

March 2023, Issue #36

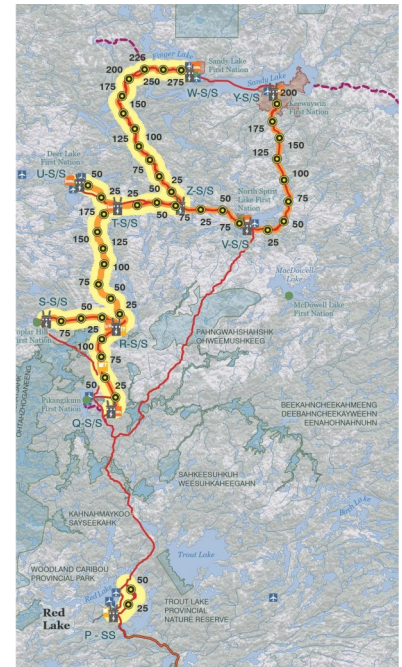
English Version



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.



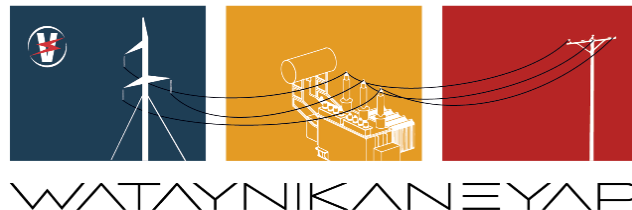
**Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities**  
**Proposed schedule as of March 15, 2023**  
**Period: March 1, 2023 to May 31, 2023**  
**Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.**

## Group 3 – Transmission Lines

| Activity  |  | Detail   |
|---|--|--|
| <br>Knox Camp    | <b>Camp Mobilization and/or Installation</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deer Lake Camp, Sandy Lake Camp, Poplar Hill Camp &amp; Keewaywin Camp active.</li> <li>Branchwood Camp inactive and scheduled to reopen in May 2023</li> </ul>   |
| <br>Survey worker | <b>Survey</b>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set survey control points (Starting activity of all survey operations)</li> <li>Measure existing transmission line heights</li> <li>Locate existing underground utilities</li> <li>Work area               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Red Lake, Deer Lake First Nation to North Spirit Lake First Nation and North Spirit Lake First Nation to Sandy Lake First Nation</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

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## Group 3 – Transmission Lines

### Activity

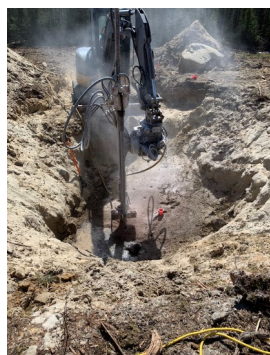
### Detail



Cleared Right of Way near Knox Camp

### Clearing and Access

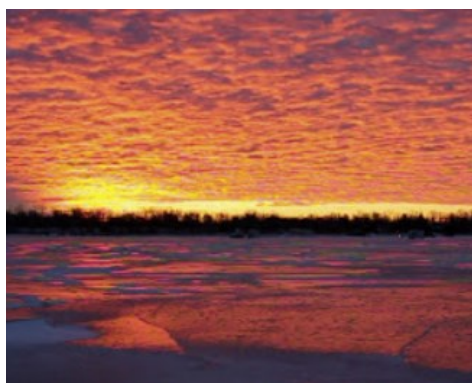
- Clearing and Access development.
  - \* Falling, raking, and piling of trees.
  - \* Maintenance of roads.



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 First Nation.
  - \* North Spirit Lake First Nation.



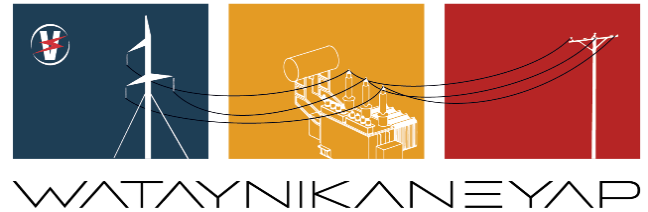
Lake near Knox

### 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 Project and Regulatory commitments are being followed.
- Environmental Incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup.
  - \* EIN 515 was a tote storing transformer oil that was punctured and approximately 1000L was released on the ground. The spill was immediately contained, and cleanup is complete.
  - \* EIN 528 was a spill of approximately 120L of Diesel that was released onto the ground at Branchwood Camp when a Petro Canada tanker was re-filling the fuel tanks. Cleanup is complete and samples have been sent to ALS Laboratories for analysis. Ontario Spill Action Center Reference #1-33WPM7.
- Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot program with Giiwedini Environmental was conducted between March 27th and March 30th.
- Bat Hibernacula Monitoring (BH004) was conducted on March 27th and March 30th.
- 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

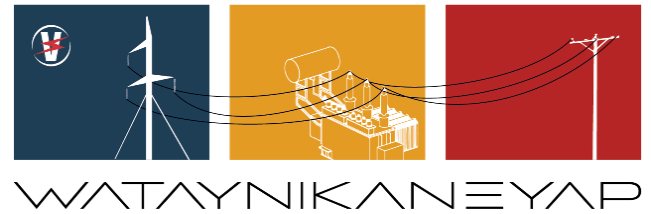
| Activity |  | Detail  |
|----------|--|---|
|          | <b>Substation Civil Construction</b>                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Civil and foundation construction.</li><li>• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* No Civil Work this month. Crews starting at Substations W &amp; Y in May 2023</li></ul></li></ul>  |
|          | <b>Substation Structural Steel 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>* Substation S (Poplar Hill TS)</li><li>* Substation T (Deer Lake SS).</li><li>* Substation U (Deer Lake TS).</li><li>* Substation V (North Spirit Lake).</li><li>* Substation Z (Sandy Lake)</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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## WILDLIFE AT THE WATAYNIKANEYAP PROJECT!



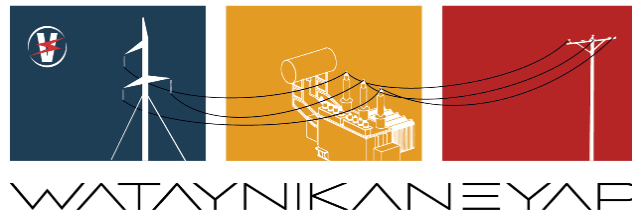
Valard celebrated another major project milestone on the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Line Project in the month of March 2023! Pictured above is the delivery of the last reactor and control building to the Poplar Hill Substation (Station R) on March 21st, 2023. With this delivery, Valard has completed all heavy equipment hauling for the Wataynikaneyap Project substations.

Valard thanks each and every employee; subcontractor; and the Project's 24 First Nation owners who worked hard to make this milestone happen and looks forward to achieving many more major accomplishments as the project continues to progress.



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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 accompanied representatives from Wataynikaneyap Power and OSLP on March 20th and March 21st to complete a blessing at the Valard Knox and Valard Branchwood camps. Elders from the Community were present to provide prayers during the blessing. During this visit representatives from each company spoke with employees that were present and grateful for the experience. Smudging was completed in the facilities kitchen areas, offices, dorm rooms and rec rooms.

## 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
- \* **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

- \* 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](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.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](mailto:WatayInquiries@wataypower.ca).**