

**UPPER CANADA TRANSMISSION, INC.
(d/b/a NextBridge Infrastructure)**

**East-West Tie Line
Quarterly Construction Progress Report**

Reporting Period: January 1, 2022 to March 31, 2022

Date Submitted: April 21, 2022

- In its Decision and Order dated August 7, 2013 (Designation Decision), the Ontario Energy Board (OEB or Board) named Upper Canada Transmission, Inc. (UCT), doing business as NextBridge Infrastructure (NextBridge), as the designated transmitter for the development of the East-West Tie transmission line (EWT Project or Project).
- On July 31, 2017, NextBridge submitted an application for leave to construct (LTC) the EWT Project, pursuant to section 92 of the Ontario Energy Board Act. On February 11, 2019, the OEB issued a Decision and Order approving the LTC application, and amending the conditions of UCT's Electricity Transmission Licence authorizing NextBridge to proceed to the construction, expansion, or reinforcement of the transmission system for the EWT Project, pursuant to a directive from the OEB issued by the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and approved by Order in Council 52/2019 (OIC), dated January 30, 2019.
- On February 11, 2019, the OEB also amended NextBridge's Electricity Transmission Licence to include conditions requiring NextBridge to report to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) on the progress, timeliness, and cost-effectiveness of the EWT Project and provide such information that the OEB may from time-to-time require.
- On July 29, 2019, the OEB issued a letter outlining NextBridge's reporting requirements pursuant to sections 14.1 and 13.3 of its Electricity Transmission Licence.
- In accordance with the OEB's letter dated July 29, 2019, NextBridge is required to report quarterly on the 15th business day of each January, April, July, and October. NextBridge will continue to file such quarterly reports until the EWT Project is in-service and land restoration activities have been completed.

This report is organized as follows:

1	Summary of the EWT Project Progress	<p>A detailed summary of the status of the EWT Project, including work completed during the Reporting Period, overall progress, cost and construction schedule updates, and emerging risks. Where applicable, impacts from changes to Hydro One Network Inc.'s (HONI's) station work will be noted. This section includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table of Key Project Status; • Table of Activities in the Work Fronts (WFs) for the Reporting Period; and • Summary of Activities within the Reporting Period.
2	Construction Schedule Update	<p>Construction milestones for the Project were originally identified in the LTC proceedings, specifically in NextBridge's responses to Procedural Order #3, filed May 3, 2018, and updated September 24, 2018. On September 3, 2020, in accordance with Conditions 2 and 3 of the LTC Order, NextBridge notified the OEB of a change in construction schedule to reflect a change to the in-service date from 4Q 2021 to March 31, 2022.</p> <p>This section provides an overview of the updated milestones based on the permitting and approval/authorization requirements as they relate to the updated construction schedule and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Map; and • Updated Table of Milestone Updates. <p>Where applicable, impacts from changes to HONI's station work will be noted.</p>
3	Construction Cost Update	<p>Period-specific cost summaries providing details for each cost category in NextBridge's Project cost budget, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual spent; • Percentage of budgeted costs spent to date; • Updated forecast; and • Material forecast variance (if applicable). <p>This section also includes a Project Cost Update Summary and associated rationale for forecast variance and associated mitigating measures for negative forecast variances.</p>
4	Risk Management	<p>A summary of risks that have occurred or could potentially occur during construction, including a discussion of potential impacts on schedule, cost, or scope, and potential options for mitigating or eliminating the risk. This section includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Management Issues, Potential Impacts, and Mitigation Measures Table.
5	Reference Materials	<p>This report includes correspondence from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) related to an Emergency Area Order (EAO) and related Implementation Orders (IOs) due to forest fires which impacted construction activities of the Project during the Reporting Period. Copies of the relevant correspondence to these Orders can be found in this section.</p>

1. Summary of the EWT Project Progress During Reporting Period

A. Table of Key Project Statuses

Key Status	Summary
Stage of Construction	<p>Construction activities continued in all WFs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All construction activities on the project are now complete with the exception of reclamation. - All project work camps are now closed and decommissioning is underway. - Staffing during 1Q 2022 has involved approximately 250 workers. - All stringing activities were completed during the quarter. - Reclamation activities continue to be on hold until spring/summer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclamation work is now on hold until Q2 2022. - Spare towers and operations materials have been transferred from the Marathon Camp to the Wawa operations and maintenance yard. - Fiber optic splicing and testing were completed with the test results sent to Hydro One for approval. No issues were identified. - Initial Project energization to allow Hydro One to complete commissioning work was performed on March 22, 2022. - Final energization of the East-West Tie line was completed on March 31, 2022. <p>Additional information on construction activities can be found in Section 1. B., below.</p>

Key Status	Summary
Costs	<p>NextBridge continues to maintain focus on the budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Known construction costs for the Project are forecasted to be on budget as compared to the LTC application and approved for recovery in the OEB's June 17, 2021 Decision and Order at 27-28. - Costs associated with the COVID-19 Global Pandemic have not been estimated in their entirety and will not be known until well after construction is completed and the COVID-19 Global Pandemic is resolved. - Additional information on NextBridge's budget can be found in Section 3., below.
Schedule	<p>Construction activities continued in all work fronts during the quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To address the OEB's request for information in its letters dated August 4, 2021, and August 27, 2021, respectively, there have been no schedule impacts to the Project related to the suspension of construction activities resulting from compliance with the EAO and subsequent IOs, as all impacts have been mitigated. The Project remained on schedule and was placed in-service on March 31, 2022. - Attended meetings with HONI to coordinate schedule and conductor/optical ground wire tie-ins to the Lakehead, Marathon, and Wawa TSs. - During 1Q 2022, tower assembly and erection activities were completed across the project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 tower was assembled and 24 erected during the Reporting Period. - Stringing crews completed approximately 391 structures throughout WFs 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11 in 1Q 2022. - Additional Fiber optic resources were brought on site in March to ensure the project would meet Hydro One's commissioning schedule. - Reclamation activities are expected to commence in April 2022 and will be complete in October 2022. - Additional information on Project schedule can be found throughout this Report.

Key Status	Summary
Emerging Risks	<p>Impacts of COVID-19 Global Pandemic on the Project.</p> <p>Construction Impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NextBridge and its Indigenous and local partners consider the health and safety of their employees, contractors, and the general public to be their top priority. - The Province of Ontario declared a provincewide shutdown to commence on December 26, 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the identification of COVID-19 cases on the Project in early 1Q 2021, an investigation by the Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) was completed to review COVID-19 policies and the related safety measures that were implemented for the EWT Project. • The Project is in compliance with the resulting orders issued by the TBDHU for construction to continue. • These orders included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Additional security and screening at work camps; ○ Prescribing a maximum number of workers that could travel together in a work vehicle; ○ Requiring additional personal protective equipment (PPE) use for workers and implementing further social distancing policies while working; and, ○ Additional cleaning and sanitizing of all work equipment and work camps. - NextBridge has continued taking steps to monitor the daily safety of workers on site, including screening new workers and workers who have recently travelled, modifying accommodations and travel of workers, providing additional cleaning and PPE resources, and daily temperature checks of everyone on site. - During 1Q 2022, the project recorded 48 positive COVID-19 cases. These cases were identified across almost all crews on the project including, project management, camp staffing, logistics, and stringing crews. As a result of these positive cases, many crews were required to operate short staffed while the workers and close contacts were quarantined.

Key Status	Summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Once workers received a negative test, they were cleared to return to work. - Vaccination clinics are available in communities across the Project area and the amount of fully vaccinated individuals on the Project continues to increase each month. - Although provincial restrictions are starting to be removed, the Project continues to remain under strict testing and access guidelines to ensure the safety of all workers and the public. - As the COVID-19 Global Pandemic is continually evolving, including the mitigation measures required to continue construction activities, NextBridge is unable to estimate the associated costs related to the Pandemic in their entirety and the total costs will not be known until well after construction is completed and the COVID-19 Global Pandemic is resolved. <p>Permitting and Authorization Impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At this time, many ministries, agencies, and Indigenous communities are also impacted by the COVID-19 Global Pandemic, including office closures, and, therefore, they may not be able to process NextBridge's requests for permits and authorizations in a timely manner.
Indigenous Activities	<p>Engagement Continuing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NextBridge continues to engage with the 18 identified Indigenous communities in the Project area. - Engagement highlights include robust consultations on emerging information associated with culturally significant sites, archaeology, provincial parks, and conservation reserve specific permitting, the Indigenous Facilitator Program, ongoing monitoring of COVID-19 developments and discussions, Caribou Species at Risk permits, and Section 28.2 Permits. - The Indigenous Facilitator Program ran at full capacity during 1Q 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One facilitator was absent from the field due to health issues, so alternative options were approved by the community to have other facilitators perform monitoring in the traditional territory. - NextBridge continued to work with Supercom Industries Inc. (Supercom) and community partners to ensure ongoing compliance with COVID-19

Key Status	Summary
	<p>safety protocols, and to discharge the Indigenous Facilitator Program. The contract with Supercom ended on March 31, 2022. First Nations are encouraged to enter agreements in a modified Indigenous Facilitators Program to monitor reclamation activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NextBridge continued discussions with the communities surrounding the flow of construction activities and impending decreased workload for some Indigenous Facilitators as reclamation begins on the west side of the Project. <p>- NextBridge continues to be engaged with the six proximate Bamkushwada Limited Partnership communities in many aspects of the Project, including the COVID-19 decision making process, and the reclamation schedule.</p> <p>- Additional information on engagement can be found in Section 1. C. below.</p>
HONI Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NextBridge continued engagement and coordination activities with HONI on multiple fronts, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall Project schedule; • Construction and commissioning coordination; • The expected timing of the execution of the HONI/Supercom Operations and Maintenance Service Level Agreement (SLA). - NextBridge completed the execution of the following agreements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Cost Recovery Agreement (CCRA); and • Connection Facilities Agreement (CFA). - NextBridge continues to coordinate activities with HONI around the updated construction schedule. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly coordination meetings continue, and standalone meetings are being held, as needed. - NextBridge worked closely with HONI during the quarter to coordinate the submission of fiber optic test data which is necessary for HONI to obtain prior to completing their telecom testing. - These test results were provided early March and reviewed by Hydro One. No issues were identified and Hydro One was able to proceed on schedule with testing.

Key Status	Summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Additional information on coordination with HONI can be found in Section 1. C. below.

B. Table of Activities In Work Fronts for the Reporting Period

Work Front	Environmental Permit Submissions	Construction
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed Project Plan (DPP) package submitted, and 30-day review period has concluded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% access completed. 100% tower assembly completed. 100% tower foundations completed. 100% towers erected. 100% conductor strung. 84% reclamation completed.
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPP package re-submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. Related permit applications submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% access completed. 100% tower assembly completed. 100% foundations completed. 100% of towers erected. 100% of conductor strung. 0% reclamation completed.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. Related permit applications submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% access completed. 100% tower assembly completed. 100% foundations completed. 100% towers erected. 100% conductor strung. 84% reclamation completed.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. Related permit applications. submitted and received. Received MECP approval for amended OBP to support all season access road construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% access completed. 100% tower assembly completed. 100% foundations completed. 100% towers erected. 100% conductor strung. 0% reclamation completed.
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. Related permit applications submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% access completed. 100% tower assembly completed. 100% foundations completed. 100% towers erected.

Work Front	Environmental Permit Submissions	Construction
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly yard applications to support stringing operations submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% conductor strung. • 64% reclamation completed.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. • Kama Cliffs Conservation Reserve (KCCR) DPP has been approved. • Related permit applications submitted and received. • Fly yard application to support stringing operations submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% access completed. • 100% tower assembly completed. • 100% foundations completed. • 100% towers erected. • 100% conductor strung. • 0% reclamation completed.
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. • Related permit applications submitted and received. • Fly yard applications to support stringing operations submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% access completed. • 100% towers assembly completed. • 100% foundations completed. • 100% of towers erected. • 100% of conductor strung. • 62% reclamation completed.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. • Related permit applications submitted and received. • Fly yard applications to support stringing operations submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% access completed. • 100% foundations completed. • 100% assembly completed. • 100% of towers erected. • 100% of conductor strung. • 0% reclamation completed.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. • Related permit applications submitted and received. • Fly yard applications to support stringing operations submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% access completed. • 100% foundations completed. • 100% assembly completed. • 100% erection completed. • 100% conductor strung. • 0% reclamation completed.
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. • Related permit applications submitted and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% access completed. • 100% foundations completed.

Work Front	Environmental Permit Submissions	Construction
	received.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% assembly completed. • 100% erection completed. • 100% conductor strung. • 0% reclamation completed.
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP Package submitted and 30-day review period has concluded. • Related permit applications submitted and received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% access completed. • 100% foundations completed. • 100% assembly completed. • 100% erection completed. • 100% conductor strung. • 0% reclamation completed.

C. Summary of Activities Within Reporting Period

Environment

- Species at Risk (SAR)
 - Received Overall Benefits Permit (OBP) for SAR from the MECP. The OBP included multiple conditions requiring actions to avoid impact to SAR and mitigate for impacts to habitat.
 - Bat Gate Installation Plan has been approved by MECP.
 - Installation of bat rock piles for habitat mitigation has been completed.
 - Coordinating with Nature Conservancy of Canada on bat habitat restoration.
 - On December 3, 2020, NextBridge received an amendment to allow all season access to be constructed in caribou nursery habitat.
 - Although NextBridge does not intend to use all season access in the winter of 2021/2022, the amendment was obtained to mitigate potential other force majeure events (e.g., increased COVID-19 infections) which could jeopardize the Project schedule.
 - As a condition of the OBP, NextBridge filed a Caribou Transfer Strategy (CTS) on March 31, 2021 and will continue to develop this strategy in consultation with the MECP, MNRF, and Indigenous communities (including Michipicoten First Nation).
 - While the CTS requires the translocation of 8 female caribou and 4 male caribou, multiple factors are impacting the finalization of the plan, such as:
 - Confirmation of potential impacts on the current caribou population if 12 animals were removed through transfer; and,
 - Confirmation that the host island is predator-free.
 - Ultimately, the CTS will need to balance the regulatory and biological requirements of the government with the biological and spiritual beliefs of Indigenous communities (including Michipicoten First Nation).
 - While the transfer plan does not impact the construction schedule, NextBridge requires MECP approval on the final CTS before all the OBP condition requirements are satisfied.
 - The federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) Permit has been received.
- DPPs
 - DPPs have been submitted on all WFs.
 - All DPPs for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves have been submitted.
- WF Packages
 - Permit applications for all WFs have been submitted.
 - Permits were issued for all WFs.

- 13 Fly yard permit applications to support stringing operations have been submitted and approved by MNRF for WFs 3 to 11.
- Reclamation Work Permits for WFs 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 have been received.
- Continued productive discussions with:
 - MECP on Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves work and land use permits, etc.; and,
 - MNRF on work and land use permits, etc.
- Permitting Requirements
 - Continued consultation with MECP, MNRF, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, and other agencies regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA) requirements and conditions.
- EA Conditions
 - Internal and contractor resources are ensuring continuous compliance with the conditions of the EA Approval using a comprehensive Construction Compliance Matrix for tracking purposes.
- Environment-Related Indigenous Discussions
 - Continued solicitation and incorporation of feedback and Traditional Ecologic Knowledge information provided by Indigenous communities and agencies.
 - Responded to inquiries received from Indigenous communities with respect to the Project.
 - Re-engagement related to the Caribou SAR Permit: the MECP re-engaged with communities on a proposed amendment to the permit needed in order to clarify certain requirements in the development and implementation of a caribou transfer strategy. The MECP's notification letter sought feedback from the communities on three proposed amendments to the permit.
- Indigenous Facilitator Program
 - Indigenous Facilitators have been present along the right-of-way (ROW) from the commencement of construction until the temporary suspension of the Indigenous Facilitator Program on March 24, 2020.
 - The Facilitator Program was suspended by NextBridge with the support of local Indigenous communities in response to evolving COVID-19 Global Pandemic and requirements for social distancing.
 - The program was restructured and fully relaunched in September 2020 with all communities' facilitators actively engaged in the field.
 - The newly structured program ensures ongoing compliance with COVID-19 protocols and upholds safety as a top priority.
 - As construction activities have been completed, increased independence of the Indigenous Facilitators in the field has been implemented in collaboration with Supercom and field staff.

- NextBridge is working with Project partners and Indigenous communities on reclamation activities, upcoming decreased workloads, and the natural evolution of the Indigenous Facilitator Program.

Land

- Privately Held Land
 - All outstanding land agreements are now complete/acquired.
 - Merchantable timber and damage settlements are ongoing as construction activities and reclamation activities continue.
- Government Land and Permits
 - NextBridge continues to follow up with the MNRF to support the use of certain lands administered by Transport Canada and held by Her Majesty the Queen, in the Right of Canada to the Province of Ontario.
 - The MNRF has advised the above-mentioned land has been added to the multi-site Land Use Permit and that registration of the land transfer could take up to one year.
 - NextBridge continues to follow up on the progress of the land transfer.
 - This land transfer development did not impact the Project schedule, because this land is not needed for construction of the Project, but rather is needed for long term use.
 - 100% of required third-party crossings have been secured.
- To address comments from Pic Mobert First Nation in the White Lake Narrows area, NextBridge obtained the required consent from Mining Leaseholder for revised Consent to Disposition of Surface Rights to support the revisions required.
- General Updates
 - Continued legal surveys to support the land acquisition and permitting programs.
 - Responded to and tracked directly affected property owner and Crown interest holder inquiries and comments regarding construction and reclamation activities.
 - Obtained settlements with property owners and Crown interest holders pertaining to damage and disturbance claims as a result of construction activities.

Regulatory

- No updates to report.

Indigenous Engagement

- Continued Engagement Activities

- NextBridge has responded to inquiries and questions received from Indigenous communities with respect to the Project.
 - Ongoing engagement has promoted open dialogue with communities.
 - NextBridge is regularly engaged with interested communities consulting on Project permitting, construction progress, and other topics that arise during this phase of the Project.
 - NextBridge is consistently facilitating opportunities for community representatives and Indigenous Facilitators to observe construction and reclamation activities via helicopter in inaccessible areas, as requested.
- Pic Mobert First Nation (PMFN) Engagement - White Lake Narrows
- On January 23, 2020, PMFN identified previously unidentified cultural and historic resources in the White Lake and Nursery Lake areas associated with the East-West Tie Line. These resources included the possibility of historic burials on the island in the middle of White Lake that was a proposed location for a transmission tower. On January 29, 2020, PMFN's Chief & Council issued a formal Stop Work Order to NextBridge requesting that construction activities in the area of the newly identified cultural and historical resources immediately cease. Within 2 hours of receiving the Stop Work Order, NextBridge suspended construction activities in the area.
 - Thereafter, NextBridge engaged in a consultation process with PMFN to understand the newly identified cultural and historic resources and to develop a mutually agreed on plan for mitigation measures. The goal of the consultation with PMFN was to refine the location of the potential impacts initially identified by the community, then develop mitigation measures to minimize disturbances and potentially explore a re-route to the East-West Tie Line.
 - During the consultations, this re-routing of the East-West Tie Line was jointly determined to be the best mitigation measure by NextBridge and PMFN. NextBridge was conscious not to alter the current design of the East-West Tie Line more than was needed to mitigate the concerns of the community while ensuring no new environmental impacts would be associated with the re-routing. The revised footprint represents approximately 4.4 ha of incremental footprint and has similar environmental features as the original route design.
 - The re-route was developed based on a comprehensive consultation process with the PMFN. On October 21, 2020, the PMFN Chief & Council approved the re-routing of the East-West Tie Line and removed the Stop Work Order on the condition that the Project adhered to mitigation measures.
 - This consultation process, and its associated outcomes, resulted in rearranging the construction schedule of the East-West Tie Line while the crossing was re-designed, additional archeological field work was performed and additional tower components were procured.
 - NextBridge and the General Contractor have completed the work in the White Lake Narrows and are currently estimating the potential increase in costs due to the required measures.
 - The White Lake Narrows MECP notification letter along with the original and revised Stop Work Order have been included as appendices A-C at the end of this document

- Michipicoten First Nation Engagement
 - NextBridge has been engaging with Michipicoten First Nation, the MECP, and the MNRF on meeting the requirements of OBP Caribou Transfer Strategy which is expected to balance the regulatory and biological requirements of the government with the biological and spiritual beliefs of Michipicoten First Nation.
- Capacity Funding Agreements
 - Capacity Funding Agreements had previously been offered to the 18 identified Indigenous communities to ensure adequate resources to continue with engagement on the Project during the construction phase.
 - Progress has been made on finalizing all agreements, where requested.
 - In some cases, communities were not interested in additional capacity funding.
 - NextBridge continues to provide Project information to communities whether a Capacity Funding Agreement is in place or not.
- Impacts of COVID-19 Global Pandemic on Indigenous Communities
 - NextBridge continues to engage regularly with Indigenous communities on the impacts of COVID-19.
 - Ongoing sensitivity surrounding in-person engagement and protection of vulnerable community members is present across the Project.
 - Generally, feedback from Indigenous communities continues to be positive related to the protocols NextBridge has implemented to ensure the safety of communities.

Community/Municipal Engagement

- Continued Engagement Activities
 - The Project's Facebook Group membership increased to 183 members as of the end of Reporting Period.
 - The Project's email address and hotline is monitored for inquiries, and all inquiries have been answered.
- Complaint Resolution Process
 - No formal complaints were submitted during this Reporting Period.

Engineering and Construction

- Materials
 - All conductor, optical ground wire, and overhead shield wire have been delivered.
 - All structures have been delivered to site.

- All spare towers and operations materials have been delivered.
- Conductor reel returns are ongoing.
- Spare towers and materials are presently being transferred from the Marathon work camp to the Wawa Operations yard.

- Construction

- Construction activities are now complete across the project
- On July 19, 2021, due to ongoing wildfires in the region, the MNRF issued an IO which resulted in the stoppage of work for all construction activities within WFs 1-6.
 - This shutdown impacted all work sites from the Lakehead TS to Marathon or WFs 1-6.
 - As numerous construction crews were operating in this area at the time of the work stoppage, these crews were forced to stop all activities and relocate to new sites in WFs 7-11.
 - On August 11, 2021, restrictions were lifted in the areas from Nipigon to Marathon, reopening WFs 3-6 for construction activities.
 - On August 17, 2021, the final restrictions were lifted in WFs 1 and 2.
- On August 17, 2021, there was a non-Project related aircraft accident at the Thunder Bay airport resulting in a shutdown of the airport while an investigation occurred.
 - The airport shutdown resulted in numerous flight cancellations and delays for workers travelling to and from the Project and impacted the production of all construction activities.
- Helicopter construction in KCCR commenced in 3Q 2021 and was completed in 4Q 2021.
- All foundation and anchor activities were completed in 4Q 2021.
- Reclamation activities progressed in WFs 1, 2, 8, and 9 during 4Q 2021.
- The final tower was assembled on January 20, 2022.
- The final tower was erected on January 28, 2020.
- 390 structures were strung during the quarter.
- 4 stringing crews were in operation during the last quarter.
- All fiber optic testing data provided to HONI on March 8, 2022.
- Circuits first energized on March 22, 2022 and disconnected following testing completion.
- Following IESO model build completion circuits were energized and made available to the grid on March 31, 2022.
- IESO provided the final Registration Approval Notification on March 31, 2022.

- Detailed Engineering

- Transmission line design for construction review has been issued for all WFs.

- Construction packages were issued as the ROW was cleared and ground-truthing performed.
- 100% of towers have been ground-truthed for construction.
- As of 2Q 2021, all towers have been issued for construction.
- NextBridge is developing a plan to measure the high frequency tower resistance on a sample size of towers in order to validate grounding assumptions.
 - The initial testing took place in 2Q 2021 and an additional testing completed in early 3Q 2021.
- Installation of tower lighting started at the end of 1Q 2021 and will continue through 1Q 2022.
 - NextBridge requested and has received a response from Transport Canada confirming its newly proposed requirements for lighting and painting of select towers.
 - Transport Canada's newly proposed requirements are related to the installation of lights and application of safety paint on a selection of towers.
 - Through a competitive bidding process, NextBridge selected Drake Lighting to supply and install the tower lights prescribed by Transport Canada.
 - The majority of these lights fall under the Canadian Aviation Regulations SOR/96-433 Part VI General Operating and Flight Rules-601.25 and are required at the discretion of the Federal Minister of Transport, who has determined warning lights are needed on certain towers to alert air navigation.
 - With the exception of transmission tower number D001, tower light installations in WF 6 and 7 were completed in early 2Q 2021.
 - Crews mobilized to WF11 along with D001 in 1Q 2022 to complete the remainder of the tower lights.
- A reroute to bypass a HONI transmission line (the W2C Line) outside of the Wawa TS was approved.
 - The bypass mitigated the need for an outage of the W2C line.
 - Due to HONI operating constraints, back-to-back outages are not allowed.
 - An additional transmission structure was required to complete the bypass.

Coordination Efforts with HONI

- Status and Changes to Access Road and Transmission Line Crossings
 - Met with HONI regarding overhead transmission line crossing designs and outages.
 - Work sequence has been adjusted to address timing of land agreements and no schedule impacts are expected as a result of this outcome.
- Overview of Key Negotiations, Agreements, and Coordination Efforts Between NextBridge and HONI

- Continued discussions related to HONI's Staging Plan, which includes the coordination of facility upgrades and commissioning scheduling with transmission line termination construction.
 - HONI has asked NextBridge to have its facilities complete and ready for commissioning by February 25, 2022.
 - This date is 5 weeks prior to the anticipated in-service date.
 - NextBridge sought efficiencies with HONI to shorten this time period, if possible.
- NextBridge and HONI have executed the CCRA in December 2021, and it was filed with the OEB on February 1, 2022.
- NextBridge and HONI have executed the CFA in March 2022.
 - NextBridge and HONI will file the CFA with the OEB, as required by the June 17, 2021 Decision and Order, after there is a determination on what portions of the CFA need to be subject to confidentiality protection and submitted in accordance with the Board's Practice Direction on Confidential Filings.
- Discussions continued relating to the HONI/Supercom SLA.
 - HONI/Supercom informed NextBridge that the formalization of their partnership has taken longer than anticipated and was expected to be completed at the end of November 2021. NextBridge understands that the partnership has been finalized.
 - Once the agreement is complete it will be filed with the OEB after there is a determination on what portions of the agreement need to be subject to confidentiality protection and submitted in accordance with the Board's Practice Direction on Confidential Filings.
- Other Material Developments, Issues, or Risks Related to the Coordination Between NextBridge and HONI

Risks related to the coordination efforts between NextBridge and HONI are discussed below in Section 4. A.

Registration Process with IESO

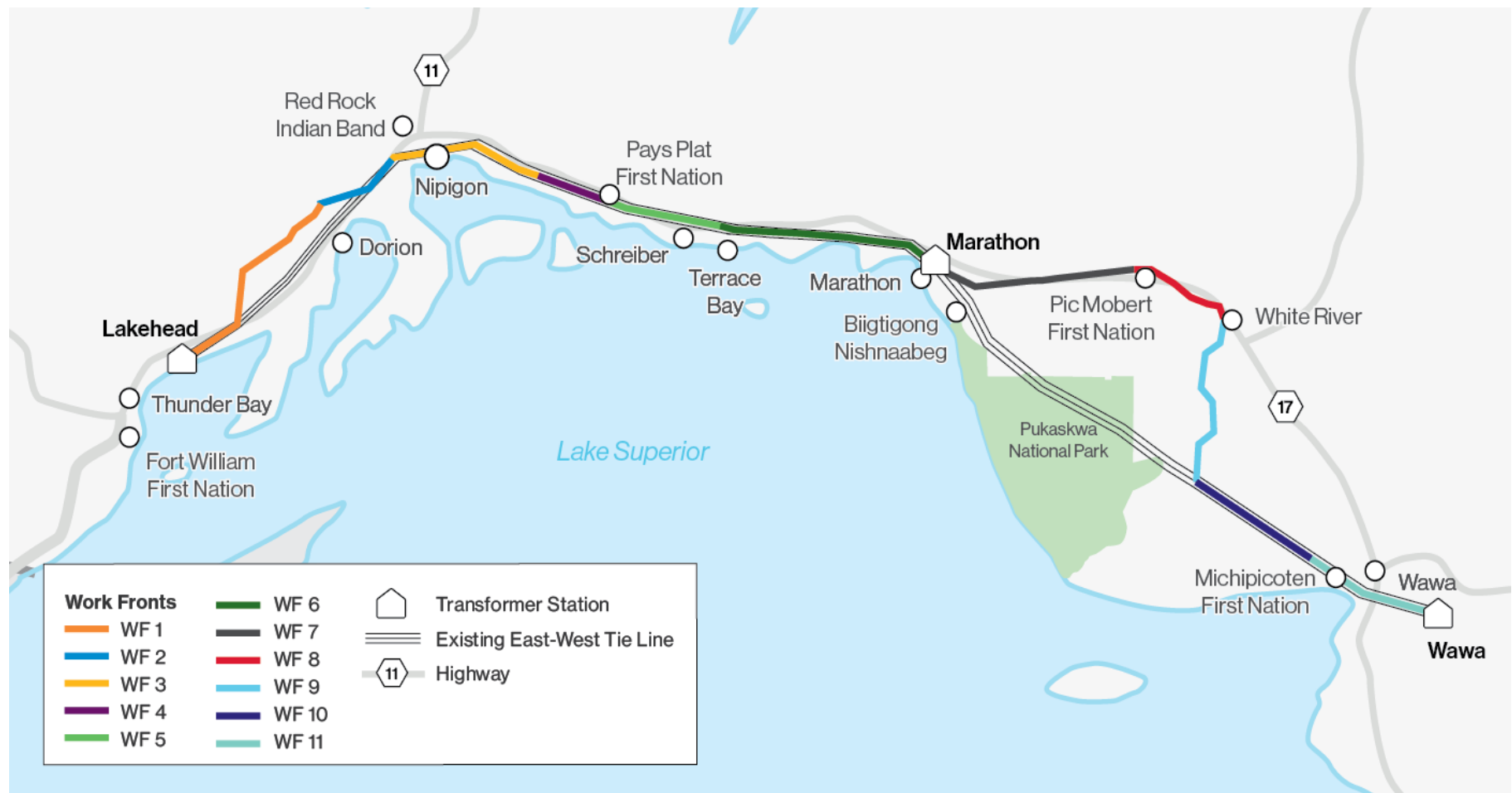
- NextBridge executed the Operating Agreement with IESO in March 2022.
- IESO market and circuit registration was completed during the quarter.
- Individual circuits and facility data was provided and reviewed by the IESO and was further refined following the test results during energization.
- Data point visibility for NextEra to operate the line was coordinated and implemented.

COVID-19 Global Pandemic

- On March 23, 2020, NextBridge provided an Intermediate Notice to the Board that, in order to help contain the spread of COVID-19, NextBridge was temporarily closing the work camps associated with the construction of the Project for the safety and health of the workers.
- NextBridge, in consultation with local municipalities and Indigenous communities and under the advisement of local health authorities, resumed limited construction activities on May 19, 2020.
- As the COVID-19 Global Pandemic is continually evolving, including the mitigation measures required to continue construction activities, NextBridge is unable to estimate the associated costs in their entirety and the total costs will not be known until well after construction is completed and the COVID-19 Global Pandemic is resolved. Further information on treatment of COVID-19 costs can be found in Section D.
- Risks related to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic can be found below in Section 4. A.

2. Construction Schedule Update

A. Project Map



B. Milestone Updates Table

NextBridge undertook an internal scheduling exercise to reflect a new construction schedule based on the March 31, 2022 in service date (ISD).

The following updated construction schedule resulted from this internal scheduling exercise, and was subsequently shared with HONI on October 5, 2020, to support alignment of Project schedules. NextBridge and HONI have continued regular update meetings to ensure that their respective schedules will be aligned to meet the ISD.

Activity	Post-LTC Decision Baseline Target Date	Proposed Revised Dates Based on New ISD	Variance Reason/Potential Impact
Regulatory			
Oral Hearing Start	Completed		
OEB LTC Decision and Order	Completed		
OEB approval of authority to expropriate	September 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2019.
Register approved Plan of Expropriation and issue relevant Expropriation Act Notices/Offer	December 2019		- Completed in 1Q 2020.
Obtain possession of expropriated lands for construction purposes	March 2020		- Completed in 1Q 2020.
Environmental			
Approval of the Amended EA	Completed		
Approval by MECP of ECA - Camp Wastewater	2Q 2020		- ECA – Camp Wastewater is no longer required.
Approval by MNR of Water Crossing Permits	3Q 2019 to 1Q 2020		- Completed in 4Q 2020. -
Approval by MECP of Species at Risk Permits (Bat maternity roosts, Eastern whip-poor-will)	3Q 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2019.

Activity	Post-LTC Decision Baseline Target Date	Proposed Revised Dates Based on New ISD	Variance Reason/Potential Impact
Approval by MECP of Species at Risk Permits (Caribou, Bat hibernacula)	4Q 2019		- Completed in 4Q 2019.
Approval of ECCC SARA Bat hibernacula and caribou permit	4Q 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2020.
Approval of MECP Provincial Park & Conservation Reserve Management Plan Amendments	4Q 2019		- Completed in 4Q 2019.
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Permit	3Q 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2019.
Transport Canada Section 67 for Transport Canada Lands	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 4Q 2020.
Transport Canada Navigation Protection Act Canada permit	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2020.
Fisheries and Oceans Canada Letters of Advice	3Q 2019 to 1Q 2020		- Completed in 3Q 2020.
Indigenous Service Canada Section 67 for Reserve Lands	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2020.
Infrastructure Ontario Class Environmental Assessment	4Q 2019		- Completed in 1Q 2020.
MHSTCI– Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Cultural Industries acceptance	4Q 2019	1Q 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Archeological monitoring is required in the White Lake Narrows area during construction activities. - All stage 3 archaeological fieldwork at White Lake Narrows is complete - Awaiting MHSTCI review of stage 2 White Lake Narrows Report - Stage 3 archaeological assessment report of Location 1 (Delj-10), is currently under review with Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg

Activity	Post-LTC Decision Baseline Target Date	Proposed Revised Dates Based on New ISD	Variance Reason/Potential Impact
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stage 3 archaeological assessment of Location 14 (Delj-17) in progress - Stage 4 White Lake Narrows archaeological monitoring report in progress - No further field work required
Land Acquisition			
Substantial completion of signing of option agreements	Completed		
Crown Land Disposition Application filed	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 4Q 2019.
Third party Crossing agreements complete	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2020.
MNRF approval of Crown Lease/Land Use Permits	3Q 2019 to 1Q 2020		- Completed in 2Q 2020.
MNRF approval of Crown Land Work Permits	3Q 2019 to 1Q 2020		- Completed in 3Q 2020.
MTO approval of Land Use and Building Permits	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 1Q 2020.
MTO approval of Entrance Permits	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 1Q 2020.
MTO approval of Encroachment Permits	3Q-4Q 2019		- Completed in 1Q 2020.
Indigenous Relations			
Indigenous Service Canada (ISC approval of Land Related Permits	4Q 2019		- Approval received in 4Q 2020.
HONI - Related			
HONI approves Longitudinal Access	3Q 2019		- Completed in 3Q 2019.
HONI Approves Transmission Crossing Application	3Q 2019		- Completed in 4Q 2020.
NextBridge files Sec 101 Application (If not approved by HONI)	4Q 2019		- Section 101 application not required.

Activity	Post-LTC Decision Baseline Target Date	Proposed Revised Dates Based on New ISD	Variance Reason/Potential Impact
HONI Substations commissioned ¹	4Q 2021	1Q 2022	- HONI substations commissioned and energized on March 22, 2022
Engineering and Construction			
Commence Clearing & Access	3Q 2019		- Activity completed in 2Q 2021.
Commence Geotech and Foundations	4Q 2019		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Commence Towers Assembly	4Q 2019		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Commence Towers Erection	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Commence Conductor Stringing	2Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 1 - Commence Clearing & Access	3Q 2019		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 1 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	4Q 2019		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 1 - Commence Towers Assembly	4Q 2019		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 1 - Commence Towers Erection	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 1 - Commence Conductor Stringing	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 2 - Commence Clearing & Access	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 2 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 2 - Commence Towers Assembly	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 2 - Commence Towers Erection	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 2 - Commence Conductor Stringing	2Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 3 - Commence Clearing & Access	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 3 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 3 - Commence Towers Assembly	2Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 3 - Commence Towers Erection	2Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 3 - Commence Conductor Stringing	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.

¹ Per Exhibit B, Tab 11, Schedule 1 of Hydro One Station work LTC application.

Activity	Post-LTC Decision Baseline Target Date	Proposed Revised Dates Based on New ISD	Variance Reason/Potential Impact
Work Front 4 - Commence Clearing & Access	2Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 4 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	2Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 4 - Commence Towers Assembly	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 4 - Commence Towers Erection	3Q 2020	3Q 2021	- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 4 - Commence Conductor Stringing	3Q 2020	4Q 2021	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 5 - Commence Clearing & Access	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 5 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 5 - Commence Towers Assembly	4Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 5 - Commence Towers Erection	1Q 2021	3Q 2021	- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 5 - Commence Conductor Stringing	1Q 2021	4Q 2021	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 6 - Commence Clearing & Access	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 6 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 6 - Commence Towers Assembly	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 6 - Commence Towers Erection	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 6 - Commence Conductor Stringing	3Q 2020	1Q 2022	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 7 - Commence Clearing & Access	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 7 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	2Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 7 - Commence Towers Assembly	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 7 - Commence Towers Erection	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 7 - Commence Conductor Stringing	4Q 2020	3Q 2021	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 8 - Commence Clearing & Access	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 8 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 8 - Commence Towers Assembly	4Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 8 - Commence Towers Erection	4Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 8 - Commence Conductor Stringing	1Q 2021		- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 9 - Commence Clearing & Access	1Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.

Activity	Post-LTC Decision Baseline Target Date	Proposed Revised Dates Based on New ISD	Variance Reason/Potential Impact
Work Front 9 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 9 - Commence Towers Assembly	4Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 9 - Commence Towers Erection	4Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 9 - Commence Conductor Stringing	2Q 2021		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 10 - Commence Clearing & Access	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 1Q 2021.
Work Front 10 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 10 - Commence Towers Assembly	4Q 2020	3Q 2021	- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 10 - Commence Towers Erection	1Q 2021	4Q 2021	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 10 - Commence Conductor Stringing	3Q 2021	4Q 2021	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Work Front 11 - Commence Clearing & Access	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 3Q 2021.
Work Front 11 - Commence Geotech and Foundations	3Q 2020		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 11 - Commence Towers Assembly	1Q 2021		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 11 - Commence Towers Erection	2Q 2021		- Activity completed in 4Q 2021.
Work Front 11 - Commence Conductor Stringing	3Q 2021	1Q 2022	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Project Construction Substantially Complete	4Q 2021	1Q 2022	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Project Commissioning Commences	4Q 2021	1Q 2022	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Project Commissioning Complete - In Service	4Q 2021	1Q 2022	- Activity completed in 1Q 2022.
Final acceptance and release of General Contractor	4Q 2021	4Q 2022	- Pending reclamation completion

3. Construction Cost Update

A. Project Cost Update Summary

Construction costs for the EWT Project are forecasted to be on budget when compared to the LTC application budget, excluding costs for wildfire and helicoptering of towers in KCCR. While increases have been identified in certain budget areas, the use of the previously-budgeted value for contingency allows for sufficient allocation of funds to address areas where budget increases were identified. However, at this point in time the total costs related to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic are unknown.

B. Project Cost Update Table

Cost Categories for NextBridge's Construction Costs Reporting	Actuals Spent		Budget			Forecast Budget Variance			
	A Spent This Reporting Period \$	B Total Spent To Date \$	C Budget Per LTC Application \$	D=C-B Budget Remaining	E=D/C*100 Budget Remaining %	F Forecast Budget Change \$	G Forecast Budget Change %	H Revised Total Budget	Reasons For Change
Engineering & Construction	36,551,989	603,353,800	572,761,388	(30,592,412)	-5%	41,505,901	7%	614,267,289	Revised based on in-service date
1 Engineering, Design and Procurement	154,721	8,833,011	19,342,245	10,509,234	54%	(9,679,559)	-50%	9,662,686	
2 Materials and Equipment	2,307,094	68,300,523	89,408,231	21,107,708	24%	(19,772,923)	-22%	69,635,308	
8 Site Clearing, Access	828,323	129,596,364	107,463,339	(22,133,025)	-21%	27,445,184	26%	134,908,523	
9 Construction	33,261,851	396,623,902	356,547,573	(40,076,329)	-11%	43,513,199	12%	400,060,772	
Environmental & Remediation Activities	586,127	29,702,417	26,929,260	(2,773,157)	-10%	4,642,005	17%	31,571,265	Revised based on in-service date
3 Environmental and Regulatory Approvals	466,779	19,118,127	13,030,561	(6,087,566)	-47%	6,087,566	47%	19,118,127	
10 Site Remediation	119,348	10,584,290	13,898,699	3,314,409	24%	(1,445,561)	-10%	12,453,138	
Indigenous Activities	(80,940)	22,859,339	20,211,000	(2,648,339)	-13%	3,442,555	17%	23,653,555	Revised based on in-service date
5 Indigenous Economic Participation	(306,044)	9,424,069	7,000,000	(2,424,069)	-35%	2,730,452	39%	9,730,452	
6 Indigenous Consultation	225,104	13,435,270	13,211,000	(224,270)	-2%	712,103	5%	13,923,103	
4 Land Rights (excludes Aboriginal)	819,482	20,607,487	23,830,512	3,223,025	14%	(500,000)	-2%	23,330,512	
7 Other Consultation	36,482	1,514,803	2,530,194	1,015,391	40%	(800,000)	-32%	1,730,194	
11 Contingency	-	-	49,399,445	49,399,445	100%	(49,399,445)	-100%	-	Allocation of Contingency
12 Regulatory	139,349	5,453,157	5,405,078	(48,079)	-1%	100,000	2%	5,505,078	
13 EWT Management	293,872	5,261,759	4,900,644	(361,115)	-7%	900,000	18%	5,800,644	
Total Project Spend	38,346,361	688,752,763	705,967,521	17,214,758	2%	(108,984)	0%	705,858,537	
14 Interest During Construction (IDC) ¹	3,914,191	31,289,208	31,003,000	(286,208)	-1%	286,208	1%	31,289,208	
Total Construction Costs^{2,3,4,5}	42,260,552	720,041,971	736,970,521	16,928,550	2%	177,224	0%	737,147,745	

1 IDC has not been reforecasted as interest rates will vary based on the OEB prescribed rates

2 On the record (EB-2020-0150)

3 Development Costs eligible for consideration as construction costs of \$5.3 MM not reflected in column B. (OEB Decision, December 20, 2018)

4 Construction related costs due to COVID-19 are not included in the table above; as of Q4 2021, \$1.2M has been incurred and is recorded in Account 1509

5 Construction costs expected to be recovered through CCVA not included in the table above (EB-2020-0150)

C. Project Cost Update Summary by Department

Engineering and Construction (E and C)

- The Project cost forecast for this department has not changed since the last Reporting Period.

Environment and Remediation Activities

- The Project cost forecast for this department has not changed since the last Reporting Period, aside from a minor adjustment to true-up to actual spend to date of \$21k.

Indigenous Activities

- The Project cost forecast for this department has not changed since the last Reporting Period.

Land Rights (Excludes Aboriginal Engagement)

- The Project cost forecast for this department has changed due to the following activities:
 - (\$0.5MM) decrease due to a reassessment of damages payments to landowners

Other Consultation

- The Project cost forecast for this department has changed due to the following activities:
 - (\$0.3MM) decrease due to reduced internal and external stakeholder costs such as events and outreach, primarily due to pandemic restrictions

Regulatory

- The Project cost forecast for this department has changed due to the following activities:
 - \$0.1MM increase due to true-up for actual final regulatory costs

EWT Management

- The Project cost forecast for this department has changed due to the following activities:
 - \$0.4MM increase due to increased project management support to ensure project schedule was being met and supported, including through reclamation period

D. COVID-19 and Incremental Construction Costs Account Treatment

- On March 25, 2020, the OEB issued an accounting order establishing a generic COVID Account 1509 with three sub-accounts to record impacts arising from COVID-19. One of the three sub-accounts established in the letter is sub-account "Other Costs" to record the other incremental identifiable costs beyond the costs recorded in the billing and system changes sub-account and lost revenue sub-account.

- On April 13, 2021, NextBridge received a letter from the OEB regarding the applicability of the COVID-19 deferral account guidelines to certain utilities.
 - In the letter, the OEB clarified that the OEB panel from NextBridge's ongoing application for 2022-2031 transmission revenue requirements will determine whether and how to address any pandemic-related issues.
- On June 17, 2021, the OEB issued a Decision and Order in NextBridge's revenue requirement proceeding. In accordance with this decision, NextBridge is tracking incremental construction costs related to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic in Account 1509. COVID-19 cost prudence and regulatory treatment was deferred by the OEB and will be determined in a separate application to dispose of these costs after ISD.
- Also, in accordance with this decision, NextBridge is tracking construction cost differences between forecasted construction costs in its revenue requirement application and the actual final project construction costs in the CCVA. NextBridge will bring forward the balance of costs for prudence and recovery as part of NextBridge's 2023 update application when total, actual in-service construction costs are known.
 - To date, NextBridge is tracking construction costs related to the wildfires in the summer months of 2021 in northwestern Ontario (as detailed in the October 22, 2021 Quarterly EWT Project Progress Report) and Kama Cliffs Conservation Reserve (as detailed in Section E).

4. Risk Management

A. Risk Management Issues, Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Since NextBridge has completed construction of the Project, it has removed the risk management section of the report.

5. Reference Materials

APPENDIX A – WHITE LAKE NARROWS MECP NOTIFICATION LETTER



2200 Yonge St, Suite 1712
Toronto • ON • M4S 2C6 • Canada

December 3, 2020

Annamaria Cross
Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks
77 Wellesley Street West
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto, ON
M7A 2T5

EA File No.: 03-03-03
EA Reference No.: 13136

RE: EA File No. 03-03-03, Reference No. 13136, Notification of change to the Limits of Work to address newly identified cultural and historical resources by the Pic Mobert First Nation

Dear Annamaria,

Consistent with Condition No. 10 of the Environmental Assessment for the East-West Tie Line, NextBridge Infrastructure, LP (NextBridge) is notifying the Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks of a minor change in the Limits of Work. This change is associated with a request to re-route the East-West Tie Line by Pic Mobert First Nation (PMFN) who were concerned about potential adverse impacts on rights during ongoing consultations related to project construction.

On January 23, 2020, PMFN identified previously unidentified cultural and historic resources in the White Lake and Nursery Lake areas associated with the East-West Tie Line. These resources included the possibility of historic burials on the island in the middle of White Lake that was a proposed location for a transmission tower. On January 29, 2020, PMFN's Chief & Council issued a formal Stop Work Order to NextBridge requesting that construction activities in the area of the newly identified cultural and historical resources immediately cease. Within 2 hours of receiving the Stop Work Order, NextBridge suspended construction activities in the area. Thereafter, NextBridge engaged in a consultation process with PMFN to understand the newly identified cultural and historic resources and to develop a mutually agreed on plan for mitigation measures. The goal of the consultation with PMFN was to refine the location of the potential impacts initially identified by the community, then develop mitigation measures to minimize disturbances and potentially explore a re-route to the East-West Tie Line. During the consultations this re-routing of the East-West Tie Line was jointly determined to be the best mitigation measure by NextBridge and PMFN. NextBridge was conscious not to alter the current design of the East-West Tie Line more than was needed to mitigate the concerns of the community while ensuring no new environmental impacts would be associated with the re-routing.

As Attachment 1 shows, the revised footprint represents approximately 4.4 ha of incremental footprint and has similar environmental features as the original route design. A desktop review of relevant Land Information Ontario (LIO) data was completed alongside on the ground preconstruction surveys to identify any additional environmentally sensitive features (ESFs). No additional ESFs were discovered through the course of the desktop study nor the surveys.

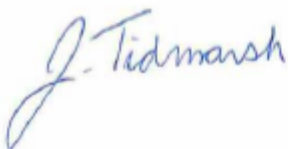
The re-route was developed based on a comprehensive consultation process with the PMFN. On October 21, 2020, the PMFN Chief & Council approved the re-routing of the East-West Tie Line and removed the Stop Work Order on the condition that the Project adhered to the following mitigation measures:

- Regular and ongoing meetings with PMFN to work through this significant issue;
- A re-engineered and re-designed plan for the White Lake crossing that minimizes potential for impacts, eliminates the tower on the island, and ensures no construction on the island to avoid the possible disturbance of historic burials (see Attachment 1);
- Re-routing of the East-West Tie Line right-of-way on the east and west banks of White Lake, shifting the centerline approximately 140 m northwest to minimize potential impacts on cultural resources (see Attachment 1);
- Significant additional archeological studies completed in the summer/fall of 2020 with participation from PMFN;
- Following archeological studies, additional re-design of tower placements on the east and west banks of White Lake to further minimize potential impacts to cultural resources;
- Additional conditions from PMFN for construction in the White Lake area that limits clearing activities within an 80-meter buffer on either side of White Lake to only winter months when the ground is completely frozen so that low impact clearing and construction methods can be employed;
- Completion of a visual impact study to address potential concerns that the placement of towers would be seen from the community Pow Wow grounds and act as a distraction to ceremonies (which they will not);
- Conclusion of a cost capped funding agreement to ensure PMFN had adequate resources to cover costs of engagement and to retain third-party experts to provide advice on the historical presence in the area, sufficiency of mitigation measures and review of environmental data in order for the community to approve the design and lift the Stop Work Order; and
- Additional provincial permitting and approvals to support Project redesign and re-routing in the area.

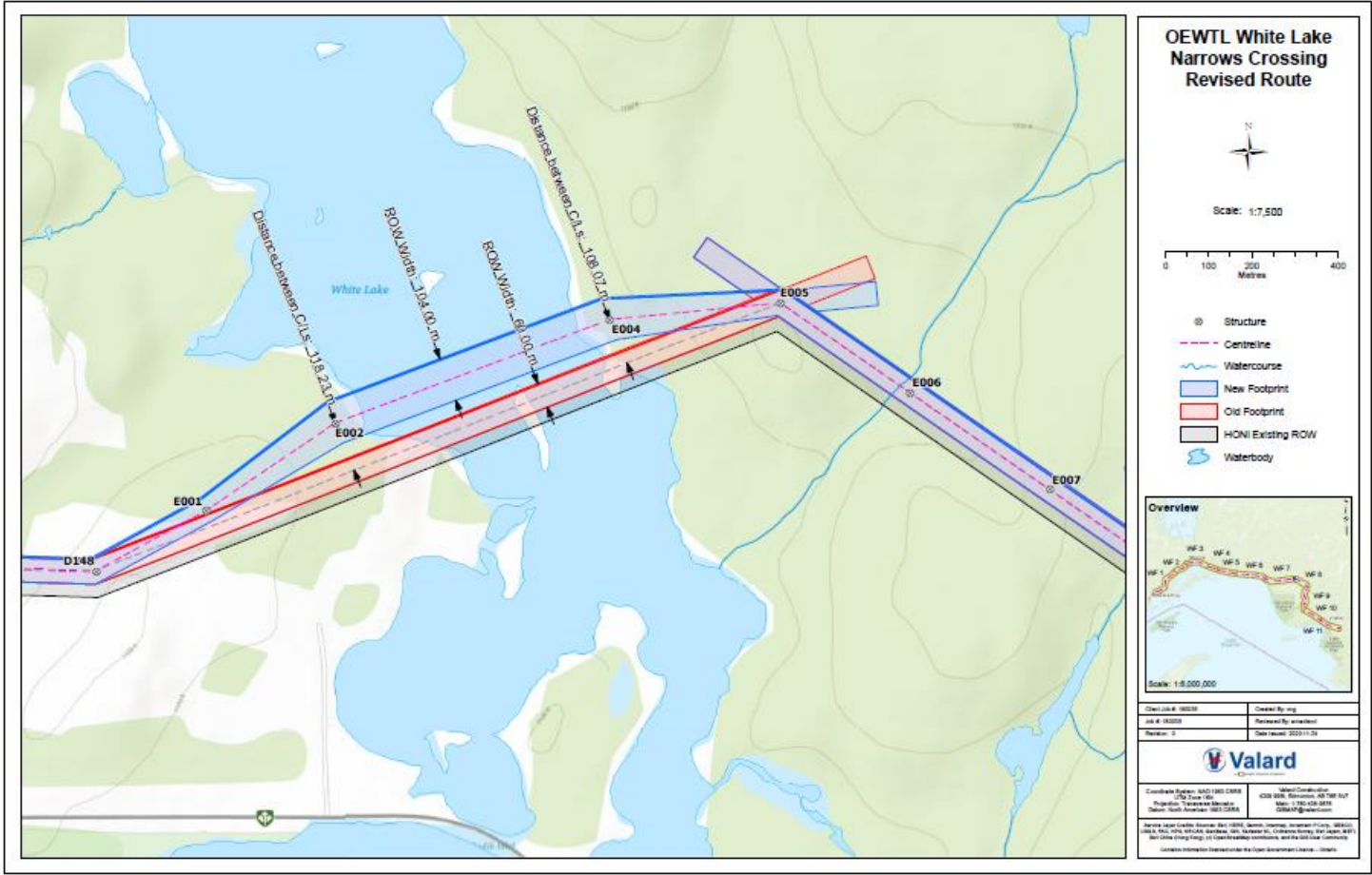
This consultation process, and its associated outcomes, has resulted in some short-term construction delays of the East-West Tie Line while the crossing was re-designed, additional archeological field work was performed and additional tower components were procured. That said, this situation truly represents an example of industry and Indigenous communities collaborating to respectfully address issues and ultimately construct in their traditional territory with consent.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Tidmarsh
Project Director, NextBridge Infrastructure



APPENDIX B – PIC MOBERT REVISED STOP WORK ORDER



Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg

P.O BOX 717, Mobert Ontario, P0M 2J0

Phone: (807) 822-2134

Toll Free: 1-888-797-1123

Fax: (807) 822-2850

October 21, 2020

Mrs. Jennifer Tidmarsh
NextBridge Infrastructure
390 Bay Street, Suite 1720
Toronto, ON
M5H 2Y2
Delivered by email: Jennifer.Tidmarsh@nexteraenergy.com

Dear Mrs. Tidmarsh,

RE: Revision of Stop Work Order

This letter is to revise our current Stop Work Order which was formally issued by Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg on January 29, 2020. The current boundaries of the stop work order are 1km from the shorelines of White Lake Narrows and Nursery Lake.

The purpose of the stop work order is to protect significant cultural burial sites and artefacts from desecration and develop a mitigation plan in which we have been successful this far. It has been proven through Stage 2 and 3 of archaeological digs that there is a rich density of historic cultural findings along the shoreline of White Lake. Without question, there are more artefacts to be found which we are committed to ensure protection.

Therefore, the Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg (Pic Mobert First Nation) is issuing a revision to the stop work order which was declared on January 29, 2020:

1. Operations can commence in the Nursery Lake area
 - a. Complete removal of the stop work order on the Nursery Lake area.
2. Operations in the White Lake Narrows area can commence with conditions:
 - a. Mobilization notice and detailed work schedules required for all activities 80 meters from the shorelines of White Lake Narrows
 - b. Operations may only commence in deep winter, once the frost sets in and there is sufficient snowfall to ensure protection of soil disturbance
 - c. Netmizaaggamig and NextBridge agree to have an appointed archaeologist on site to monitor construction activities
 1. Construction activities requiring archaeological oversight include, but not limited to: tree clearing, tree skidding, road building, tower foundation digging, etc.
 - ii. Appointed licensed archaeologist to have the authority to cease operations if ground disturbance occurs
 - d. These conditions apply 80 meters from the shoreline on the East and West Bank of the White Lake Narrows.



Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg

P.O BOX 717, Moberg Ontario, P0M 2J0

Phone: (807) 822-2134

Toll Free: 1-888-797-1123

Fax: (807) 822-2850

We are pleased with the efforts that your team has accomplished in mitigating as much damage as possible to our culturally significant artefacts. We have come a long way since January and are optimistic to our future collaboration. We look forward to continued mitigation efforts as construction proceeds with the conditions noted above.

Miigwetch,

Gimaa Kwe Johanna Desmoulin

CC List:

Jesse Gaudette

Matt Jackson

Scott Hamilton

David Carruthers

Theresa Bananish

Councillors of Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg

APPENDIX C – PIC MOBERT STOP WORK ORDER

No. 82



Pic Mobert First Nation

P.O. Box 717 Mobert, Ontario P0M 2J0

Phone : (807) 822-2134
Toll Free: 1-888-797-1123
Fax: (807) 822-2850

URGENT

January 29th, 2020

Mrs. Jennifer Tidmarsh
NextBridge Infrastructure
390 Bay Street, Suite 1720
Toronto, ON
M5H 2Y2 Canada
Delivered by email: Jennifer.Tidmarsh@nexteraenergy.com

Dear Mrs. Tidmarsh:

RE: Stop Work Order

This letter is to follow up of our meeting held on January 23rd, 2020 in Toronto with your representative, Matt Jackson, concerning the East-West Tie project. Wish to confirm that at this meeting, my representatives advised Nextbridge Infrastructure that you are to stop work in specified areas of the Pic Mobert traditional territory as set out in the points and demands set out below.

This stop work order is required to protect significant cultural and burial sites from desecration. I would note to you that the subject area is the main travel route that has been used for centuries and the potential for other cultural material is extremely high as we have other documented archeological sites in the near vicinity. These values were previously disclosed to Nextbridge during the Environmental Assessment for the East West Tie.

I am aware that our Manager of Lands and Resources, Jesse Gaudette, identified our concerns to Nextbridge most recently in December, 2019, before work had commenced in the areas of concern, and made a specific request that the project work not proceed in the White Lake narrows area. I, along with my Council were dumbfounded to hear that in spite of this request, clearing work did proceed in this area and the western side of White Lake narrows has been already cleared. The Council is extremely concerned and disappointed that this is the second time that the concerns raised by our First Nation through our's Manager of Lands and Resources have not been considered and acted on in a respectful and considerate matter by Nextbridge. It is not acceptable that the interests of a commercial project should not consider

and accommodate our own aboriginal and treaty rights and cultural values. This must immediately stop.

Mr. Matt Jackson was advised of the seriousness of this latest incident undertaken by the project at the January 23, 2020 meeting. He has also been informed of the stop work order, and we understand that this was acted on immediately by him. These sites are tremendously important to our First Nation, include areas that we specifically identified to Nextbridge as containing document burial sites, and the seriousness cannot be understated.

Therefore, in summary, the Netmizaagamig Nishnaabeg (Pic Mobert First Nation) is issuing a stop work order to Nextbridge for all works in the territory of our First Nation as follows:

- 1) No further works are to be carried out within 1 kilometer on either side of White Lake narrows and also within 1 kilometer of Nursery Lake, until a mitigation plan has been developed and approved by our First Nation; and
- 2) Any disturbance of the island located in the narrows of White Lake is strictly prohibited. There will be no construction including any hydro poles allowed on this site and the island is to remain untouched by the East West Tie project.
- 3) Our First Nation will develop and submit a mitigation plan to Nextbridge at the earliest possible opportunity in the spring, once field work can be completed, and this process will include archeological work and interviews with Elders;

We will provide a budget for this work shortly and it is expected that Nextbridge will fund these costs.

Please note, this stop work order will remain in effect until amended or rescinded, in writing, by myself as authorized by the Netmizaagamig Nishnaabeg Council.

I truly hope that such further intrusions and destruction of values do not further occur in again-in our territory as they damage the trust between the First Nation and NextBridge.

Please confirm to me in writing that you have received, understand and will honour this stop work order.

Gimaa Kwe Johanna Desmoulin



CC list:

Jesse Gaudette

Matt Jackson,

Dave Carruthers

Scott Hamilton

Theresa Bananish

Chief and Council

Shared Values Solutions