Valard

EAST-WEST TIE LINE PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS *AND ANSWERS*

CONSTRUCTING THE EAST-WEST TIE TRANSMISSION LINE

At Valard, we've been constructing electrical transmission lines in Canada for four decades, many of those in remote and Indigenous communities. So we understand that communities and individuals that are affected by the construction often have questions. We hope the following answers some of those questions but, if not, always feel free to contact us directly and we'll make sure yours are answered – please use this email **corpcomm@valard.com**

Q *What exactly is Valard's part of the project?*

NextBridge is working with Valard and Supercom to develop the new East-West Tie Line Project. Valard will provide project management and construction services for the 230 kilovolt transmission line, connecting the Wawa Transformer Station, Marathon Transformer Station and Lakehead Transformer Station.

Q *How does someone apply for a job or to be a supplier or sub-contractor?*

Supercom Industries (100% Aboriginal owned) is managing all of the hiring, selection of suppliers and contractors. They'll post all opportunities on **www.supercomindustries.com**

Q *How long will it take to build the line and what are the stages?*

On the back of this page, we've made a graphic available for you that breaks down the process in eight easy to understand steps. These steps generally take a few years to complete.

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MAIN STAGES OF TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION

Right of Way

The first step is to clear a path for the construction of the transmission line. This is known as the Right of Way, or ROW. This stage may consist of logging, mulching and clearing of debris, as well as building roadways to the site.

1

Geomatics & Survey

Survey crews stake or flag the locations for the towers using predetermined GPS coordinates. The crew will also determine if the planned tower location is actually viable for installation.

2

Material Delivery

Materials are stored and sorted in material yards offsite, and will be delivered to site as they are required.

3

Foundations & Anchors

There are two main types of towers that may be built: self-supporting and guyed. Self-supporting towers require foundations for each leg of the tower, while guyed towers require one foundation for the tower, and multiple anchors for the guy wires. After they are set, foundations and anchors are tested to ensure that they can bear the loads from the tower.

4

Tower Assembly

5

The steel towers are assembled on the ground or in a laydown yard near the tower site. Each part of the tower is built separately and then connected together on site.

Tower Erection

6

Towers are set into place either with cranes or with helicopters, depending on the design of the tower. Some towers are erected as one piece, others are done in multiple pieces. Towers are then secured to the foundation.

Stringing

7

Stringing refers to hanging and fastening the conductor wire to the towers. This can be done with cranes or helicopters.

Reclamation

8

After construction but before the line is energized, the sites will be returned as close as possible to their original ground conditions. This may include, but certainly isn't limited to, removal of debris, erosion control, and revegetation.