

February 2021, Issue #12

English Version





Valard Construction, was selected by Wataynikaneyap Power to provide engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) solutions for the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project in Northwestern Ontario, Canada.

The scope of work on the project consists of EPC services for more than 1,600 kilometers of transmission and distribution infrastructure ranging in voltage from 25 kV to 230 kV and 22 substations. Valard created this newsletter to provide regular updates on construction activities for the 24 First Nation communities.



Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities
Proposed schedule as of February 15, 2021
Period: February 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021
Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

Group 1 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
	<p>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sioux Lookout operational as of June 1, 2020 • Slate Falls Nation operational as of July 24, 2020 • Pickle Lake operational as of February 18, 2020 • Cat Lake Camp operational end of February 20, 2021
	<p>Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations) • Flagging Right-of-Way (ROW) clearing limits • Measure existing powerline heights • Staking, as-building and support of construction activities • Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake

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Group 1 – Transmission Lines

Activity

Detail



Clearing and Access

- Clearing and Access development
 - * Falling, raking, piling of trees
 - * Burning of felled brush
 - * Installing/removing watercourse crossings
 - * Access matting and trail building
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake



Construction

- Geotechnical (soil analysis) investigation by test pitting and drilling of boreholes
- Tower foundation/anchor installation
 - * Excavating, rock drilling
 - * Micropile, drilled pipe, pile, helical pile
- Assembly of steel towers, assembly yards and ROW
- Erection of assembled towers by crane and helicopter
- Stringing of wire conductor
- Installing grounding rods and wires that equipment will connect to
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake

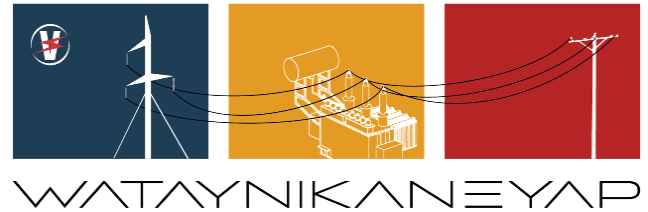


Environment

- Watercourses and environmental sensitive areas are flagged and monitored; focused on erosion, sediment control and spill responses
- Environmental monitoring of foundation, assembly, erection and stringing crews to ensure commitments in environmental assessments are being followed
- First Nations Environmental Monitors have worked with the Project Manager and conducted several site visits
- Caribou plot surveys completed for the month of February with the aid of First Nation Monitors
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake

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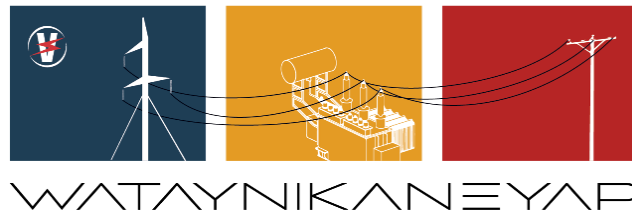
Group 1 – Substations

Activity		Detail
	Substation Survey/ Clearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flagging and inserting stakes in the ground to outline work area• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* B (Pickle Lake)
	Substation Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Civil and foundation construction• Ground Grid• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* B (Pickle Lake)

For more activity details visit the website at www.valard-watay.com, or if you have any general inquiries about this newsletter, please contact Wataynikaneyap Power at WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca.

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Valard is engaging with Participating First Nations to:

- * Learn more about community expectations and interests; as well as identify training, employment, procurement and business opportunities.
- * Engage with Indigenous Relations and Group Project Management to work with Community and Working groups to identify camp locations and services available to support work camps.
- * Facilitate and coordinate Indigenous participations in community businesses, equipment, services, work force, and existing or potential joint ventures.
- * Providing notification of restart of engagement activities, which had been on hold due to limitations with COVID-19 safety measures.
- * Participate in the review community-specific protocols such as COVID-19 and Travel protocols with Participating First Nations and sign off on alignment between Valard and the Community.
- * Work with the Communities for open lines of communication for COVID-19 updates with regards to travel and quarantine directives.
- * Provide notification of encounters with sensitive wildlife such as Caribou sightings to communities near the encounter
- * Provide the Chief and Council of any additional temporary work packages with Territorial area maps included: Permit to Take Water, Helicopter Pads and any additional camp locations if required
- * Hire Indigenous Relations Advisors (Group 1—Vacant)
- * Utilizing the Construction Liaisons to help coordinate ongoing communication between Project Management and Community Leadership and other duties such as: setting up job fairs, social media upkeep, coordinating employment and business opportunities and acting as a direct link to the Chief and/or Council of various communities.

Valard Group 1 Construction Liaisons:

- ◇ Mishkeegogamang First Nation— Micheala Bottle
- ◇ Slate Falls Nation—Clarence Auger
- ◇ Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation—Tanisha Currier
- ◇ Lac Seul First Nation—Carrie Quoquat
- ◇ Cat Lake First Nation—Star Quequish
- ◇ Ojibway Nation of Saugeen—Jonah Belmore
- ◇ Lac des Mille Lac First Nation—Applicant in interview process

Valard Indigenous Relations Team Introduction:

The Valard Indigenous Relations Team consists of the following members for the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project and can be contacted at Watay-IndigenousRelations@valard.com:

- ***Marc Ouimet** - Director Indigenous Relations
- ***Darrell Wawia** - Indigenous Relations Manager
- ***Terrance Bob** - Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- ***Maureen Budzinski** - Manager Indigenous Training & Apprenticeship
- ***Randal Courchene** - Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison

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Health and Safety

- * **Valard is following the most up to date medical advice provided by federal and provincial government in its own measures to help limit the spread of Covid-19.**
- * Ongoing Covid-19 screening program, camp inspections, program audits and response drills
- * Hazard analysis and control planning every day
- * Development, implementation and monitoring of safe work procedures including preparation for upcoming helicopter work activities
- * Project onboarding, orientation and training/development of workers
- * Emergency preparedness and planning, mock emergency drills completed
- * Joint Health and Safety Committee Involvement
- * Promotion of project's Alcohol & Drug policy, Maintenance Support Security Program and Employee Assistance Program.
- * Security Protocols implementation and monitoring
- * Fall Protection and Rescue Planning for tower climbing Best Practices
- * Subcontractor safety support, onboarding, compliance observations, and audits



Employment Opportunities

- * Valard Construction invites members of the Participating First Nations to apply for the following positions.

Administrative Assistant

Assemblers

Class A Driver

Community Support Partner

Drafting Technician

Emergency Medical Responder

Environmental Monitor

Excavator Operator

Foundations Labourer

Fuel Truck Driver

General Foreperson/Construction Supervisor

Heavy Duty Technician

Journeyman Automotive Service Technician

Prep/Ground Work Subforeperson

Primary Care Paramedic

Project Assistant

Project Field QC

Project Safety Admin

Please forward resumes to: watay-resumes@valard.com and projectjobs@oslp.ca

For more updates please visit the Valard project website (www.valard-watay.com) or:

<https://www.facebook.com/watayproject>

<https://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP>

<https://www.facebook.com/Wataynikaneyap-Power>

<https://www.oslp.ca>—Please visit OSLP's site for a full list of all available positions

Or call: 807-345-2395

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Wataynikaneyap Power at WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca.**