



WATAYNIKANEPAP

# Monthly Project Newsletter

Provided by Valard



July 2022, Issue #28

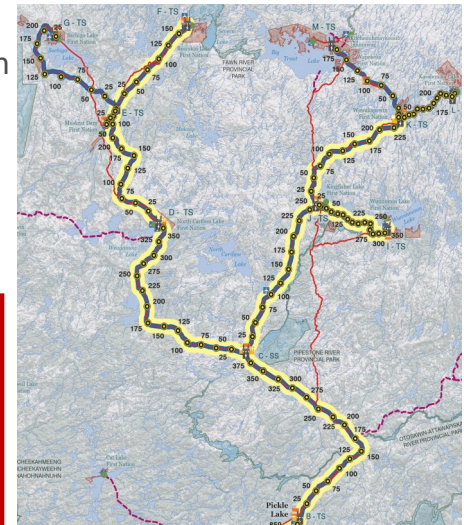
English Version



Valard Construction was selected by Wataynikanepap Power to provide engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) solutions for the Wataynikanepap 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 June 15, 2022

Period: June 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022

Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

### Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity	Detail
 <p>Materials to construct camps being moved by heavy machinery</p>	<p><b>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pickle Lake, Pipestone, North Caribou Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Muskrat Dam, Kasabonika Lake, Wunnumin Lake camps all operational</li> </ul>
 <p>Heavy machinery for geotechnical investigations</p>	<p><b>Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1600 Structures staked</li> <li>6000+ Foundations and Anchors as-built</li> <li>7000+ guy wire (tower wires anchored to the ground to provide stability) calculations</li> <li>Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pipestone, Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Wunnumin Lake First Nation, Wawakapewin First Nation, Kasabonika Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, Bearskin Lake First Nation &amp; Sachigo Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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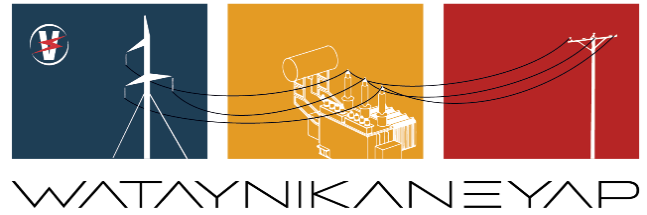
English Version

## Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity	Detail
 <p>Cleared Right of Way near Pipestone</p>	<p><b>Clearing and Access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing and Access development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Falling, raking and piling of trees</li> <li>* Installing/removing watercourse crossings</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pickle Lake to Pipestone, Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation to Muskrat Dam First Nation, and Muskrat Dam First Nation to Bearskin Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p>Helicopter during tower erection</p>	<p><b>Construction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geotechnical (soil analysis) investigation by test pitting and drilling of boreholes</li> <li>• Tower foundation installation</li> <li>• Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on ROW (Right-of-Way)</li> <li>• Erection of assembled towers by crane and helicopter</li> <li>• Installing grounding rods and wires that equipment will connect to</li> <li>• Stringing of wire conductor and fibre-optic wire between towers</li> <li>• Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pickle Lake to Pipestone, Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation to Muskrat Dam First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation to Bearskin Lake First Nation &amp; Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p>Pipestone River</p>	<p><b>Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In advance of and during construction activities, watercourses and environmentally sensitive areas are flagged and monitored; focusing on erosion, sediment control and spill responses</li> <li>• Environmental monitoring of foundation, access, assembly, erection and stringing crews to ensure commitments in environmental assessments are being followed</li> <li>• Environmental incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup as needed</li> <li>• Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program continued with Giiwedini Environmental in July by ground and helicopter crews and will occur monthly until September 2022</li> <li>• Archaeology Assessments were completed on segments of the DE, EF, EG, JI and TZ lines by WSP Golder</li> <li>• Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pickle Lake to Pipestone, Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation to Muskrat Dam First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation to Bearskin Lake First Nation &amp; Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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## Group 2 – Substations

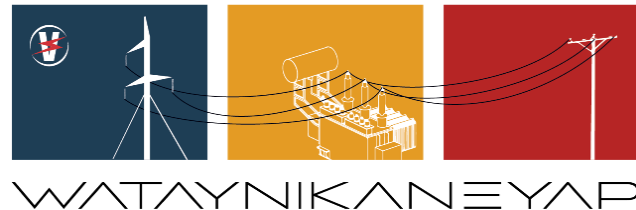
Activity		Detail
 <p>Construction Status of Substation F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</p>	<b>Substation Civil Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aggregate placement</li><li>• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</li><li>* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation)</li><li>* I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* K (Wawakapewin First Nation)</li><li>* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation)</li><li>* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>Construction Status of Substation F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</p>	<b>Substation Structural 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>* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)</li><li>* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)</li><li>* I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation)</li></ul></li></ul>
 <p>Commissioning of Substation J (Kingfisher Lake First Nation)</p>	<b>Substation Commissioning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioning</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* J (Kingfisher Lake First Nation)</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!

*I'M MAKING MY FAMILY PROUD*

**Evan Suggashie**, Deer Lake First Nation



This project makes me feel proud to be a part of it! I'm also proud of my own work and my family has pride in me. Valard supervisors have always supported me and have given me a chance to succeed; I have a great crew to work for and also joke around with – it's a great work environment.

My long-term career goals are with Valard as I plan to keep on advancing in the company.

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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 accompanied representatives from Wataynikaneyap Power and OSLP during July 29—August 1 to complete blessings on 8 Valard camps. During these visits representatives from each company spoke with employees that were present. Smudging was completed in the facilities kitchens, offices, dorm rooms and rec rooms. An offering was provided to the land at each camp location. The camp locations visited were as follows:

- \* Kasabonika Lake First Nation, Wunnumin Lake First Nation, Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Pipestone & North Caribou lake First Nation

## 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.

**Construction Liaison—Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig**

**Construction Liaison—Kingfisher Lake**

**Construction Liaison—Muskrat Dam**

**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).**