

September 2022, Issue #30

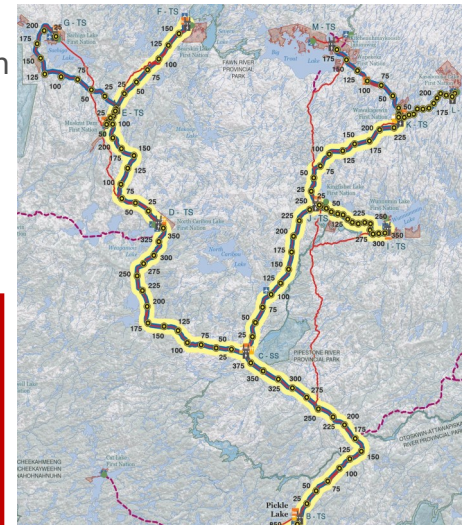
English Version



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 September 15, 2022
Period: September 1, 2022 to November 30, 2022
Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

Group 2 – Transmission Lines

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

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Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity	Detail
 <p>Cleared Right of Way near Pipestone</p>	<p>Clearing and Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing and Access development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Falling, raking and piling of trees * Installing/removing watercourse crossings • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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
 <p>Helicopter during tower erection</p>	<p>Construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geotechnical (soil analysis) investigation by test pitting and drilling of boreholes • Tower foundation installation • Assembly of steel towers in assembly yards and on ROW (Right-of-Way) • Erection of assembled towers by crane and helicopter • Installing grounding rods and wires that equipment will connect to • Stringing of wire conductor and fibre-optic wire between towers • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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 & Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation
 <p>Pipestone River</p>	<p>Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 as needed • Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program with Giiwedini Environmental was postponed for September. Survey will be conducted in October and will continue starting December 2022 through March 2023 • Work area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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 & Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation

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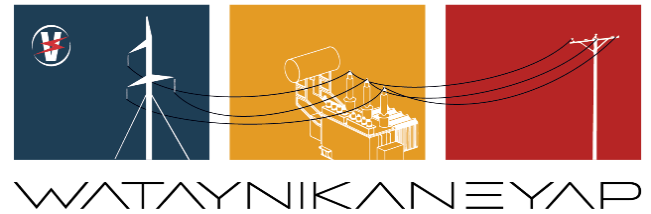
Group 2 – Substations

Activity		Detail
 <p>Construction Status of Substation M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation)</p>	Substation Civil Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Civil and foundation construction• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation)* I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation)* K (Wawakapewin First Nation)* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation)* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation)
 <p>Construction Status of Substation K (Wawakapewin First Nation)</p>	Substation Structural and Electrical Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structural and Electrical construction• Substations work area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)* F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)* I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation)* K (Wawakapewin First Nation)* L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation)
 <p>Commissioning of Substation J (Kingfisher Lake First Nation)</p>	Substation Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioning• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* C (Ebane/Pipestone)* D (North Caribou Lake First Nation)* J (Kingfisher Lake First Nation)

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!

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION—September 30th, 2022



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

This year marks the second time the Federal Government has acknowledged and honoured this day. Even though the residential school system is a thing of the past, Indigenous peoples continue to struggle with the effects of this dark time in Canadian history. At Valard, we recognize our responsibility to educate, support, and acknowledge the legacy of residential schools. This is the only path to move forward and thrive as a unified society. This day provides an opportunity for all Canadians to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools.

Valard continues to encourage all its employees, contractors, clients, business partners, and associates to show support for this day by wearing orange on September 30th.

We use the ribbon designed by our Indigenous staff and Elders' guidance to distribute orange shirts to help spread the word and acknowledge the Orange Shirt Day cause and the Every Child Matters movement.

Valard Construction will work on this day but has scheduled stand-downs with our leadership across all the project sites and offices to have moments of silence, share testimonials of residential school survivors and reflect on the meaning of this day.

Our company's foundation lies in building strong partnerships and developing lasting relationships with Indigenous communities, groups, and individuals across the country. Our Indigenous relationships are based on a simple approach of respect, openness, and fairness. Reconciliation can't be achieved without acceptance and acknowledgement of the truth, a willingness to move forward, and facilitating resources to help the healing process. We will continue to support Indigenous causes and work towards strengthening their communities through our work. Valard will always look for ways to reflect our respect for Indigenous peoples, their history, and their culture.

Carey Kostyk
President

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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, Including: 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
- * **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

Fuel Truck Drivers

Track Hoe Operators

Dozer Operators

Plow Cat Operators

Helical Pile Operators

Journeyman Crane Operators

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

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