



# Mayo to McQuesten

PHASE 1 OF THE STEWART–KENO TRANSMISSION LINE REHABILITATION PROJECT

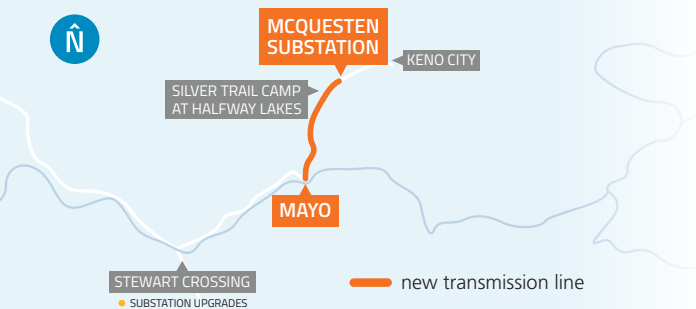
PROJECT UPDATE · AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020

In June 2020, we started work to replace the transmission line between Mayo and the McQuesten substation. More than 65 years old, this power line has reached end-of-life and is becoming increasingly unreliable.

As part of this project, we'll also be adding system protection equipment at the Stewart Crossing South substation. The Mayo to McQuesten Transmission Line Replacement Project is an essential project needed to improve power quality and public safety, as well as enable future growth around Mayo and Keno. Doing the project now also helps put Yukoners back to work, while our strict COVID-19 safety plans keep you and our workers safe.

## project highlights (June–July 2020)

- » Zero safety and COVID-19 related incidents.
- » No road closures or unplanned outages caused by the project.
- » The new transmission line right-of-way was more than 90% cleared.
- » Yukon First Nation Wildfire removed brush in swampy areas.
- » 12 permanent and 7 temporary road accesses to the new power line along Hwy #11 Silver Trail were approved by the Yukon government.
- » There have been no disturbances to registered traplines and placer mines.
- » Cobalt Construction Inc., a Yukon company, was awarded the contract to build access roads to the new transmission line. The majority of this work was in turn subcontracted to NND Cobalt, an NNDDC partnership.
- » Midlite Powerline Construction, a 100% Indigenous-owned company from Alberta, was awarded the contract to build the new power line. Yukon-based Castle Power Line Contractors, was subcontracted to help complete the work.



# supporting First Nations businesses

We're committed to supporting First Nations businesses as part of this project. That's why all contracts we've awarded have been evaluated based on three components: contractor experience, price and First Nations benefits.

With the support of the Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Development Corporation and the Selkirk Development Corporation, contractors working on the Mayo to McQuesten project are subcontracting First Nations businesses, procuring local goods and services and hiring First Nations Citizens during the project.

## update on brushing

Brushing and clearing the right-of-way for the new transmission line is more than 90% complete.

For the most part, the new transmission line will be built beside the existing power line. However, the new line will be moved in a few places to better align with the road. These areas needed to be cleared of trees and vegetation to reduce public safety risks or power outages.

### NESTS

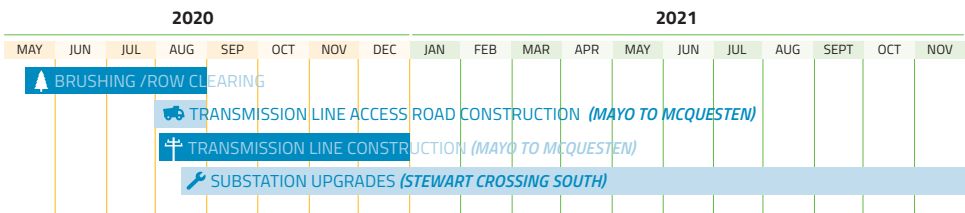
Caring for the environment and wildlife remains one of our top priorities. Before each section of the new transmission line was brushed, we surveyed which trees in the area housed bird nests. We found about 69 bird nests, and will not disturb them until after nesting season is done (usually around mid-August). Workers have also been avoiding other wildlife when spotted. There have been no wildlife encounters to date.



## Planned Outages and Road Closures

There are no planned outages or road closures in August or September. Customers affected by future power outages will be contacted in advance.

## Project Schedule



# addressing COVID-19 concerns

Yukon is our home too. Like you, we are committed to the health and safety of our employees, families, and customers.

We have developed strict COVID-19 safety plans that make the Mayo to McQuesten project COVID-safe.

We will continue to follow the Yukon government's *Direction and guidelines for the delivery of critical, essential and other services* and *Guidelines for work camps during COVID-19* to ensure we take the same precautions to protect our contractors and their families from COVID-19 as we do our own employees and families.

## AUGUST 2020 UPDATES TO OUR COVID-SAFE PLAN

- » Contractor crews will stay at the Silver Trail Inn, Bedrock Motel and the Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Development Corporation's drill camp outside of Mayo.
- » Workers will continue to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- » All previous disinfecting, physical distancing and personal protective equipment requirements remain.

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## next steps



### BRUSHING CONTINUES

Yukon First Nations Wildfire will continue to hand-clear trees and vegetation in riparian and wetland areas, and will remove trees currently flagged with nests after nesting season is over.



### ACCESS ROAD CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Cobalt Construction Inc. will start building access roads to the new transmission line that have been approved by the Yukon government.



### WORK ON THE STEWART CROSSING SOUTH SUBSTATION BEGINS

Valard Construction will start removing danger trees and overgrown vegetation near the substation. Crews will also begin civil work needed to make the substation ready for the new system protection equipment.



### TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Midlite Powerline Construction will begin building the new transmission line.

# job and sub-contracting opportunities

We have hired contractors to work on this project. Please contact them directly about possible job or sub-contracting opportunities.

## BRUSHING

Cobalt Construction Inc.  
Human Resources  
lauren@cobaltconstruction.ca

## SUBSTATION UPGRADES

Valard Construction  
jonathan.ma@valard.com

## ACCESS ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Cobalt Construction Inc.  
Human Resources  
lauren@cobaltconstruction.ca

## TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION

Midlite Powerline Construction  
CWemyss@midlite.ca

## FUTURE PROJECT UPDATES

Over the next 12 months, we're committed to keeping you up-to-date on the project's progress and to answer your questions. With COVID-19, we too are working from home and doing most things virtually, so you'll see most of our updates delivered through traditional mail, online and social media. We'll also put updates on our website. If you will be affected by a planned power outage, you can expect to hear from us by phone, email or text.

In the meantime, you can always get up-to-date information on our website, [yukonenergy.ca](http://yukonenergy.ca), or by emailing us at [communications@yec.yk.ca](mailto:communications@yec.yk.ca).

For more information, visit [yukonenergy.ca](http://yukonenergy.ca) or contact [communications@yec.yk.ca](mailto:communications@yec.yk.ca).

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