



WATAYNIKANNEYAP

Monthly Project Newsletter

Provided by Valard



September 2023, Issue #42

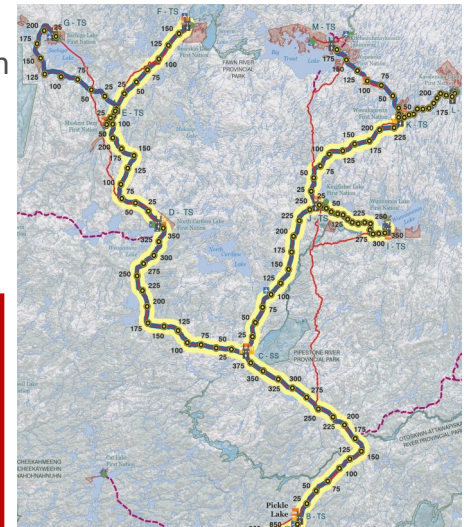
English Version



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.



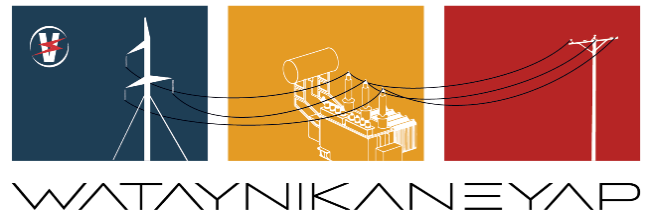
Three-Month Lookahead – Field Activities
Proposed schedule as of September 15, 2023
Period: September 15, 2023 to November 30, 2023
Note: Subject to change based on field conditions.

Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity	Detail
 Aerial view of the Wapekeka-KI Camp	Camp Mobilization and/or Installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pipestone, Sachigo and Wapekeka camps all operational.
 Survey equipment along the KM line	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final survey work 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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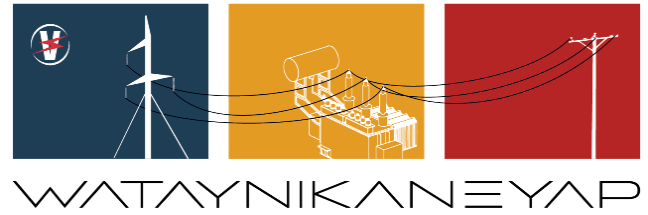
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Group 2 – Transmission Lines

Activity		Detail
 <p>Cleared Right of Way near Sachigo Lake First Nation.</p>	<p>Clearing and Access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing and Access development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Restoration work underway • 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 pulling rope near North Caribou Lake on the CD line</p>	<p>Construction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stringing of wire conductor and fibre-optic wire between towers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Work Area: Kingfisher Lake First Nation to Kasabonika 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 access, distribution and stringing crews to ensure Project and Regulatory commitments are being followed. • Environmental incident reporting, spill response and associated cleanup as needed. • Permanent Wildlife Survey Plot Program with Giiwedini Environmental was conducted between September 18th and September 22nd for the Ground and Heli programs. • 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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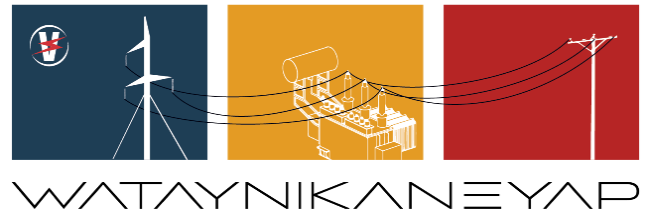
Group 2 – Substations

Activity		Detail
 <p>Transformer Station G (Sachigo Lake 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">* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation).* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation).
 <p>Transformer Station G (Sachigo Lake 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">* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation).* M (KI-Wapekeka First Nation).
 <p>Substation K (Wawakapewin First Nation)</p>	Substation Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioning.• Substations Work Area:<ul style="list-style-type: none">* G (Sachigo Lake First Nation).* M (KI-Wapekeka 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 - *DILLAN STRICKLAND*



Valard has met with multiple employees throughout the project and has heard their stories and perspectives about working on the Wataynikaneyap Power Line Project. Some of these Participating First Nations employees have since moved on to continue work on other projects, such as:

Dillon Strickland—Wunnumin Lake First Nation

Hello, my name is Dillan Strickland, native name Makade Binesi (black thunderbird), and I am from Wunnumin Lake First Nation, Ontario, Canada.

I've worked with valard for 2 years and I am going on the 3rd year in December. I started working with Valard on the Wataynikaneyeyap Project. My job tasks on the Watay project were foundations, material yard, block truck/clean up sites, assembly, runner, deficiencies, and equipment operator.

I am currently on my first project in the USA with Valard as an assembler. The Gateway Project (Wyoming, USA) is a new experience for me as I've never worked or been this far west in the USA. There's lots of assembling towers in the red desert and close to the Rocky Mountains with the scorpions and rattlesnakes. Working as an assembler is a great experience in the USA, and I enjoy working safely with the crew I'm on. I am upgrading my career path with Valard in the near future.

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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
- * Provide notification of encounters with sensitive wildlife such as caribou sightings to communities near the encounter



Project employees during a work presentation



A piece of heavy machinery used on the project

On August 23rd, 2023—Valard attended the energization celebration in Bearskin Lake First Nation.



Pictured L-R: A blessing outside of Bearskin Lake Substation with Genevieve Kamenawatamin, Chief Kamenawatamin with Dave Torgerson (Chief Operating Officer, Valard), and Blaine Collect (Senior Director Indigenous Relations, Valard) with Margaret Kenequanash (Chief Executive Officer, Wataynikaneyap Power) and Dave Torgerson.

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
- * **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.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.**