

Dempster Fibre Project

Monthly Newsletter – November 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.



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

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. The MVLWB’s comments and response period is now closed to the public and is under review by the board. The project team is working with YESAB’s designated office to complete the adequacy review.

Both of these submissions are territorial 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 main fibre line.

Engagement Activities

The project is scheduled to present the procurement plan in more communities. The

team will be discussing how upcoming procurements will be done and how multiple groups will have the opportunity to be involved in the project.

The project team will continue a dialogue with all partners in Yukon and Northwest Territories as the project moves forward.

Planning and Design

The project has completed it’s 3rd in-person design development meeting of the 65% review of phase. This meeting helps us refine the project specifications and scope for construction.

The tender package to begin the screening process for the primary contract for construction is being reviewed and is planned for release this calendar year. We encourage everyone to monitor the Tender Management System for any and all updates:

<http://www.hpw.gov.yk.ca/csb/fr/tms.html>

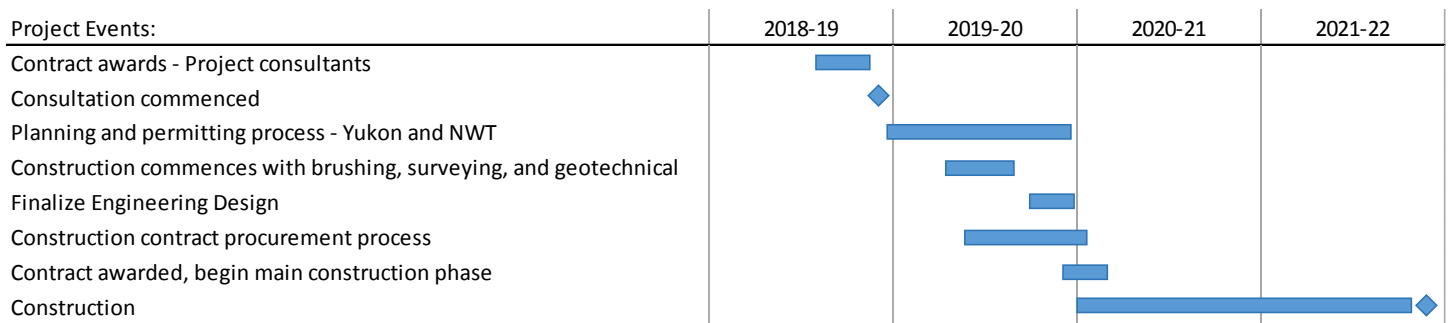


Figure 1 - Timeline of project events by fiscal year

Upcoming Activities

1. Regulatory reviews YESAB and MVLWB.
2. Ongoing consultation and engagement.
3. Procurement process for primary contractor selection posted.

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Or Visit our Website: Yukon.ca/dempsterfibreproject