



Strategic Energy and Infrastructure Public Updates

Yellowknife City Council

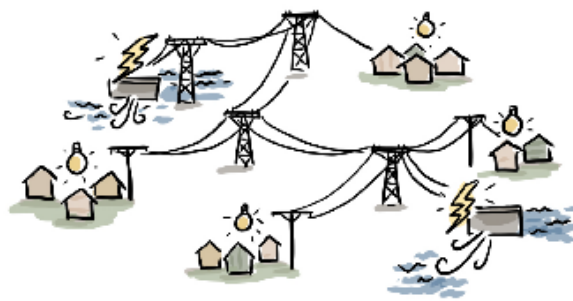
June 9, 2025



Government of
Northwest Territories

Agenda

- **Taltson Expansion Project**
 - Project Background, Benefits and Objectives
 - Project Partners
 - Technical Details
 - Yellowknife Area Decisions
 - Timeline
- **Arctic Security Corridor - NWT**
 - Project Overview
 - Strategic Infrastructure
 - Corridor
 - Next Steps
- **Mackenzie Valley Highway**
 - Project Overview
 - Developer's Assessment Report
 - Significant Impacts
 - Current Status
 - Next Steps
- **Conclusion: The Strategic Picture**





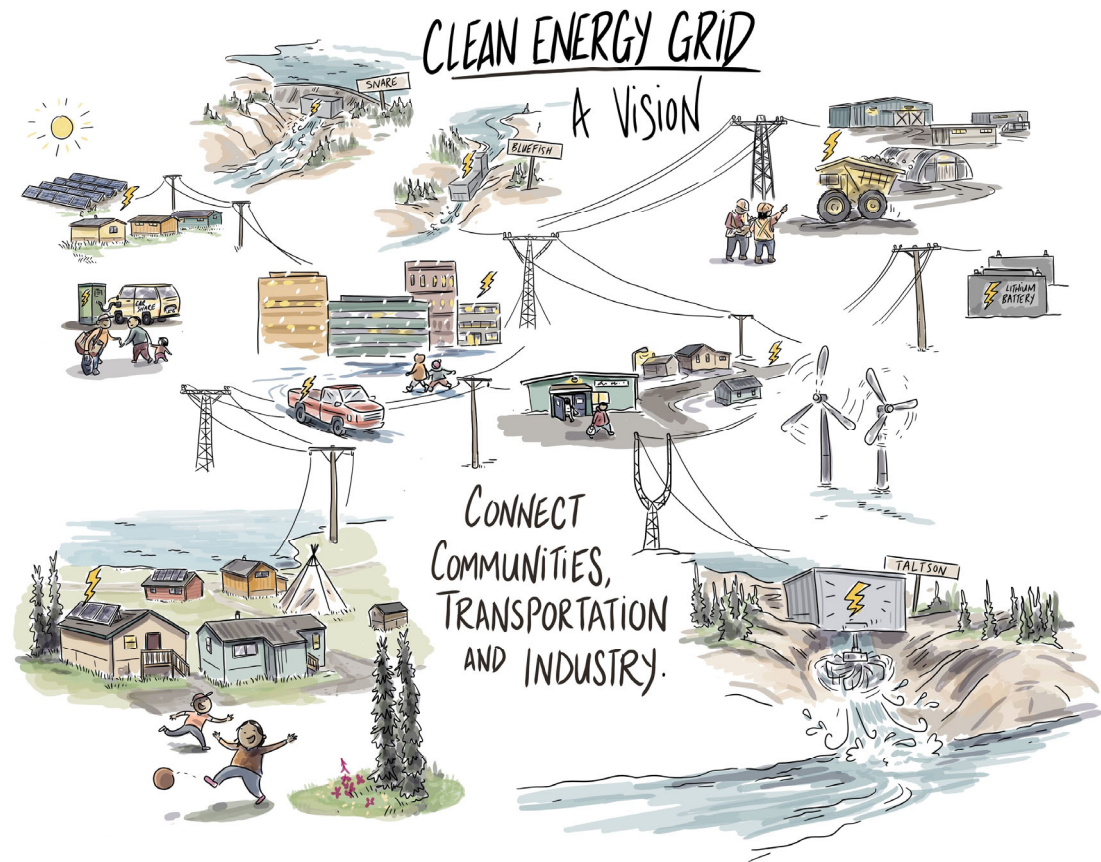
Taltson Expansion Project



Government of
Northwest Territories

What is Taltson Expansion?

A **partnership** focused on building a new 60 MW Hydro plant next to the existing 22MW plant, connecting 11 communities and industry to a unified grid



Benefits & Objectives



Provide access to affordable and reliable energy sources for NWT residents and businesses



Unlock private investment in the NWT's economy



Contribute to a cleaner environment
meet commitments to address climate change



Provide partnership and economic opportunities for Indigenous Governments and job opportunities for residents

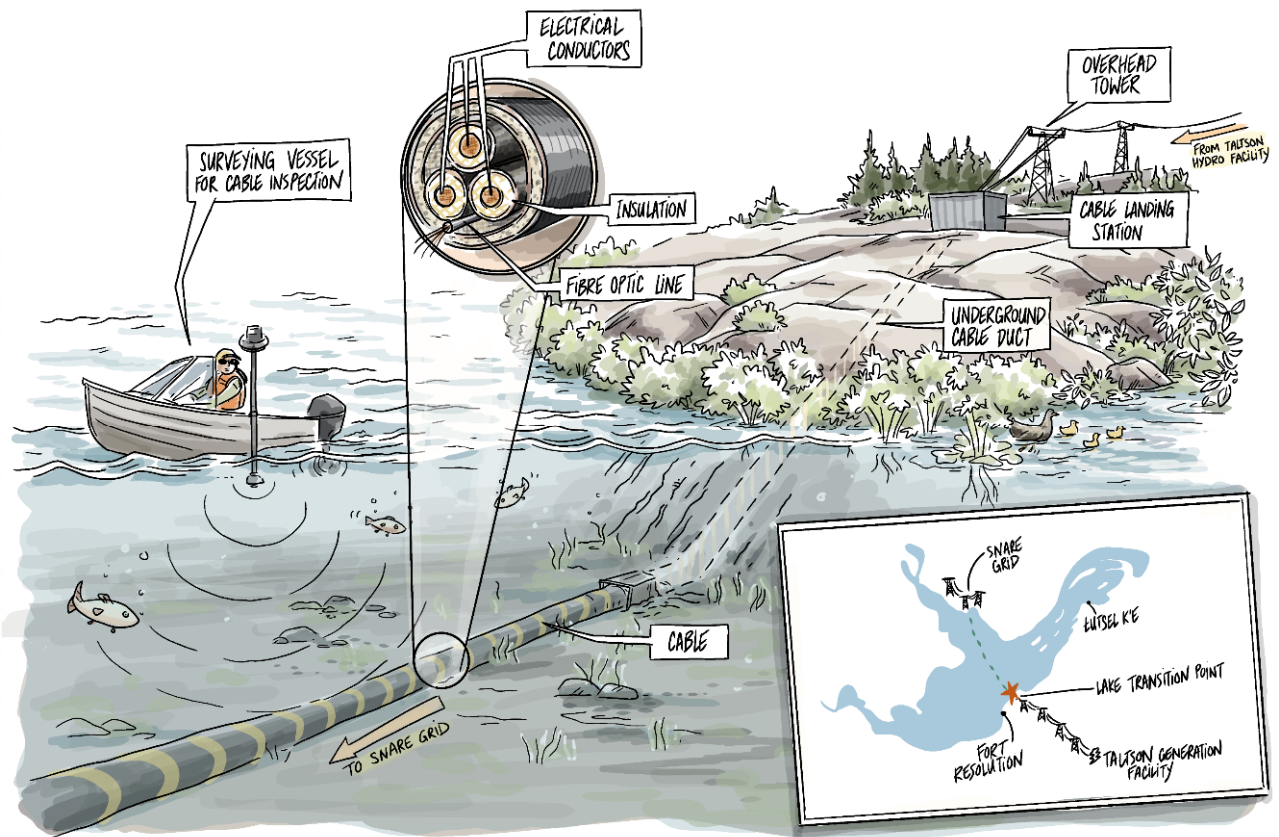


A simple line drawing of a landscape. It features several stylized trees with wavy, vertical lines for foliage. The trees are arranged in a row, with some taller than others. A single horizontal line runs across the middle of the drawing, representing the horizon or a path. The drawing is minimalist and appears to be a sketch.



Lake Transition Point

3-core
OD = 7"



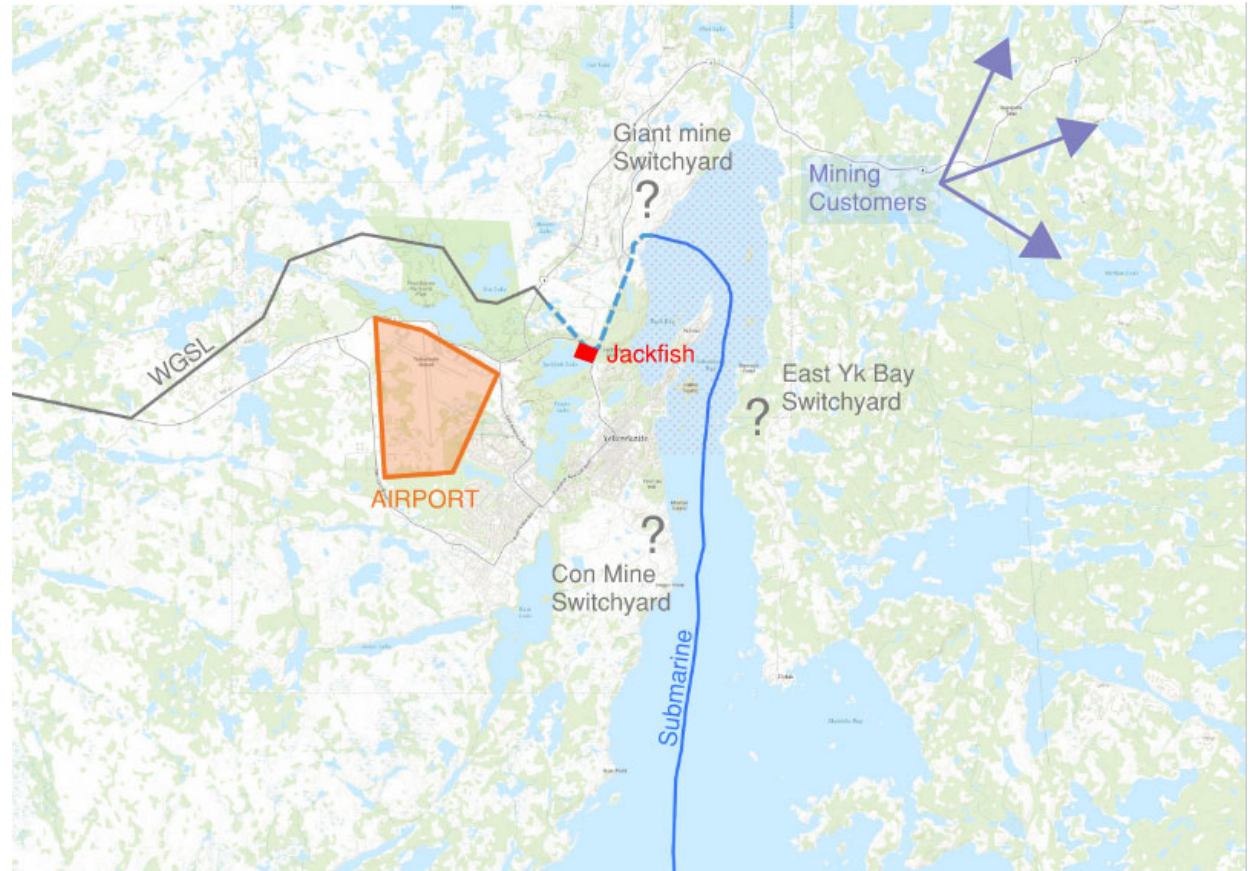
Power Lines and Substation

Considerations such as:

- Land use
- Environment
- Permitting

Factors such as:

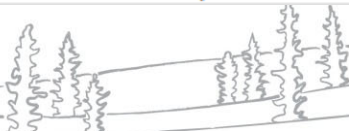
- Site availability
- Traditional use
- Landing site options: from water to land
- Substation location(s)
- Transmission lines to Jackfish power plant



Project Timeline

Element	Proposed Schedule														
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	
Business Case															
Commercial Structure															
Project Design Basis & Bid Packages															
Environmental Studies & Regulatory Approvals															
Community Engagement & Indigenous Knowledge															
Tender															
Final Design & Construction															
Commissioning															
First Power															

Decision to proceed





Arctic Security Corridor

NWT Portion



Government of
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Arctic Security Corridor

- We are undertaking the analysis and engagement to optimize this potential road connection from NWT to the Gray's Bay Port in Nunavut – a key enabler for Arctic and Canadian sovereignty
- The Arctic Security Corridor is a nation-building project that meets both Federal and Territorial priorities – we are committed to working with all stakeholders to make the project a reality.
- At the First Ministers' Meeting on June 2, Prime Minister Carney suggested it be combined with the Prince Rupert to Hudson's Bay Western Corridor to be considered as a national 'Western-Arctic Security Corridor' for consideration under their Major Projects Legislation



Slave Geological Province (SGP): A Strategic Mineral Region

World-Class Mineral Potential

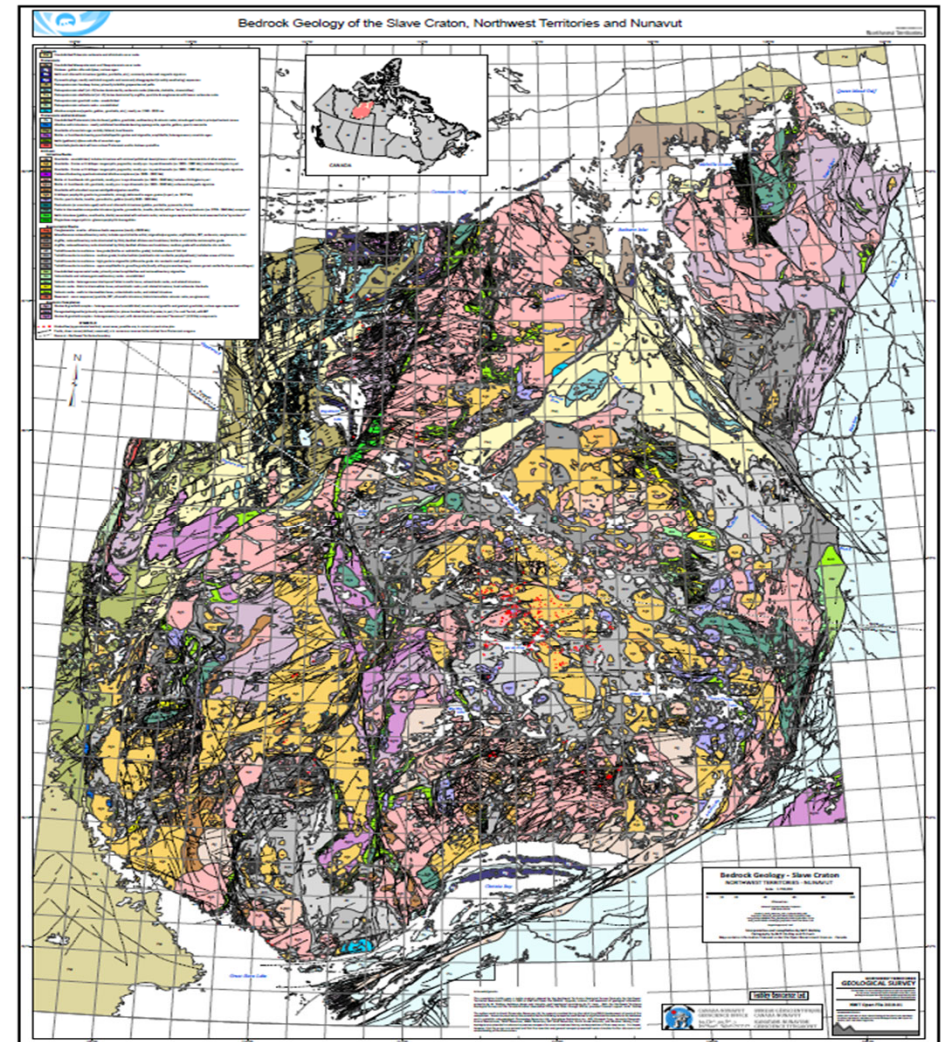
- Diamonds, gold, copper, zinc, nickel, rare earth elements
- Home to major mines: Ekati, Diavik, Gahcho Kué
- High potential for new critical mineral discoveries

Economic Development Driver

- Supports NWT jobs, businesses, and revenues
- Opportunity to diversify and stabilize the economy

National Strategic Interest

- Aligns with Canada's Critical Minerals Strategy
- Supports clean energy transition
- Supports Arctic sovereignty
- Advances Indigenous economic participation



Strategic Infrastructure Needed to Enable Development

Accessibility Infrastructure

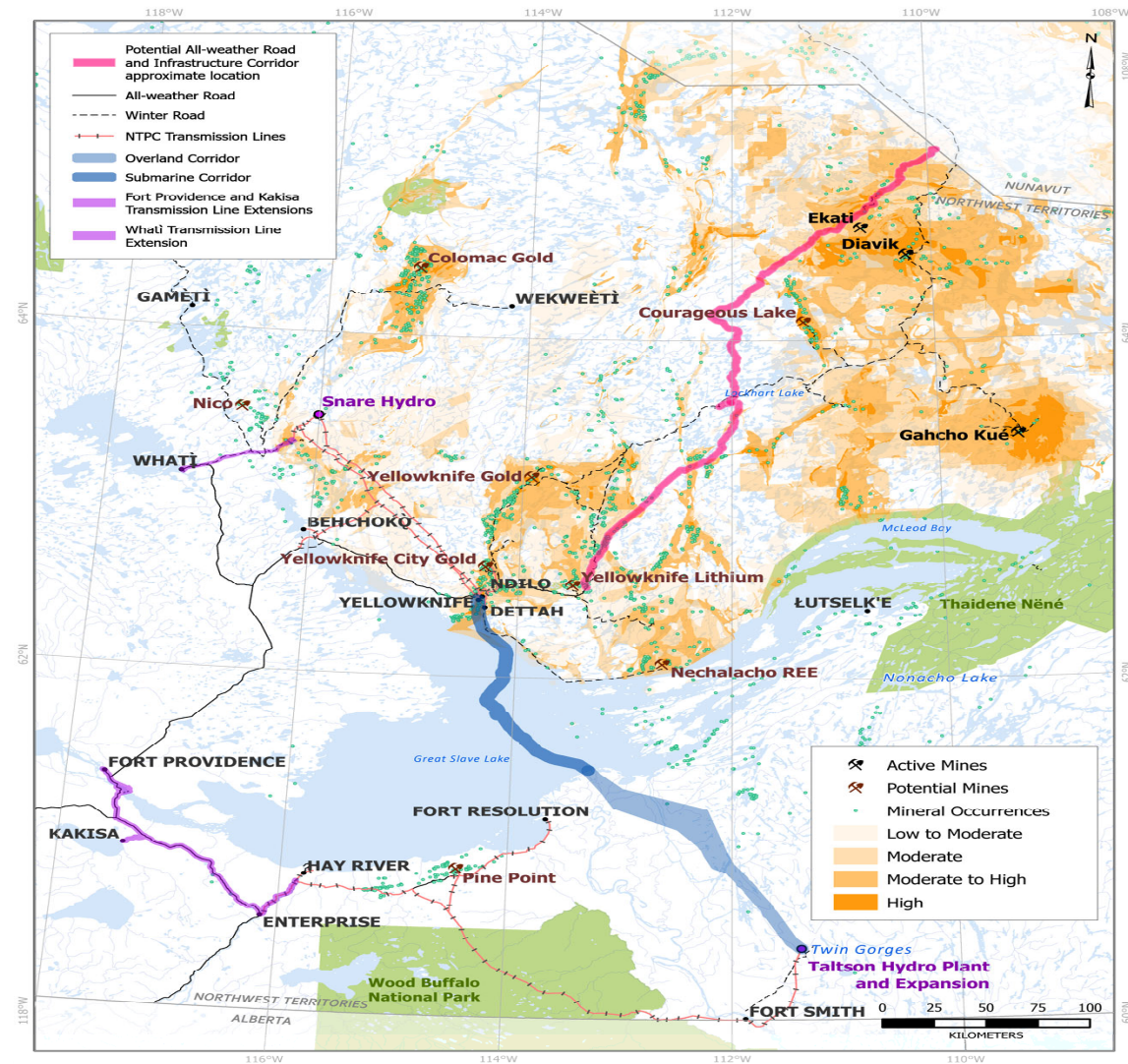
Challenge: Region only accessible by air or winter roads (unreliable and costly)

Response: Proposed all-season road connecting Canada's national highway system through the Slave Geological Province to Nunavut and on the Gray's Bay future port. **Route being discussed with YKDFN and TG – conversation evolving rapidly.**

Energy Infrastructure

Challenge: Mining relies on diesel – high cost, emissions, and logistics

Response: *Taltson Hydro Expansion*. Increases renewable generation capacity. Links existing grids (Snare + Taltson). Enables clean power transmission into the SGP.



Arctic Security Corridor

A transformative strategic initiative that will provide foundational infrastructure that will connect Canada's highway network to Canada's central Arctic, including improved access for critical mineral exploration and development and enhanced national security.



Establish a transport and, ultimately, energy corridor through Canada's central arctic providing economic opportunity, enhanced national security and demonstrated Canadian sovereignty.



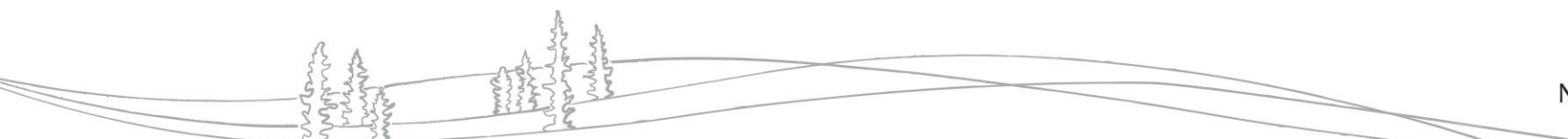
Improved access to the resource-rich SGP, which includes known deposits of critical minerals that are essential to support transition to a lower carbon economy.



Supporting economic growth in resource extraction, reduced costs of exploration, development, and transport of goods to market.



Stimulate direct economic development through project construction, operation, and maintenance.



Collaboration and Next Steps

- Working with key Indigenous Governments to ensure they play a leading role in the Corridor both in development and oversight
- Exploring a range of route options based on economic potential, constructability, cost, and environmental preservation – we will agree on a route that considers the priorities of all parties.





Mackenzie Valley Highway Project



Government of
Northwest Territories

Project Overview

The Mackenzie Valley Highway (MVH) project is:

- a strategic infrastructure initiative aimed at extending the all-season highway system in the Mackenzie Valley
- a long-term priority of the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT)
- being developed in collaboration with Indigenous Governments and the Federal Government.



Protect supply chains and stabilize cost of living through climate-resilient infrastructure.



Enhance Arctic sovereignty and security through improved safety, reliability and resilience of the NWT transportation network.



Boost the local economy and create new jobs during the project construction, operation, and maintenance.



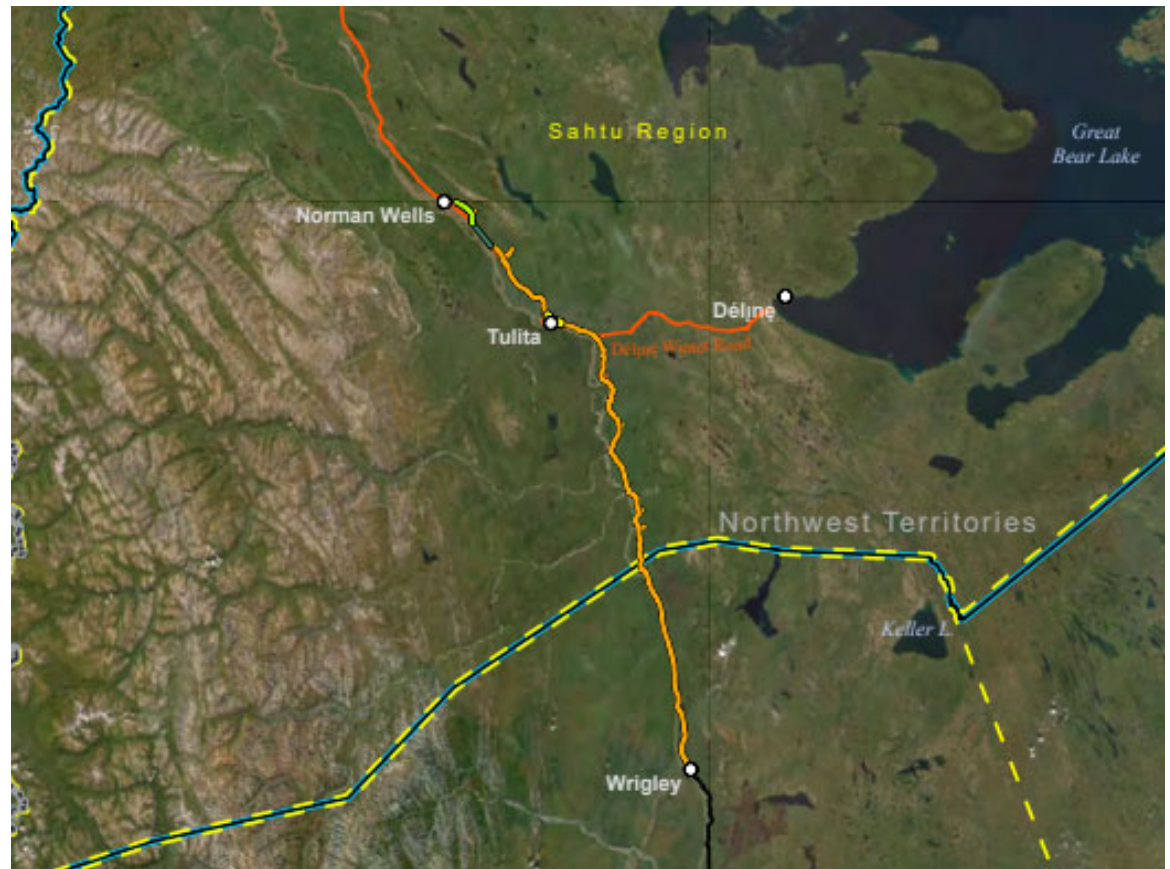
Support economic growth and diversification through induced resource development, remediation, and tourism investment.

Project Overview

The current focus of the MVH proposes to replace approximately 320 km of the seasonal Mackenzie Valley Winter Road by extending all-season road access from the end of Hwy 1 at Wrigley to Tulita and Norman Wells.

- ~ 102 kilometers will be in the Dehcho
- ~ 179 kilometers will be in the Sahtu

The project route is proposed to follow the alignment of the Mackenzie Valley Winter Road and connect to existing bridges



Project Overview

The GNWT has proposed that construction will advance in three phases consecutively:

- Wrigley to Dehcho/Sahtu Boundary
- Dehcho/Sahtu Boundary to Tulita
- Tulita to Norman Wells

Each phase is anticipated to require up to 3 years to complete

An "Optimized" alternative schedule has been developed, which anticipates 3-4 years for full completion*

**Tentative upon regulatory authorizations and permitting, construction funding, and successful procurement*



Recent Progress & Milestones

The project is currently in the Analytical Phase of the Environmental Assessment.

- GNWT responded to Information Requests in September 2024
- MVEIRB hosted Community Sessions in October 2024
- MVEIRB hosted Technical Sessions in November 2024
- GNWT is currently responding to another round of Information Requests and preparing a DAR Addendum for the Project

MVEIRB DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Analytical Phase

- Public Review of DAR – Jan – Feb 29, 2024
- Round 1 Information Requests (IRs) from Review Board – March 2024
- Developers Response to Public Comment (ORS) – April 19, 2024
- Developers Response to Review Board and Party IRs – September 27, 2024
- **Community Sessions – October 2024**
- **Technical Sessions – November 2024**
- **IRs Round 2 – Late 2024**
- Developers Response to Round 2 IRs – Early 2025
- **DAR Addendums Submitted to Review Board – Spring 2025**

Hearings – Early-Mid 2025

- Prehearing Conference
- **Interventions**
- Developer Response to Interventions
- **Public Hearings**
- Hearing Undertakings
- Closing Arguments from Parties
- Closing Arguments from Developer
- **Closure of the Public Record**

Decisions

- Review Board evidence analysis, deliberation, report drafting & legal and editorial reviews
- **Review Board issues Report of Environmental Assessment**
- **Minister(s) response to Report of Environmental Assessment**

Next Steps

2025-2026



Environmental Assessment

DAR Update/Addendum
MVEIRB Public Hearings
Report of Environmental Assessment
Responsible Ministers' Final Decision

2025-2027



Engineering and Design

2026-2027



Regulatory Authorizations/Permits

Water Licence
Land Use Permit
Fisheries Authorization

2027



Procurement

2027 - 2037



Construction & Monitoring

Conclusion: The Strategic Picture

Together, the Taltson Expansion, Arctic Security Corridor, and Mackenzie Valley Highway will:



Unlock Regional Connectivity

Link isolated communities and key resource zones to national and global markets



Enable Sustainable Development

Drive clean energy access and reduce emissions across industrial and community sectors



Catalyze Economic Growth

Support responsible resource development and attract private investment



Strengthen Sovereignty and Resilience

Reinforce Canada's presence in the North and improve year-round access and climate resilience

These projects are not isolated investments—they form an integrated foundation for long-term prosperity, reconciliation, and sustainability in the Northwest Territories

