INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Snare Cascades Hydroelectric Generating Station

LOCATION: 63°25’17.0”N 116°13’26.0”W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: TŁĮCHǪ NATION

PROJECT TYPE: HYDRO

PARTNER: NORTHWEST TERRITORIES POWER CORPORATION

ACTIVE SINCE: 1996

CAPACITY: 4.3 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Snare-Cascades Project is a part of the Snare Hydro System in the Northwest Territories. It is one of four hydropower plants that are located about 140 kilometres northwest of Yellowknife, N.W.T., along the Snare River.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

The Snare Cascades project is the first 100 per cent Indigenous-owned hydroelectric development project in Canada. An agreement was made with the Northwest Territories Power Corporation that allows for the Dogrib Power Corporation to operate the plant and collect revenues until 2056.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country’s clean energy future?

INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Alderville First Nation Solar PV Ground Mount Project

LOCATION: 44°11’36”N 78°05’37”W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: ALDERVILLE FIRST NATION

PROJECT TYPE: SOLAR

PARTNER: ALDERVILLE SOLAR LP

ACTIVE SINCE: 2013

CAPACITY: 5.7 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Alderville First Nation Solar PV project is a ground-mounted solar farm in Rice Lake, Ont. It takes up a massive 18 hectares of land in the community and took about five years to build from the start of its planning phase.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

The project is important to Alderville First Nation because it is the first 100 per cent First Nation-owned project in Canada. This project created 25 jobs in the community during the construction phase and continues to provide ongoing employment opportunities for local residents.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country’s clean energy future?

INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Louis Bull Tribe Solar Project

LOCATION: 52°52’32”N 113°34’15W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: LOUIS BULL FIRST NATION IN MASKWACIS, ALTA.

PROJECT TYPE: SOLAR

PARTNER: LOUIS BULL FIRST NATION

ACTIVE SINCE: 2016

CAPACITY: 7.5 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Louis Bull Tribe Solar Project is an initiative that has provided hundreds of solar panels to be used on buildings throughout the community. The Louis Bull community wanted to cut down on their utility costs, to produce energy in a responsible and environmentally sustainable way, and to encourage the development of skills needed to work in the renewable energy sector.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

This is an Indigenous-led project that started initially as a way to increase energy independence. However, the Louis Bull Tribe Solar Project is not just about affordable and renewable energy production but is also a learning and teaching project where community members can become environmental stewards while learning useful skills for the energy sector.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country’s clean energy future?

INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Bernard-Landry (Eastmain-1-A) Generating Station

LOCATION: 52°11’21”N 75°52’48”W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: CREE NATION

PROJECT TYPE: HYDRO

PARTNER: HYDRO-QUÉBEC

ACTIVE SIVCE: 2013

CAPACITY: 768 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The massive Bernard-Landry (Eastmain 1-A) hydroelectric dam is part of a larger system in northwestern Quebec that totals up to 8.7 TWh of energy per year – enough to power around 500,000 homes! The hydroelectric generating facility was renamed to Bernard-Landry in honour of the late Bernard Landry, the 28th premier of Quebec, who was considered a “great friend” to the Quebec Cree Nation.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

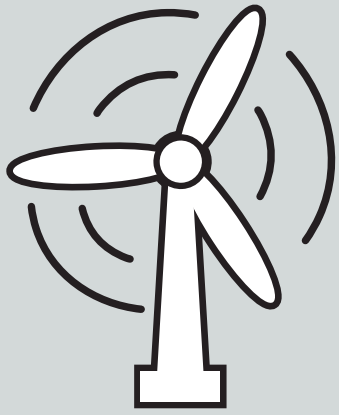
ed Moses was the Grand Chief of the Grand Council of the Cree at the time of the agreement between the Quebec government and the Cree Nation to build hydroelectric power plants. Moses has said that the impact that this partnership and power plant have had on the Cree is immense. There has been development and access to resources that would not have been possible without the partnership, as well as more than $870 million in contracts and economic opportunities for the project awarded specifically to Cree communities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/ cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country’s clean energy future?

INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Whynotts Wind Project



LOCATION: 44°24'19"N 64°28'08"W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: NOVA SCOTIA ASSEMBLY OF MI'KMAQ CHIEFS

PROJECT TYPE: WIND

PARTNER: FIRELIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERS AND WHYNOTTS MI'KMAQ WIND LIMITED

ACTIVE SINCE: 2014

CAPACITY: 4 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Whynotts Community Wind Project is one of a group of wind farm projects that have been undertaken by the Mi'Kmaq of Nova Scotia. This project consists of two turbines both with an energy capacity of 2000 kW and is located near Bridgewater, N.S.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have found great success in their wind farm projects and continue to make plans for more, allowing them to produce electricity in an environmentally responsible way while creating economic opportunities for band and community members. The Whynotts wind farm is led by Kwilmu'kw Mawklusuaqn, or the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/ cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country's clean energy future?

INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Okikendawt Hydroelectric Project

LOCATION: 46°07'25"N 80°00'52"W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: DOKIS FIRST NATION

PROJECT TYPE: HYDRO

PARTNER: OKIKENDAWT HYDRO LP AND HYDROMEGA SERVICES INC.

ACTIVE SINCE: 2015

CAPACITY: 10 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Okikendawt Hydroelectric Project is a run-of-river hydro plant that uses the natural river flow to turn turbines and produce renewable energy. This project was completed with the Dokis First Nation creating its own land code under the First Nations Land Management Act, which gives Dokis First Nation full responsibility for the management of their land.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

The former chief of Dokis First Nation, Martin Restoule, wanted to build something for future generations and the Okikendawt Project was the result of years of hard work and community involvement. This project has created an abundance of economic opportunities for the community and the profits from the project are being placed into a trust fund, which can be put towards infrastructure, health, education, and cultural initiatives in the community.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/ cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country's clean energy future?

INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Meadow Lake BioEnergy Centre

LOCATION: 54°08’49”N 108°17’23”W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: MEADOW LAKE TRIBAL COUNCIL

PROJECT TYPE: BIOENERGY

PARTNER: MLTC INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS LP AND NORSASK FOREST PRODUCTS LP

ACTIVE SINCE: 2022

CAPACITY: 8.3 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Meadow Lake BioEnergy Centre is the first-of-its-kind biomass energy generation facility in Saskatchewan. The generating station uses sawmill biomass residuals to create energy, enough to power more than 5,000 homes.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

The Meadow Lake BioEnergy Centre is owned by the nine First Nations that make up the membership of the Meadow Lake Tribal Council. This project provides skilled employment, boosts the local economy, and the centre’s profits are reinvested to fund healthcare, education, and housing for the communities in the Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country’s clean energy future?

INDIGENOUS-LED ENERGY PROJECTS

Innavik Hydro Project

LOCATION: 58°30’29”N 78°00’52”W

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY: INUKJUAK

PROJECT TYPE: HYDRO

PARTNER: PITUVIK LANDHOLDING CORPORATION AND INNERGEX RENEWABLE ENERGY INC.

ACTIVE SINCE: COMING SOON, ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE IN 2023

CAPACITY: 7.5 MW

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Innavik Hydro Project is a run-of-river hydroelectric facility that is expected to be completed in 2023 in northwestern Quebec, off of the coast of Hudson Bay. This project will allow the community of Inujuak to move away from their dependence on diesel fuel for energy production and will benefit the community overall through new economic opportunities, enhanced food security, and community growth.

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES:

The Innavik Hydroelectric project is a shared 50/50 partnership between the Inuit-owned Pituvik Landholding Corporation and Innergex Renewable Energy Inc., a Quebec energy corporation. This is done to ensure that the community can grow and benefit from the revenues that come from the energy produced from the dam.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was this location chosen for this project?
2. Are there any environmental/ cultural concerns related to this project?
3. What was the outcome of Indigenous collaboration on this project?
4. How does this project exemplify the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the country’s clean energy future?