



# preparing for this winter

As demand for electricity continues to grow in Yukon, we need to make sure that all the tools in our toolbox are ready to use in case we need them.

To do that, we will be submitting a project proposal for a *Yukon Environment and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA)* evaluation of the Faro power plant in the next month. If approved, we will make a regulatory application to amend our air emissions permit in Faro. The amended air emissions permit will increase the amount of electricity we are allowed to generate in Faro from **10.6 megawatts to 15.5 megawatts**. This in turn would allow us to run all of the rental units and our existing permanent diesel generators at the same time, if needed, to keep the lights on in an emergency situation.

# reporting back on a winter with rental diesels in Faro

Yukon's electricity system is one of the greenest in Canada, as most of our electricity is generated using hydro. But, there's not always enough water to generate the electricity Yukoners need. That's why we also use a small amount of liquefied natural gas and diesel each year.

## get involved

Our proposal will be posted on the YESAB Online Registry (YOR) website, [yesabregistry.ca](http://yesabregistry.ca).

If you would like to be involved in the YESAA process and share your views, please register on the YOR website.

The YESAA review process usually takes two to four months to complete. At the end of it, the Designated Office will provide a report and recommendation about our application.

If approved, we could have an amended air emissions licence in place by this winter.

Diesel, in particular, plays an important role in helping us keep the lights on during cold weather when demand for electricity is high, and during emergencies.



For the last couple of years, we've rented portable diesel generators each winter to protect Yukoners from these types of situations. This past winter, we rented 17 portable diesel generators, seven of which were installed at our diesel power plant in Faro.

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





When we installed these rental diesels, we committed to assess items that you told us were important to you like noise and air quality. Here's what we've learned, some more information about how we used the rental diesels this past winter, and our plans for this winter.

### HOW OFTEN WERE THE RENTAL DIESELS USED THIS PAST WINTER?

**A** We ran the rentals a few times in December to test them, but used them mostly on really cold days in January, February and early April when demand for electricity was high. On those days, some, but not all, of the generators ran for a few hours to supply Yukoners with the electricity they needed when we couldn't use hydro alone.

### HOW MANY RENTAL GENERATORS WILL THERE BE IN FARO THIS WINTER?

**A** There will be seven rental generators in Faro again this winter. Like last year, six will be connected to the grid and there will be one spare.

### WILL THE GENERATORS BE STAYING IN FARO THIS SPRING AND SUMMER?

**A** We disconnected the rental units from the grid the week of April 19th when warmer temperatures started to arrive. Five of the seven units will be staying in Faro this spring and summer as it's cheaper to keep them onsite than to ship them

away and bring them back again later this year. The two units that were removed will return to Faro this November.

We continue to need these units because demand for electricity continues to grow and we need to make sure we can protect Yukoners from prolonged outages during emergency situations. We're making progress on adding more renewables to the grid, but those projects (i.e., the battery and purchasing hydro power from Atlin) are still a couple of years away from being finished.

## what were the results of the sound and air assessments?



### SOUND

This past winter we measured noise levels along Dawson Drive at three different times: when no diesel engines were running, when the old permanent engines were running, and when the rental diesel engines ran.

Our test results found noise levels to be lower than levels permitted in the BC Noise Control Best Practices Guidelines. The testing also found that running all six rental units (compared to running the permanent engines on their own) increased sound levels by less than three decibels.

According to regulatory guidelines, this is not considered to be a significant change.



### AIR

We regularly assess the potential effects of the air quality around all of the diesel power plants we own. Since 2008, the Faro plant has been assessed three times. Each time, the assessment found operations at the power plant not likely to have significant adverse effects on the environment or human health.

When we added the rental units last winter, we also modelled what air emissions would be like with the addition of the rentals. We found that even with the rental generators, emissions at the plant were well under what is permitted within Yukon Ambient Air Quality Standards. The rentals were also found to be generally more efficient than the existing permanent units.

	NO ENGINES RUNNING	PERMANENT ENGINES ONLY	PERMANENT ENGINES AND RENTALS
Sound level on Dawson Drive	39.4 dB	40.1 dB	42.2 dB

BC GUIDELINE COMPARATORS 40 dB: Quiet living room; 50 dB: Moderate rainfall