

August 2022, Issue #29

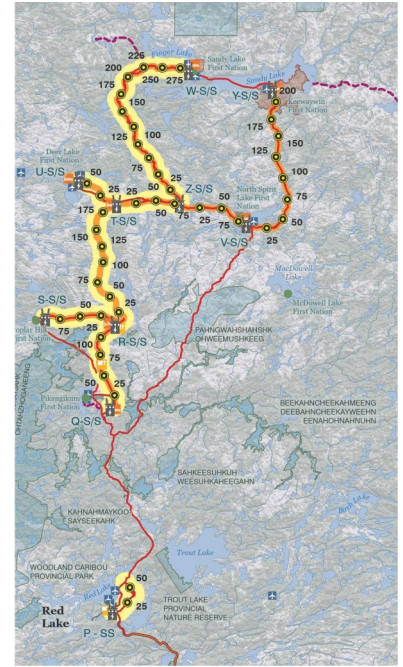
English Version



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 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.

\* Yellow outline indicates work areas.



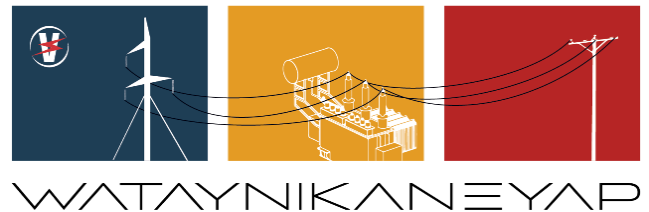
**Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities**  
**Proposed schedule as of August 15, 2022**  
**Period: August 1, 2022 to October 31, 2022**  
**Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.**

## Group 3 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 Knox Camp	<b>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junction operational as of January 2021</li> <li>• North Spirit Lake and Deer Lake Camp open mid Oct 2021 to support substations</li> <li>• Poplar Hill Camp opened</li> <li>• Knox Lake Camp closed</li> <li>• Sandy Lake Camp closed</li> </ul>
 Survey worker	<b>Survey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations)</li> <li>• Measure existing transmission line heights</li> <li>• Locate existing underground utilities</li> <li>• Work area</li> <li>* Red Lake, Deer Lake First Nation to North Spirit Lake First Nation and North Spirit Lake First Nation to Sandy Lake First Nation</li> </ul>

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## Group 3 – Transmission Lines

### Activity

### Detail



Cleared Right of Way near Knox Camp

### Clearing and Access

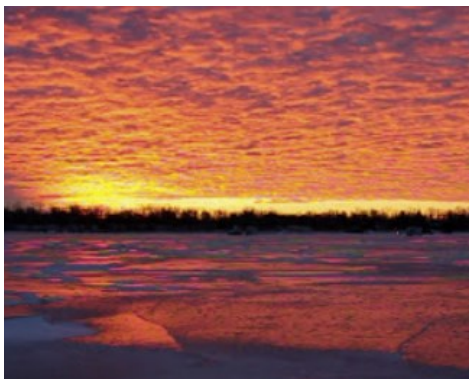
- Clearing and Access development
  - \* Falling, raking, and piling of trees
  - \* Maintenance of roads



Excavating Work.

### Construction

- Tower foundation and anchor installation
  - \* Excavating
  - \* Rock drilling
- Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on Right-of-Way (ROW)
- Work area
  - \* Deer Lake
  - \* North Spirit Lake



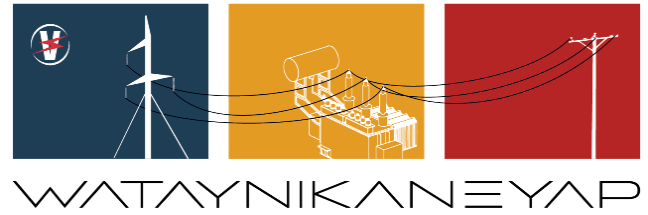
Lake near Knox

### Environment

- In advance of and during construction activities watercourses and environmentally sensitive areas are flagged and monitored; focusing on erosion, sediment control and spill responses
- Environmental monitoring of foundation, access, assembly, erection and stringing crews to ensure commitments in environmental assessments are being followed
- Environmental Incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup
- TBT Engineering ground water monitoring and sampling at Substation P for post remediation results
- Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program continued with Giiwedini Environmental for June by helicopter crews and will occur monthly, until September 2022, continued starting December 2022 through March 2023
- Work area
  - \* Red Lake, Deer Lake First Nation to North Spirit Lake First Nation and North Spirit Lake First Nation to Sandy Lake First Nation

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## Group 3 – Substations

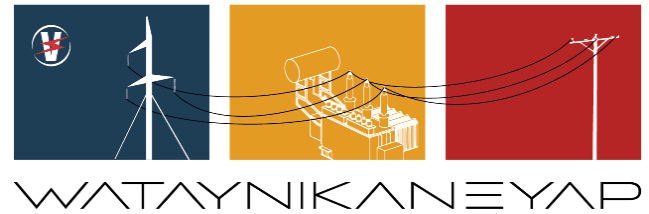
Activity		Detail
 <p>Construction Status of Substation V (North Spirit Lake First Nation)</p>	<b>Substation Civil Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Civil and foundation construction</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Substation R (Poplar Hill SS)</li><li>* Substation S (Poplar Hill TS)</li><li>* Substation U (Deer Lake TS)</li><li>* Substation V (North Spirit Lake TS)</li><li>* Substation W (Sandy Lake TS)</li><li>* Substation Z (Sandy Lake SS)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>Construction Status of Substation Z (Sandy Lake SS)</p>	<b>Substation Structural Steel and Electrical Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structural and Electrical construction</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Substation R (Poplar Hill SS)</li><li>* Substation V (North Spirit Lake)</li><li>* Substation W (Sandy Lake TS)</li><li>* Substation Z (Sandy Lake SS)</li></ul></li></ul>

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



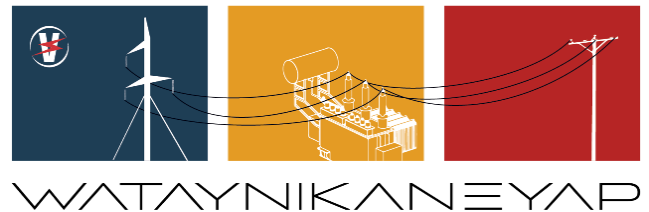
When I heard about the Watay Project and the impacts that will be experienced in our First Nation communities, I shared my concerns and opportunities with my leadership. One day I saw a job advertisement for a role as a Construction Liaison. I applied for the position, I got interviewed, and here I am.

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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## 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 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 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: [IndigenousRelations@valard.com](mailto:IndigenousRelations@valard.com):

- \* **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](mailto:watay-resumes@valard.com) and [projectjobs@oslp.ca](mailto:projectjobs@oslp.ca)**  
**For more updates please visit the Valard project website ([www.valard-watay.com](http://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/careers>—Please visit OSLP's 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](mailto:WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca).**