole community, including you and your family!

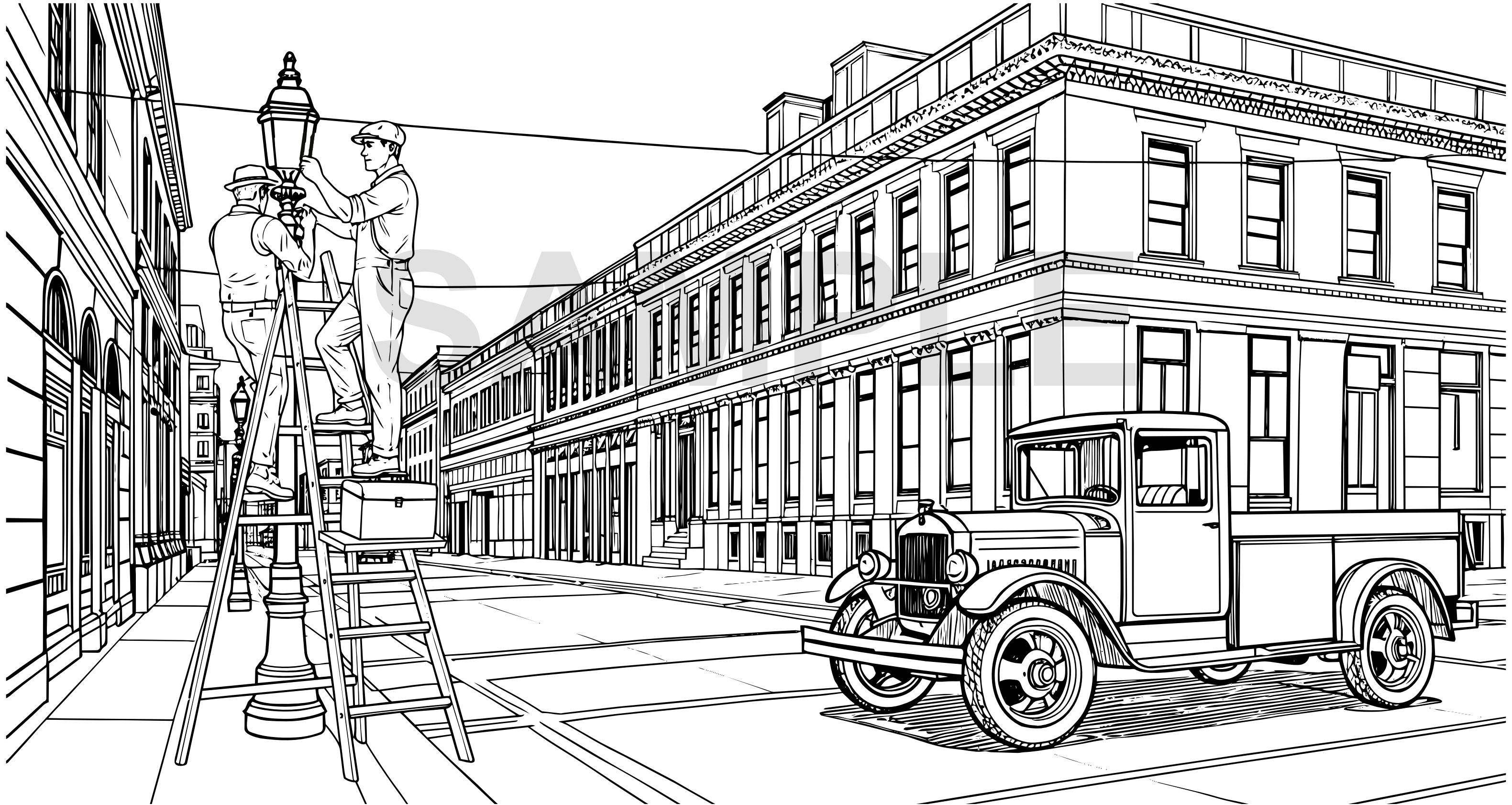


Because public power utilities aren't trying to make a profit, they can focus on one thing: serving their neighbors as well as possible.



Back in the late 1800s electricity was brand new. Private utilities started building electric systems but they didn't always reach everyone, and prices could be high. So many communities made a decision to do it themselves.

All across America people built their own electric utilities so that everyone in the community could have affordable, reliable power.



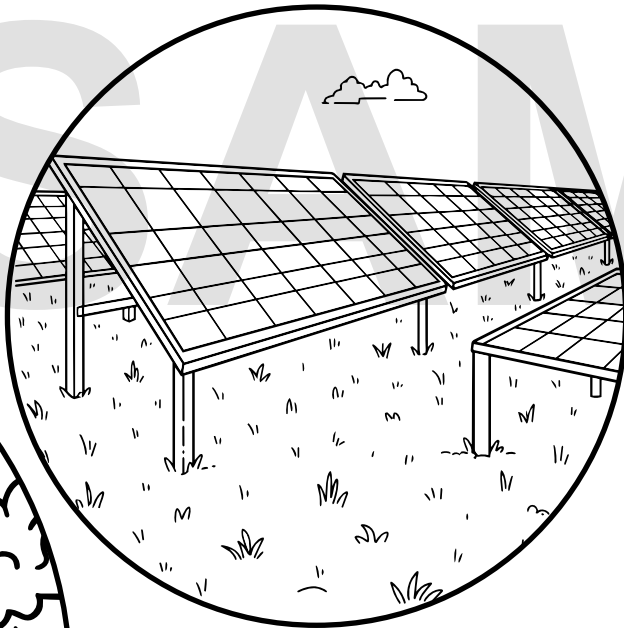
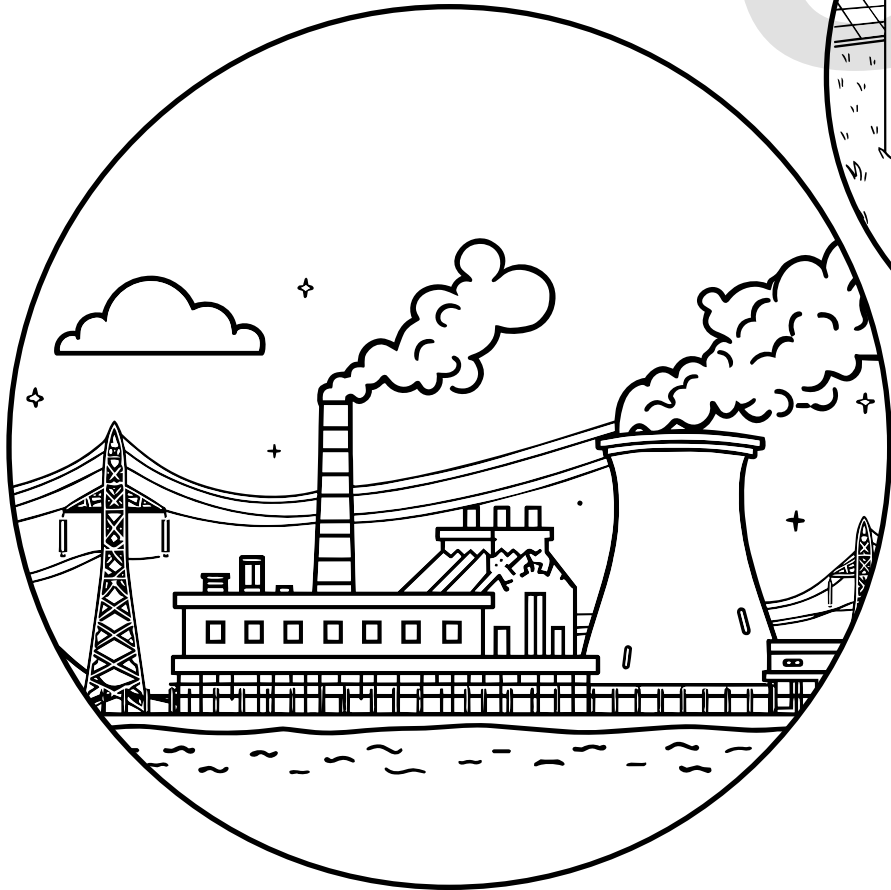
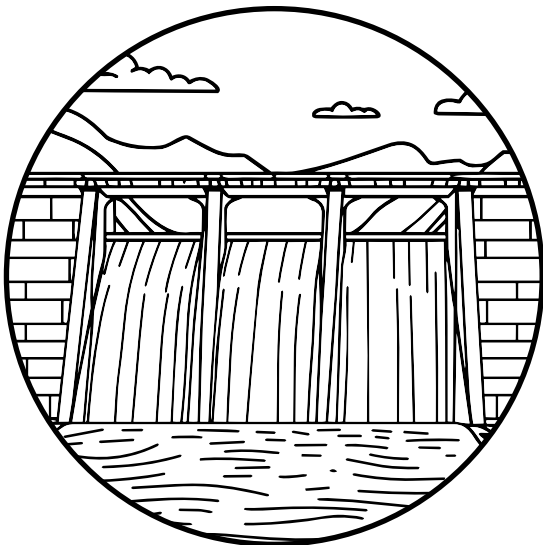
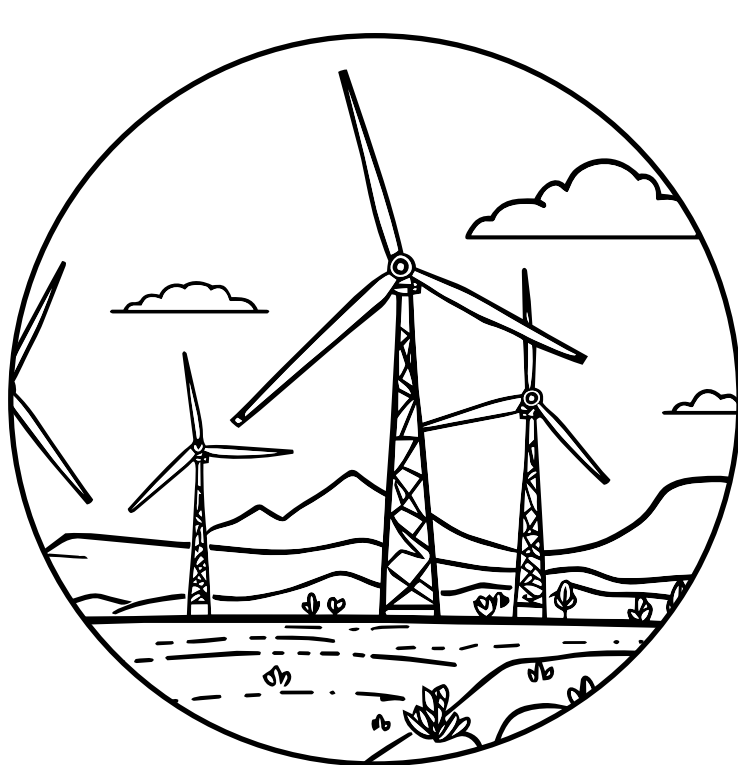
**Who makes the big decisions at your public power utility?
People your community has chosen! Public power utilities
are governed by city councils, community boards, and
other groups chosen by the people who live nearby.**



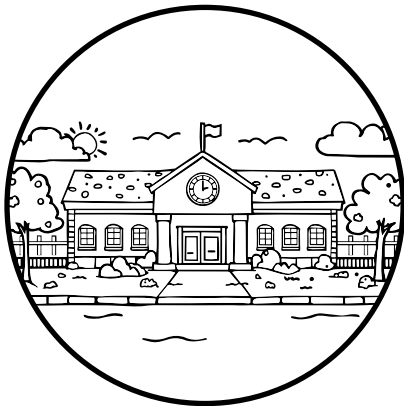
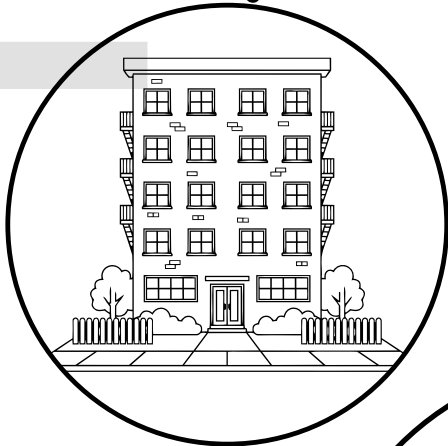
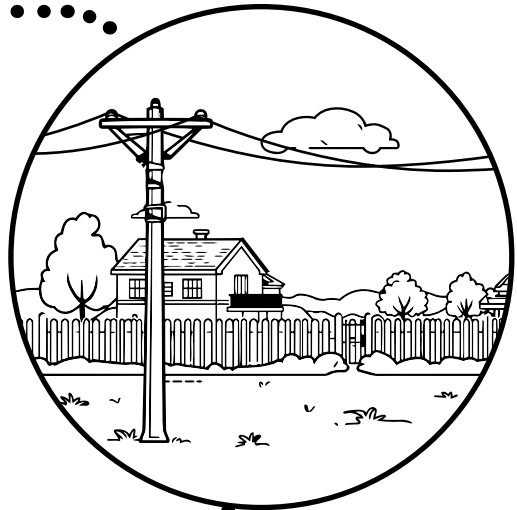
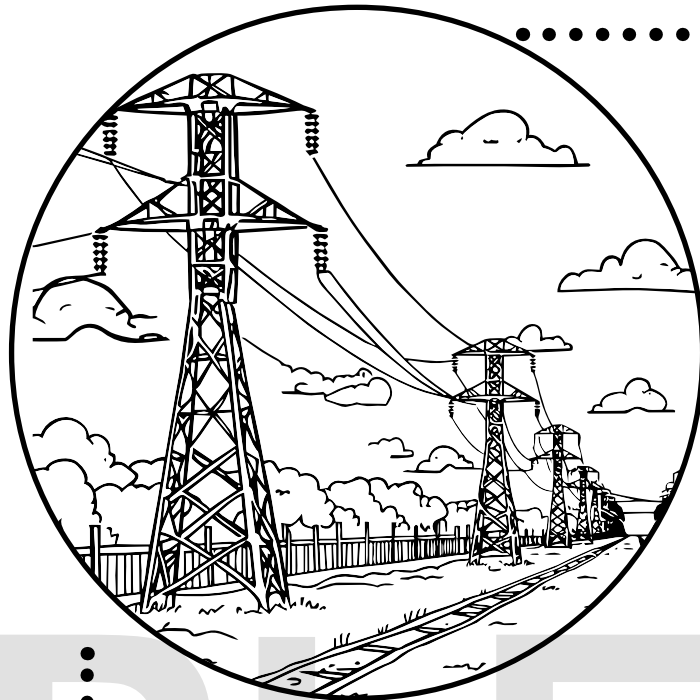
**That means if you want to learn more about your utility, or
share your thoughts, you can show up to a public meeting
and say it! Your public power utility is always listening,
because serving you and your neighbors is the whole point.**



Electricity can be generated in many ways, from natural gas, water, wind, solar, and more. Then it has to travel a long way to reach you!



It travels through big electrical wires across long distances.

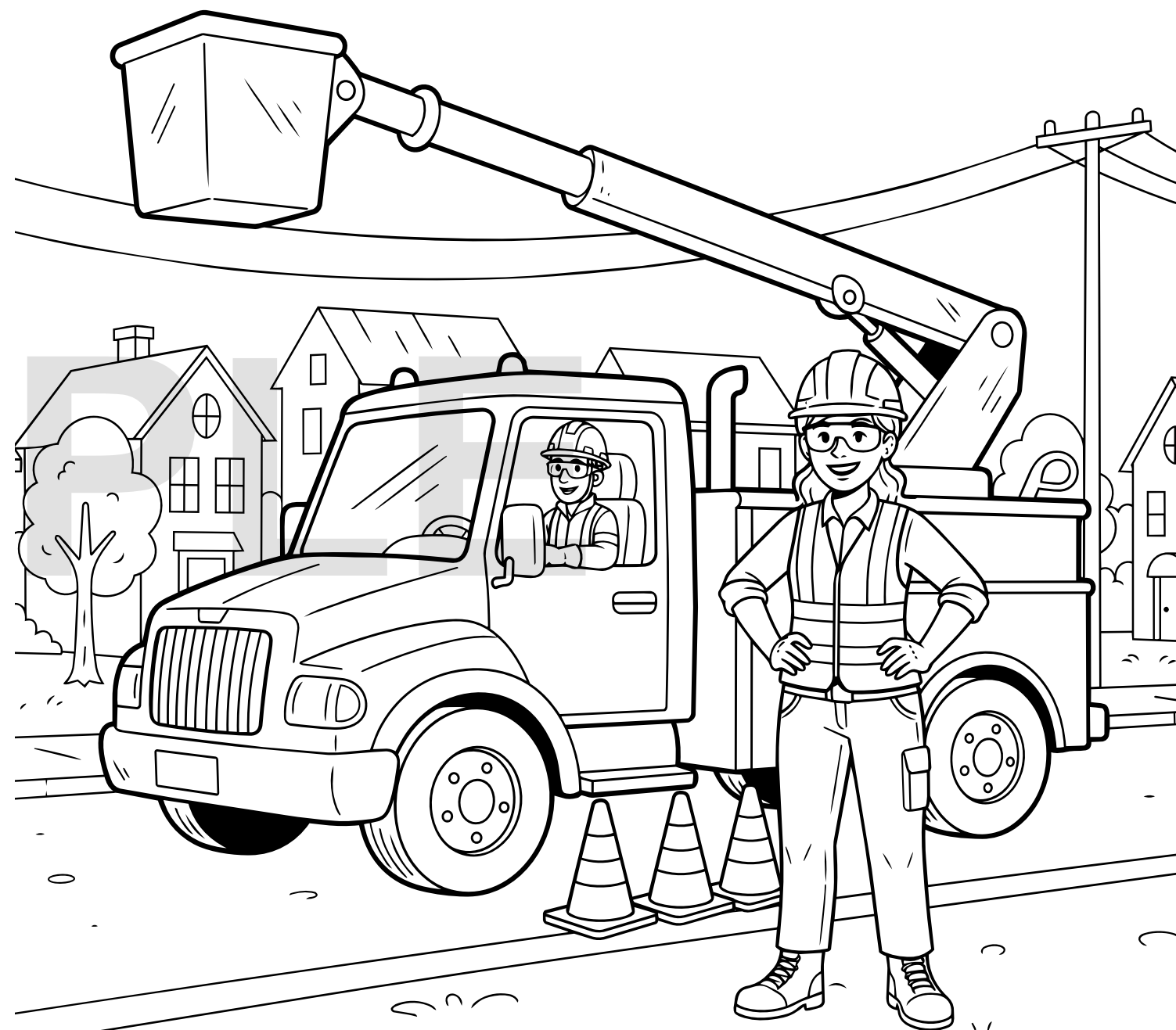


Finally, your local public power utility takes over, delivering electricity through smaller wires right to your home, school, or business.

**When a storm knocks out the power, who fixes it?
Your public power lineworkers!**



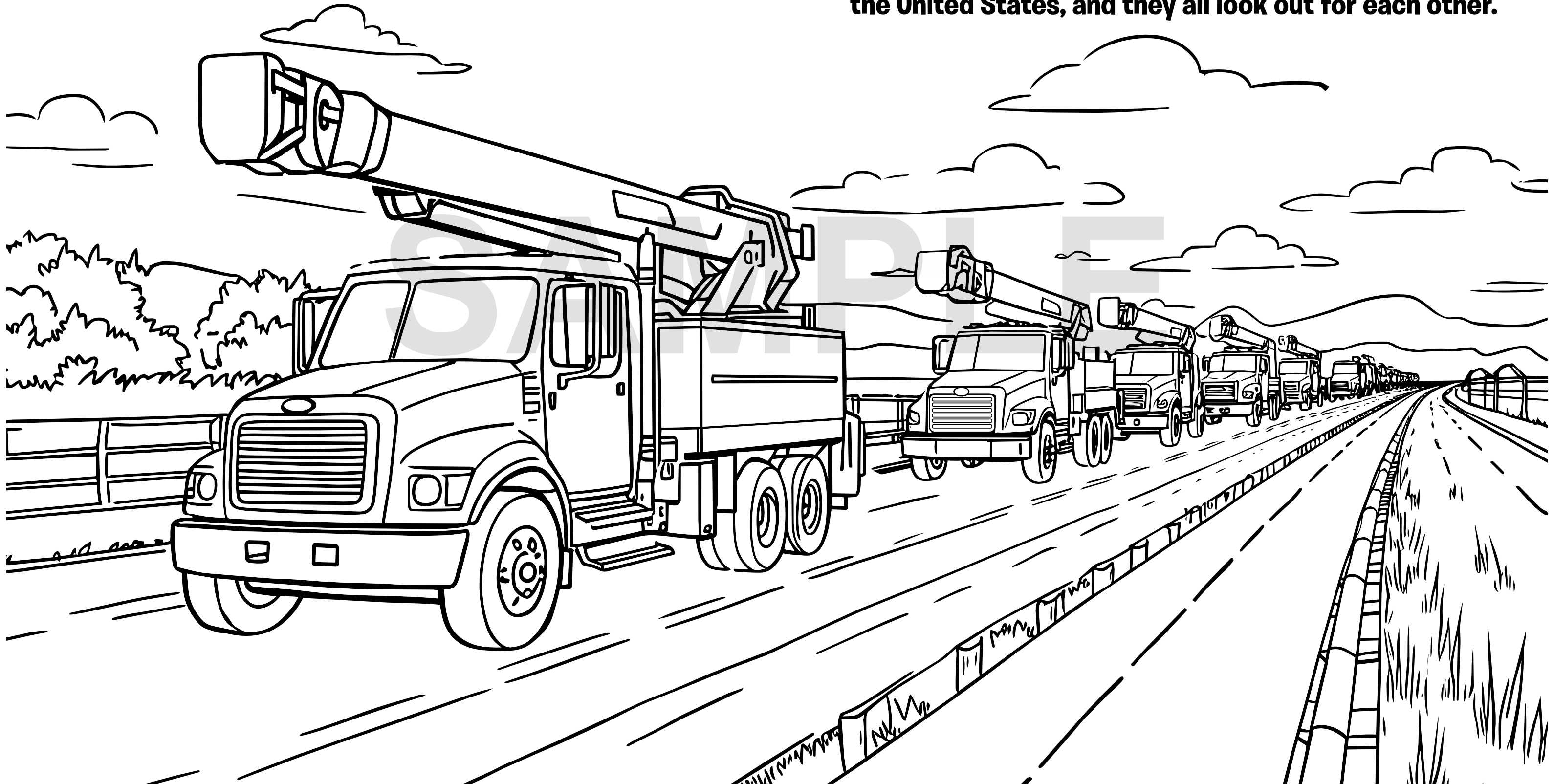
Lineworkers climb poles, work from bucket trucks, and string heavy wire – sometimes in wind, rain, snow, and the middle of the night. It's one of the toughest jobs there is. That's why they have special safety gear, and rules about how they work to keep them safe.



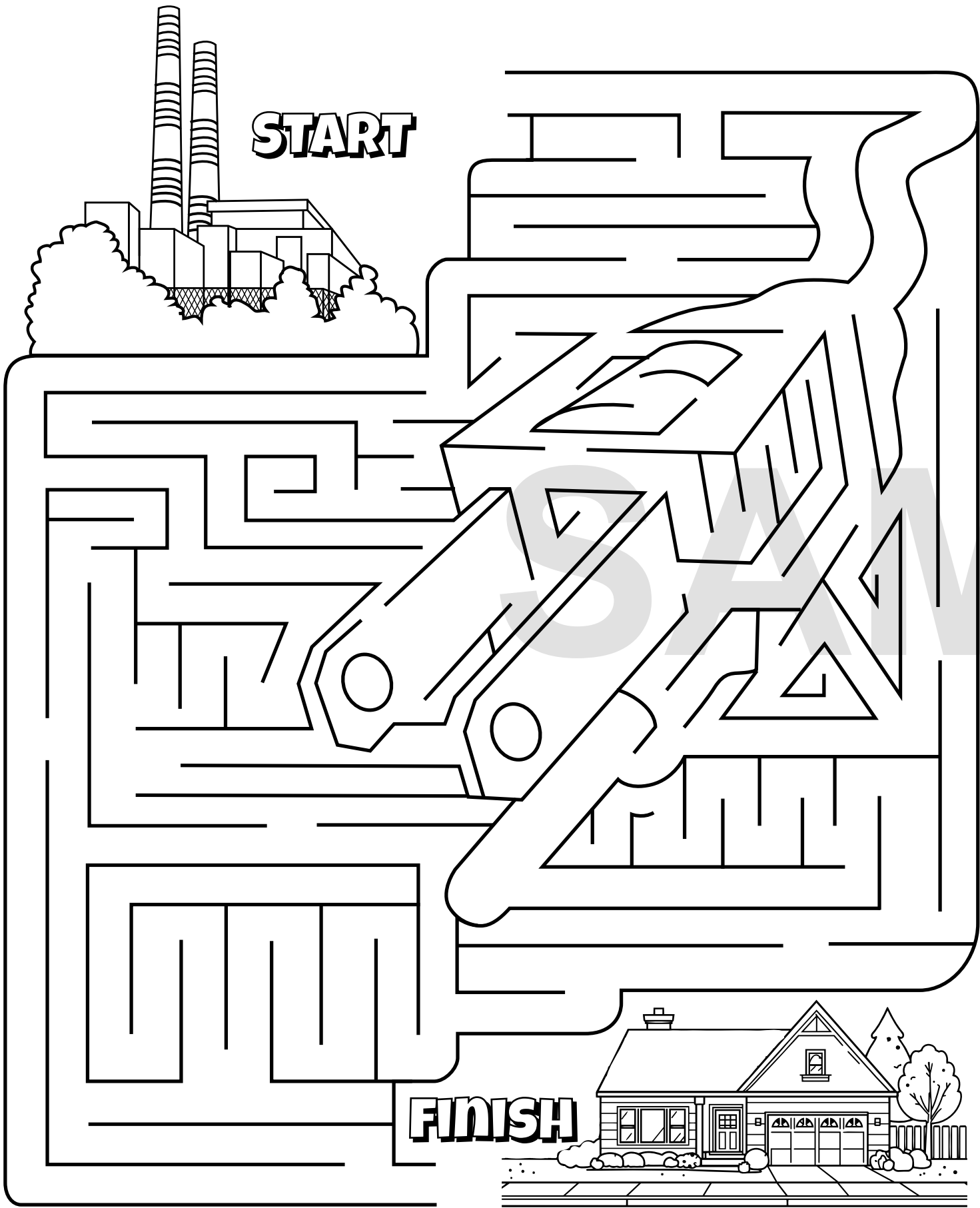
And because your public power utility is local, your lineworkers are your neighbors. They know your community, and they're never far away when you need them.

Public power utilities look out for each other and for you! After a major storm or disaster, getting power back fast really matters, and it must be done safely. Public power utilities are known for restoring power quickly, because their crews are already local so they know the system.

But there's another secret weapon: Mutual Aid. When one community gets hit hard, public power utilities from other communities send their own crews to help out. It's people helping people, just like neighbors should. There are nearly 2,000 public power utilities in the United States, and they all look out for each other.

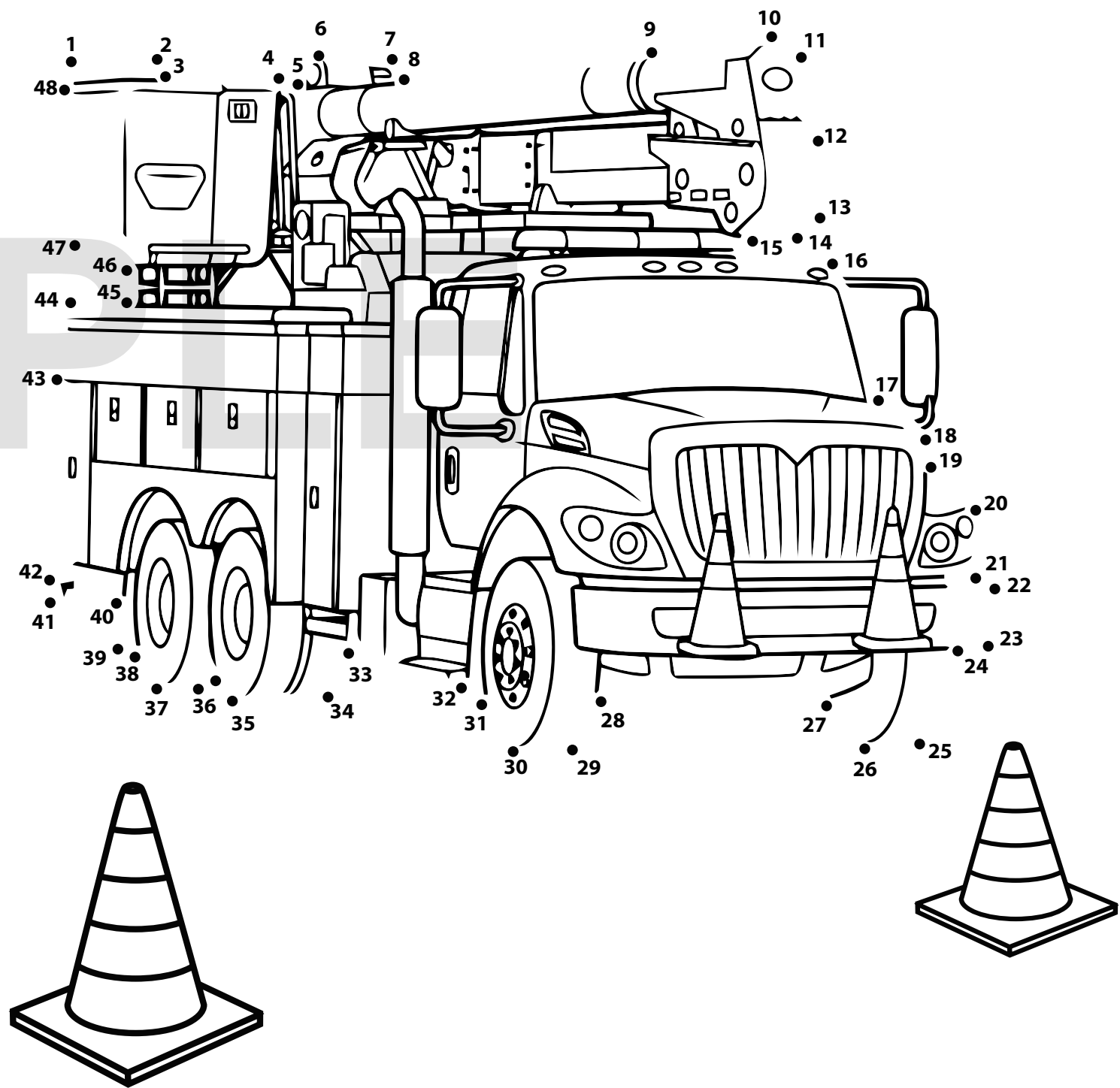


Help the electricity get from the power plant to the house!



The bucket truck is one of the most important trucks that a public power utility uses. It helps workers reach things that are in high places.

Connect the dots to complete the drawing of the bucket truck.



Your public power utility isn't just a company that sends you a bill. It's your neighbors, working every day to keep your community powered. It's your community, investing in everyone who lives here. And it's a partnership built around you. That's what makes public power special.



