

Provided by Valard



July 2022, Issue #28

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.

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. * Yellow outline indicates work areas.



Group 3 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
Knox Camp	Camp Mobilization and/or Installation	 Junction operational as of January 2021 North Spirit Lake and Deer Lake Camp open mid Oct 2021 to support substations Poplar Hill Camp opened Knox Lake Camp closed Sandy Lake Camp closed
Survey worker	Survey	 Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations) Measure existing transmission line heights Locate existing underground utilities 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 – 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 			
	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 The Spill Contaminant Management Plan was implemented for spill cleanup at Substation P. Subcontractors, TBT Engineering and Geocentric Environmental, were on site between July 11th and 16th to guide the installation and use of a carbon PRB wall and microbiate product Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program continued with Giiwedin Environmental for June by helicopter crews and will occur monthly, until September 2022 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		
Construction Status of Substation V (North Spirit Lake First Nation)	Substation Civil Construction	 Civil and foundation construction Substations Work Area: Substation R (Poplar Hill SS) Substation S (Poplar Hill TS) Substation U (Deer Lake TS) Substation V (North Spirit Lake TS) Substation W (Sandy Lake TS) Substation Z (Sandy Lake SS) 		
Construction Status of Substation V (North Spirit Lake First Nation)	Substation Structural Steel and Electrical Construction	 Structural and Electrical construction Substations Work Area: Substation R (Poplar Hill SS) Substation V (North Spirit Lake) Substation W (Sandy Lake TS) Substation Z (Sandy Lake SS) 		

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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Power Transmission Project means to them!

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I'M MAKING MY FAMILY PROUD Evan Suggashie, Deer Lake First Nation

BOOTS ON THE GROUND—Locally hired crew members tell us what working on the Wataynikaneyap

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 kitchesn, offices, dorm rooms and rec rooms. An offering was provided to the land at each camp location. The camp locations visited were as follows:

* Sandy Lake First Nation, North Spirit Lake First Nation & Deer 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: <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.

Construction Liaison—Deer Lake

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/careers—Please visit OSLP's site for a full list of available positions

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