

Provided by Valard

イ・リσbσゲ Wataynikaneyap Power

August 2022, Issue #29



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 kilometres 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 August 15, 2022 Period: August 1, 2022 to October 31, 2022 Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

* Yellow outline indicates work areas.



Group 1 – Transmission Lines				
Activity		Detail		
Worker camp site in Pickle Lake	Camp Operation	 All camps locations finalized, active camp(s) currently open: Pickle Lake 		
Surveyor checking Foundation	Survey	 Survey work complete. Restoration efforts underway. Work area: Dinorwic to Pickle Lake 		

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Group 1 – Transmission Lines				
Activity		Detail		
Erected towers along Right of Way between Dinorwic and Pickle Lake	Clearing and Access	 Clearing and Access work for construction completed. Restoration efforts underway. Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake 		
Setting the final Tower	Construction	 Tower foundation/anchor installation complete Assembly of steel towers complete Erection of assembled towers complete Restoration efforts underway. Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake 		
Lake view North G1	Environment	 Environmental incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup, as needed Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program continued with Giiwedin Environmental in August by ground crews and will occur monthly until September 2022, continued starting December 2022 through March 2023 Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake 		

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English Version

Group 1 – Substations				
Activity		Detail		
Construction status of Substation A (Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation)	Substation A Construction	 Substation Energized Substations Work Area: * A (Dinorwic) 		
Construction status of Substation B (Pickle Lake)	Substation B Construction	 Substation Energized Substations Work Area: * 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!

THIS PROJECT WILL BRING BETTER MANAGEMENT TO POWER ALL 24 COMMUNITIES Harry Kenequanash, North Caribou First Nation

When I heard about the Watay Project and the impacts that will be experienced in our First Nation communities, I shared my concerns and opportunities with my leadership. One day I saw a job advertisement for a role as a Construction Liaison. I applied for the position, I got interviewed, and here I am.

I find this project to be beneficial to the community as it will allow our community to expand. Due to the lack of power in the community today, you cannot build too much infrastructure. We cannot have artificial ice at the arena due to a lack of power. We always have outages when people plug-in equipment. Power is unstable with a generator. This project will bring better management to power all 24 communities.

My future endeavor is to pursue employment with Valard if possible. I enjoy building capacity, creating relationships, teamwork, and listening to people's world views both in western and traditional paradigms. I have gained vast experience associating with my community and engaging with Valard. This organization has given me values, strengths, and successes.





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English Version

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 communities to identify 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 field work associated with monitoring caribou permanent survey plots throughout the project area
- * 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: <u>IndigenousRelations@valard.com</u>:

- * Blaine Collett—Sr. Director Indigenous Relations
- * Terrance Bob—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- * Randal Courchene—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- * Blaine Paul—Indigenous and Stakeholders Relations Liaison
- * Amber McGrandle—Indigenous Relations

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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

Employment Opportunities

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

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/watavproject https://www.facebook.com/OpiikapawiinServicesLP https://www.facebook.com/Wataynikaneyap-Power https://www.oslp.ca/careers—Please visit OSLP's site for a full list of available positions

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