

Mitigating Construction Impacts - Infrastructure

Q: How will construction impact our roads and traffic?

Construction vehicles and equipment will need access to several local roads in the Atlin area, including the Atlin Highway (Yukon to Atlin), Surprise Lake Road, Warm Bay Road, and several other roads in the Pine Creek area.

To reduce the impact of construction traffic on local roads, the Project team proposes the following mitigation measures:

- Restricting construction (heavy) vehicles to the project footprint for the duration of construction. They will not need regular access to any roads in the downtown core.
- Obtaining approvals from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) prior to construction. MOTI roads in the Project area include the Atlin Highway, Surprise Lake Road, and Warm Bay Road.
- Developing and following a traffic management plan for each construction activity affecting public roadways.
- Maintaining public access to the extent feasible during construction. We will provide clear signage and trained flaggers/traffic control personnel and use alternating lanes where possible.
- Notifying the public about any Project access requirements and expected traffic effects.
- In the event of an emergency, traffic control personnel will be familiar with the construction Emergency Response Plan and promptly open any roadway and facilitate emergency vehicles and response.

Q: Where will the powerhouse be located and how will this impact the community?

A single new powerhouse is proposed for the Project. The benefits of a single new powerhouse include - avoiding additional structures and in-water works in Pine Creek, reducing removal of riparian vegetation, and reducing risk to fish due to ramping between multiple facilities. To make the single powerhouse

feasible, it is necessary to locate the powerhouse along Warm Bay Road with the discharge of generation flows to Pine Creek, upstream of Atlin Lake.

We will prevent impacts to residents and recreational users of the area, by:

- Reducing disturbance to public use of Pine Creek Beach. The location of this new powerhouse was adjusted to set further back from Atlin Lake compared to the original design.
- Setting the new powerhouse back more than 100 m from the Atlin Campground.
- Using trees between the campground and the powerhouse site as a visual barrier.
- Minimizing noise from the powerhouse for nearby residences under normal weather conditions. This includes maintaining trees, locating the powerhouse downhill from surrounding residences, and considering sound mitigation for the building and/or enclosure or cover of the tailrace discharge. The powerhouse will primarily be operated in winter, and snow is expected to provide additional dampening of noise.

Q: How much blasting will occur and where?

The penstock (pipe) will be completely buried from Surprise Lake to the new powerhouse, except where it crosses Spruce Creek. For construction, blasting is anticipated in isolated portions along the penstock route. Prior to construction, in Summer 2023, THEL will conduct geotechnical investigations to determine where blasting is expected to be required versus where standard excavation methods can be used (i.e., excavators).

Q: How will the Project reduce the impacts of blasting for residents?

Blasting is an expensive endeavour, so motivations are aligned between residents and the Project to mitigate the use of blasting wherever possible. In many situations, blasting may be avoided based on qualified engineer assessments which allow for breaking rock using impact methods or expansion grouting. In some cases, shaped charges and directional blasting will result in smaller, more focused and minimized disturbances.

All blasting will be conducted by certified experts. The experts will follow applicable regulations and adhere to blast plans developed by a qualified blasting contractor for each location. The blasting areas will be secured, with

access limited to qualified personnel involved in, and necessary for, blasting operations.

The community will be notified regarding blasting activities. This includes:

- Providing advance notification to residences within 200 m of blasting. The notification will include the expected duration and timing. Information will be provided through methods such as letterbox drops, meetings, or individual consultations.
- Contacting the Atlin Airport prior to any blasting activity so that warnings can be broadcasted to active aircraft in the area.