

Provided by Valard



December 2022, Issue #33

English Version



Heavy machinery for geotechnical

investigations

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.



Dam First Nation, Bearskin Lake First

Nation & Sachigo Lake First Nation

Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities
Proposed schedule as of November 15, 2022
Period: November 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023
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	Pickle Lake, Pipestone, North Caribou Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Muskrat Dam, Kasabonika Lake, Wunnumin Lake camps all operational			
	Survey	 1600 Structures staked 6000+ Foundations and Anchors as-built 7000+ guy wire (tower wires anchored to the ground to provide stability) calculations Work area Pipestone, Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Wunnumin Lake First Nation, Wawakapewin First Nation, Kasabonika Lake First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation, Muskrat 			

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Muskrat Dam First Nation to Bearskin Lake First Nation & Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Wawakapewin First Nation

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Group 2 – Transmission Lines					
Activity		Detail			
Cleared Right of Way near Pipestone	Clearing and Access	 Clearing and Access development * Falling, raking and piling of trees * Installing/removing watercourse crossings Work area * 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 			
Helicopter during tower erection	Construction	 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 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 			
Pipestone River	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 as needed EIN 444 was a spill of approximately 150L of Jet A Fuel at North Caribou Yard. All identified contaminated soil was removed and samples were sent to ALS for testing. Further excavation will be completed in January 2023. Ontario Spill Action Center Reference #1-2AR91Z Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program with Giiwedin Environmental was conducted between November 29th and December 5th, and will be conducted monthly through March 2023. Work area Pickle Lake to Pipestone, Pipestone to Kingfisher Lake First Nation, Pipestone to North Caribou Lake First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, 			

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Group 2 – Substations					
Activity		Detail			
Substation F (Bearskin Lake First Nation)	Substation Civil Construction	 Civil and foundation construction Substations work area: E (Muskrat Dam First Nation) F (Bearskin Lake First Nation) G (Sachigo Lake First Nation) K (Wawakapewin First Nation) L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation) M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation) 			
Substation L (Kasabonika Lake First Nation)	Substation Structural and Electrical Construction	 Structural and Electrical construction Substations work area: E (Muskrat Dam First Nation) F (Bearskin Lake First Nation) I (Wunnumin Lake First Nation) K (Wawakapewin First Nation) L (Kasabonika Lake Firs Nation) 			
Commissioning of Substation E (Muskrat Dam First Nation)	Substation Commissioning	 Commissioning Substations Work Area: C (Ebane/Pipestone) D (North Caribou Lake First Nation) E (Muskrat Dam First Nation) I (Wunnumin 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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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!—DECEMBER 2022



A decorated tree at Pipestone Camp.

Valard is wishing everyone and their loved ones a Happy Holiday season and New Year! Valard is proud of all our accomplishments this year on the Wataynikaneyap Project and looks forward to all the challenges and milestones that 2023 will bring! Thank you to all our hardworking crews for a strong finish to 2022 before a well deserved holiday break.

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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







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
- 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 Inninuwag Construction Liaison—Kingfisher Lake Labourers

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.