



FOR RELEASE 08-293
November 24, 2008

ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANDED IN YUKON

WHITEHORSE – A significant addition to Yukon’s electrical infrastructure is now in place with the completion of Phase 1 of the Carmacks-Stewart transmission line.

“The completion of Phase 1 of the Carmacks-Stewart Transmission line is a tremendous achievement that will provide benefits to Yukoners for many decades to come,” Premier Dennis Fentie said. “This electrical infrastructure will significantly reduce Yukon’s greenhouse gas emissions while securing the economic benefits of full surplus hydro utilization.”

Construction of the line from Carmacks to Pelly Crossing with a spur to the Minto mine has allowed the mine to switch from diesel generation to hydro. Pelly Crossing will also switch to hydro within the next few days. It is estimated that the project will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 30,000 tonnes per year.

“I am very pleased that this project is complete and the line is now energized,” Energy Mines and Resources Minister Brad Cathers said. “This phase could not have happened without the financial support of Yukon government, the Yukon Energy Corporation, the Yukon Development Corporation, and Sherwood Copper Corporation.”

All parties contributed financially to the total cost of the transmission line with Yukon Government providing \$10 million to the project. Sherwood Copper contributed \$7.2 million to the main line and also covered the entire cost of the spur line to the Minto mine. The remaining costs were covered by the Yukon Energy Corporation and the Yukon Development Corporation.

Yukon Energy estimates approximately 200 Yukoners worked on the line while many local businesses such as hotels, restaurants, gas stations, grocery stores and equipment companies received economic benefits from the line construction.

“I would also like to thank the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun, Selkirk First Nation and Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation who worked closely with Yukon Energy prior to and during the building of the line. This was a very successful partnership,” Minister responsible for the Yukon Energy Corporation Jim Kenyon said.

“I would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of Yukon Energy staff, the contractors, and the many Yukoners who were hired for various aspects of this project,” Yukon Energy Corporation president David Morrison added.

Clearing and surveying for the transmission line took place last winter and construction proceeded throughout the spring and summer, into the fall.

-30-

Contact:

Roxanne Vallevand
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7949
roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca

Mark Roberts
EMR Communications
867-667-5307
mark.roberts@gov.yk.ca

Janet Patterson
Supervisor, Communications
Yukon Energy Corporation
867-393-5333
janet.patterson@yec.yk.ca