

Dempster Fibre Project

Monthly Newsletter – September Edition



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

About the Project

The Dempster Fibre Project is a 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 those opportunities.

Route

- 70 different communities in the North will directly benefit.
- 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 team has submitted the project proposal to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) for review. The project team is also expected to submit the proposal to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) this fall, which is required for the Northwest Territories.

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 team is organizing meetings with First Nations Governments and Indigenous

groups where they will present upcoming procurement opportunities associated with construction. The project team will explain how procurements will be done to ensure multiple groups have the opportunity to be involved with the project.

Visits to impacted communities are being planned for the fall.

Planning and Design

As of September, the schematic design phase has been completed. The project will be progressing to the 65% design development review phase over the next few months.

During a recent Q&A session hosted by the project team, nearly 50 people representing 25 different businesses attended to learn more about the procurement process for the primary construction contract for the project.

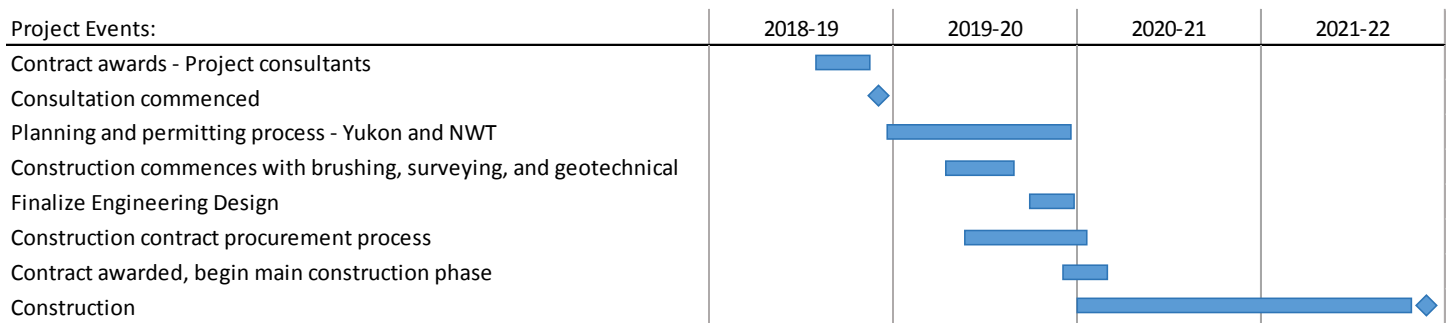


Figure 1 - Timeline of project events by fiscal year.

Upcoming Activities

1. Submit the project proposal to MVLWB in the NWT for review and regulatory approvals.
2. Community visits to discuss procurement opportunities
3. Finalizing the Request for Proposals for the primary contract tender.
4. Ongoing consultation and engagement.

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