

February 2023, Issue #35

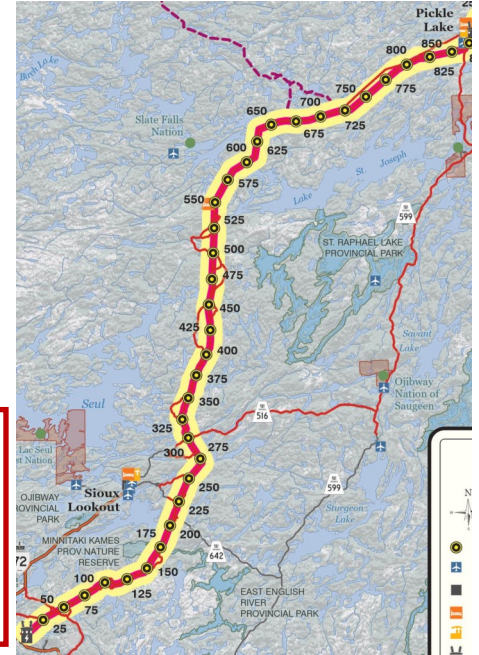
English Version



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.


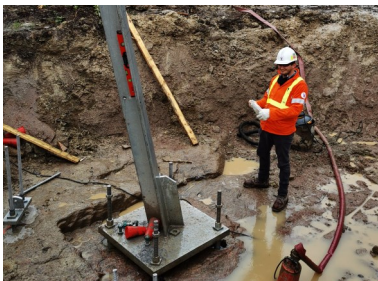
The scope of work on the Project consists of EPC services for more than 1,600 kilometres of transmission and distribution infrastructure ranging in voltage from 25 kV to 230 kV and 22 substations. Valard created this newsletter to provide regular updates on construction activities for the 24 First Nation owner communities.

* Yellow outline indicates work areas.



Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities
Proposed schedule as of February 15, 2023
Period: February 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023
Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

Group 1 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 <p>Worker camp site in Pickle Lake</p>	<p>Camp Operation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All camp locations finalized, active camps currently open: Pickle Lake Camp
 <p>Surveyor checking Foundation</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey work complete. Restoration efforts underway. Work area: Dinorwic to Pickle Lake

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Group 1 – Transmission Lines

Activity

Detail



Erected towers along Right of Way between Dinorwic and Pickle Lake

Clearing and Access

- Clearing and Access work for construction completed.
- Restoration efforts underway.
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake.



Setting the final Tower

Construction

- Tower foundation/anchor installation complete.
- Assembly of steel towers complete.
- Erection of assembled towers complete.
- Restoration efforts underway.



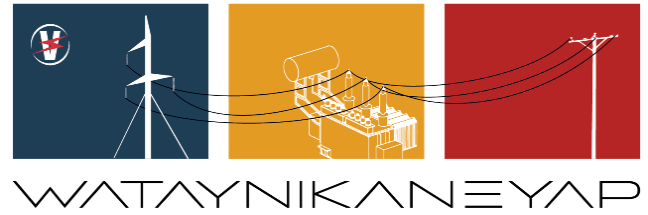
Lake view North G1

Environment

- Environmental incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup, as needed.
- Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program with Giiwedini Environmental was conducted between February 18th and February 21st and will be conducted in March 2023.
- Work area Dinorwic to Pickle Lake.

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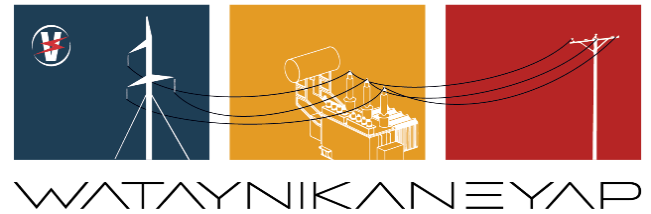
Group 1 – Substations

Activity		Detail
 <p>Substation A (Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation)</p>	Substation A Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Substation Energized.• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* A (Dinorwic).
 <p>Substation B (Pickle Lake)</p>	Substation B Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Substation Energized.• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* B (Pickle Lake).

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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WILDLIFE AT THE WATAYNIKANEYAP PROJECT!



Various animal sightings on the Wataynikaneyap Project:

Left: Moose

Top Right: Pine Marten

Bottom Right: Fox



One of the important aspects of the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line is managing wildlife in and around the project. Valard's environmental team has a dedicated Wildlife Management Plan in place to care for and respect the local flora and fauna. There are various important points to remember when it comes to wildlife, such as: using existing access roads and trails where possible, practice selective mechanical clearing in environmentally sensitive areas, not using herbicides, policies that prohibit feeding animals, managing attractants, use of bird deterrents, warning signs of high wildlife areas, communicating large mammal sightings and much more.

Animal sightings can happen anywhere and each employee is responsible for avoiding and minimizing potential project effects on wildlife. Valard also engages in additional reporting when it comes to specific Species at Risk as part of the Project's Endangered Species Permit- caribou, wolverine and 2 species of bats.

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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 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
- * **Amber McGrandle**—Indigenous Relations Coordinator

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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.**
- * Continuing to monitor and comply with individual Community Covid-19 protocols, as applicable.
- * 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

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.valard-watay.com/upcoming-project-opportunities>

<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.**