

Provided by Valard



September 2021, Issue #18

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 owner communities.

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



Group 1 - Transmission Lines					
Activity		Detail			
Worker camp site.	Camp Operation	•	Sioux Lookout operational as of June 1, 2020. Set to close Dec. 2021.		
		•	Slate Falls Nation closed Sept. 2021		
			Pickle Lake operational as of February 18, 2020		
		•	Cat Lake Camp on standby until Winter 2022		
		•	Camps were shutdown during the Ontario wildfires of Summer, 2021		
	Survey	•	Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations)		
			Measure existing powerline heights		
			Staking, as-building and support of construction activities		
Surveyor checking Foundation	oundation		Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake		

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Group 1 – Transmission Lines					
Activity		Detail			
Cleared Right of Way with completed towers	Clearing and Access	 Clearing and Access development * Access matting and trail building * Installing/removing watercourse crossings * Restoration of lands after completed construction activities • Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake 			
Locally hired Assembly Crew	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 (Right-of-Way) Erection of assembled towers by crane and helicopter Stringing of wire conductor and fibre-optic wire Installing grounding rods and wires Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake 			
Sioux Lookout Camp after a Thunder Storm	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 Spill response and cleanup as needed Monitoring of Caribou Permanent Plot Surveys by Giiwedin Environmental Services Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake 			

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Group 1 – Substations				
Activity		Detail		
Construction status of Substation A	Substation Survey	 Flagging and inserting stakes in the ground to outline work area Substations Work Area: * A (Dinorwic) * B (Pickle Lake) 		
Construction status of Substation B	Substation Construction	 Civil and foundation construction Ground Grid Steel erection Electrical Equipment Install Substations Work Area: * A (Dinorwic) * 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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BOOTS ON THE GROUND—Locally hired crew members tell us what working on the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Project means to them!

I'M PROUD TO BE PART OF A PROJECT THAT WILL IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITIES

Graham Garrow, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation



My Name is Graham Garrow and I have strong family ties to the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation.

I feel very fortunate to be working for Valard as an Engineering Technologist on the Watay Power Project. It gives me a great sense of pride knowing just how this project will change our North for the better and to be part of that is amazing.

The opportunities and working experiences that I have been granted have not only been exciting and educational, but they give me the means to provide for my family, which at the end of the day is most important.

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Valard is engaging with Participating First Nations to:

- * Work with community and working groups for open lines of communication for COVID-19 updates with regards to travel and Community access directives
- Work with community and working groups to identify camp locations and services available to support work camps
- * Facilitate and coordinate opportunities for employment and procurement of goods and services with communities and working groups
- Provide notification of encounters with sensitive wildlife such as caribou sightings to communities near the encounter
- * Provide notification of Caribou Permanent Survey Plots within the Communities
- Provide the Chief and Council with any additional work packages and maps in their Homeland area, includes: Permit to Take Water, Helicopter Pads and any additional camp locations if required
- * Provided Power Mobile Equipment (PME) training for employees





Project employees during a work presentation

A piece of heavy machinery used on the project

Valard Indigenous Relations Team:

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

- * Blaine Collett—Sr. Director Indigenous Relations
- * **Terrance Bob—**Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- Randal Courchene—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- * Sherice Paizen—Indigenous Relations Project Coordinator

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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, response drills and Valard Covid-19 Vaccination program for eligible employees
- Hazard analysis and control planning every day
- * Development, implementation and monitoring of safe work procedures
- Project onboarding, orientation and training/development of workers and subcontractors
- * 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



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

Administrative Assistant
Assemblers
Burn Crews
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

Journeyperson 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:

Call: 807-345-2395

https://www.facebook.com/watayproject
https://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP

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

https://www.oslp.ca—Please visit OSLPs site for a full list of available positions

If you have any general inquiries about this newsletter, please contact Wataynikaneyap Power at WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca.