

Dempster Fibre Project

Monthly Newsletter – February 2020 Edition



Dempster Fibre Project will ensure reliable internet service for Yukon and the North.

About the Project

The Dempster Fibre Project is an 800-kilometer fibre optic line along the Dempster Highway from Dawson City, Yukon to Inuvik, Northwest Territories.




The Dempster Fibre Project will connect to the existing Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link in Inuvik. Together, the new line will complete a 4,000-km network that will provide communities along the loop with a backup line in the event of a service disruption, ensuring they have more reliable internet and cell phone service.

There will be local employment and business opportunities for communities along the route during construction. The Government of Yukon is working with First Nations Governments, Indigenous groups, local businesses and communities to make the most of these opportunities.

Route

- 70 different communities in the North will directly benefit from the line.
- The line will be owned by the Government of Yukon and operated by NorthwesTel



-  Dempster Fibre Line
-  Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link
-  Existing NorthwesTel Fibre

Project Updates

Regulatory Items

The project's regulatory submission is currently with the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) and the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) for review. Public comment period for both have closed. The project is now with the boards for recommendations and decisions.

These submissions are YT and NT requirements which ensure proper levels of engagement, planning, and environmental protection are being met before, during and after project completion. Once approved, land use permits can be issued for construction of the fibre line.

Planning and Design

The project design is underway and is progressing through the design review phase. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to short list qualified contractors closed on January 29, 2020. Three companies – LTS Infrastructure

Services (Ledcor), ROHL Global Networks, and Valard Construction – were successful and were placed on the list of eligible contractors.

Engagement Activities

YG is bringing these eligible contractors to various communities to hold facilitation sessions and open houses. These sessions will bring the contractors together with northern businesses and allow for direct engagement with community members.

Through the end of winter and into spring, Yukon Government, through Aurora College, will be delivering environmental and wildlife monitoring courses for Indigenous Citizens from communities impacted by the construction of the fibre line. The course will be teaching skills needed for employment opportunities during the up-coming construction phase. Please contact your FN government or DGO for more information.

For general information about the project, please visit our website.

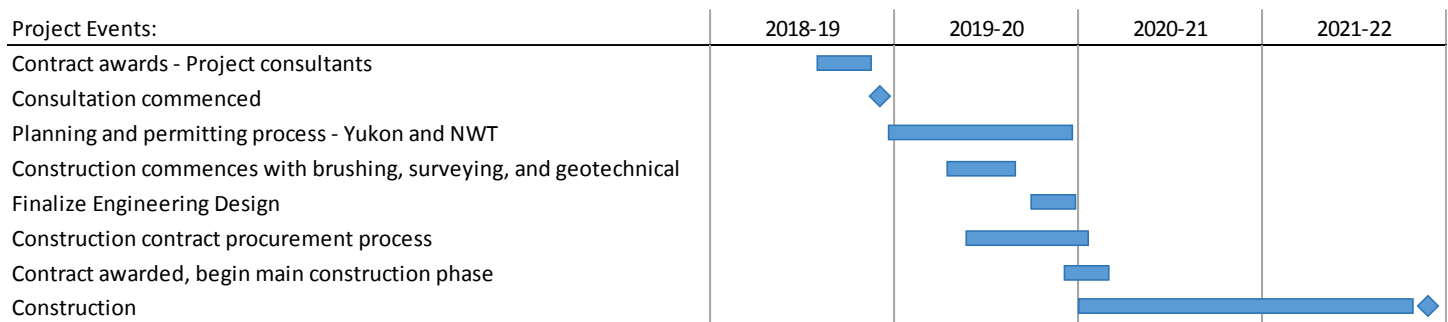


Figure 1 - Timeline of project events by fiscal year

Upcoming Activities

1. Completion of reviews by YESAB and MVLWB.
2. Continue project design and engineering work.
3. Facilitation event tour in communities with construction contractors.

Contact Us:

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Or Visit our Website: Yukon.ca/DempsterFibreProject