

## 10.1 GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND TERMS

### 10.1.1. LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>ASL:</b>	Above Sea Level
<b>BC:</b>	British Columbia
<b>C:</b>	Celsius
<b>CCME::</b>	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
<b>CEA:</b>	Cumulative Effects Assessment
<b>CEAA:</b>	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
<b>COSEWIC:</b>	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
<b>CPAWS:</b>	Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
<b>CS:</b>	Carmacks-Stewart Transmission Project
<b>CSA:</b>	Canadian Standard Association
<b>CWS:</b>	Canadian Wildlife Service
<b>CWQI::</b>	Canadian Water Quality Index
<b>dBa:</b>	A-weighted decibels
<b>DFO:</b>	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
<b>EA:</b>	Environmental Assessment
<b>EARP:</b>	Environmental Assessment and Review Process
<b>EIA:</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>EIS::</b>	Environmental Impact Statement
<b>EMF:</b>	Electric and magnetic field
<b>EMS:</b>	Environmental Management System
<b>EMR:</b>	Energy Mines and Resources
<b>EPP:</b>	Environmental Protection Plan
<b>FISS:</b>	Yukon Fisheries Information Summary System
<b>FN:</b>	First Nation
<b>G:</b>	Government
<b>GHG::</b>	greenhouse gas
<b>GIS::</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>GPS:</b>	Global Positioning System
<b>GWh:</b>	Gigawatt hours
<b>Ha:</b>	hectares
<b>HEB:</b>	Oceans Habitat & Enhancement Branch
<b>HPW:</b>	Department of Highways and Public Works
<b>IJC:</b>	International Joint Commission
<b>Km:</b>	kilometre
<b>kV:</b>	kilovolt
<b>KWA:</b>	Key Wildlife Areas
<b>LOI:</b>	Letter of Intent
<b>LSCFN:</b>	Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation
<b>m:</b>	metres

<b>MD:</b>	Mayo-Dawson
<b>MOU:</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>MS:</b>	Minto Spur Transmission Project
<b>NGO:</b>	Non-government organizations
<b>NND:</b>	Nacho Nyak Dun First Nation
<b>NOx:</b>	Nitrogen Oxides
<b>NTFN:</b>	Northern Tutchone First Nations
<b>NTS:</b>	National Topographic Systems
<b>OCP:</b>	Official Community Plan
<b>OP:</b>	Other Public
<b>PIP:</b>	Public Involvement Program
<b>PPA:</b>	Purchase Power Agreement
<b>Project Proposal:</b>	Project Proposal Submission
<b>Proponent Guide:</b>	Proponent Guide to Information Requirements for Executive Committee Project Proposal Submissions
<b>PYLL:</b>	Potential Years of Lost Life
<b>the Resource Plan:</b>	20 Year Resource Plan
<b>RFP:</b>	Request for proposals
<b>RMO:</b>	Resource Management Officer
<b>ROW:</b>	Right-of-Way
<b>RRC:</b>	Renewal Resource Council
<b>RSF:</b>	Rate Stabilization Fund
<b>SARA:</b>	Species at Risk Act
<b>SEEA:</b>	Socio-Economic Effects Assessment
<b>SFN:</b>	Selkirk First Nation
<b>Sherwood Copper:</b>	Sherwood Copper Corporation
<b>Study Team:</b>	Environmental Assessment Study Team
<b>TDS:</b>	total dissolved solids
<b>the Project:</b>	Carmacks-Stewart/Minto Spur Transmission Project
<b>TK:</b>	Traditional Knowledge
<b>TSS:</b>	total suspended solids
<b>USGS:</b>	United States Geological Survey
<b>UTM:</b>	Universal Transverse Mercator Co-ordinate System
<b>VC:</b>	Valued Component
<b>WAF:</b>	Whitehorse-Aishihik-Faro grid
<b>WKA:</b>	Wildlife Key Areas
<b>WTAY:</b>	Wilderness Tourism Association of the Yukon
<b>YCS:</b>	Yukon Conservation Society
<b>YECL:</b>	Yukon Electrical
<b>YESAA:</b>	Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act
<b>YESAB:</b>	Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Board
<b>YTA:</b>	Yukon Trappers Association
<b>YG:</b>	Yukon Government
<b>YUB:</b>	Yukon Utilities Board
<b>Yukon Energy:</b>	Yukon Energy Corporation

### 10.1.2. LIST OF TERMS

**Aboriginal community:** A community where most of the residents are Aboriginal (i.e., Indian, Métis, Inuit or other Aboriginal Peoples) and that has a separate form of government, provides some level of service to its residents, and has clear community boundaries.

**Access road:** Any road leading to the transmission line ROW or a substation.

**Access trail:** Any trail used for construction, operation and maintenance of the transmission line ROW or a substation.

**Active labour force:** All persons 15 years of age and over, who were either employed or unemployed and looking for work in the week prior to the Census day. Typically, those not considered to be part of the active labour force include full-time students, homemakers, retired workers, seasonal workers in an "off-season" who are not looking for work, and individuals with disabilities or illnesses that preclude them from being able to work.

**Adaptive management:** Involves the implementation of new or modified mitigation measures over the life of a project to address unanticipated environmental effects. The need for the implementation of adaptive management measures may be determined through an effective follow-up program.

**Adverse effects:** Negative effects on the environment and people that may result from a proposed project.

**Aesthetic:** Pertaining to a sense of beauty. Judgments of aesthetic value are sensory, emotional, and intellectual.

**Aggregate:** Gravel; crushed rock used in construction.

**Alluvial:** Pertaining to, contained in, or composed of, alluvium; relating to the deposits made by flowing water; washed away from one place and deposited in another; as, alluvial soil, mud, accumulations, deposits.

**Alternative means of carrying out a project:** The various technically and economically feasible ways, other than the proposed way, for a project to be implemented or carried out. Examples include other project locations, different routes and methods of development, and alternative methods of project implementation or mitigation.

**Alternatives to a project:** The functionally different ways, other than the proposed project, to meet the project need and achieve the intended purpose. For example, if a need for greater power generation has been identified, a proposed project might be to build a new power generation facility. An alternative to that project might be to increase the generation capacity of an existing facility.

**Artifact:** An object produced or shaped by human craft, especially a tool, weapon, or ornament of archaeological or historical interest.

**Assessment:** An evaluation by a designated office, a screening by the executive committee or a review by a panel of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board established by Section 8 of YESAA.

**Auger:** A machine having a rotating helical shaft for boring into the earth.

**Authorization:** A licence, permit or other form of approval that is issued or given by:

- (a) the Governor in Council, a government agency, an independent regulatory agency or a municipal government, or
- (b) a first nation under its final agreement or a first nation law, but does not include an access order issued under the Yukon Surface Rights Board Act or a consent given by a first nation for access to settlement land in circumstances where an access order could be issued under that Act.

**Baseline:** Past and current conditions in which a Valued Component exists or has existed.

**Berm:** Structures, generally made of earth, used to control erosion and sedimentation by reducing the rate of surface runoff. The berms either reduce the velocity of the water, or direct water to areas that are not susceptible to erosion, thereby reducing the adverse effects of running water on exposed top soil.

**Biodiversity:** The existence of a wide range of different species in a given area or during a specific period of time.

**Board:** The Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board established by Section 8 of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act.

**Breeding bird survey:** Standardized surveys conducted during the breeding season for a given area whereby observers record the number of birds seen or heard along a travel route.

**Brush:** Includes trees, snags, stumps, shrubs, bushes and vines less than 12.5 cm in diameter measured at 30 cm above the highest ground contacting the base of the tree.

**Buffer:** An area between two different land uses that is intended to resist, absorb, or otherwise preclude developments or intrusions between the two use areas.

**Bus:** The heavy-duty, rigid connector that connects the circuit breakers or fuses to the incoming power.

**Category A settlement land:** Settlement Land where a Yukon First Nation has equivalent to fee simple title to surface and sub-surface rights. This means a Yukon First Nation has the right to use the surface of the land and the right to use what is below the surface such as minerals and oil and gas. A First Nation also has exclusive hunting rights on Category A Settlement Land. A First Nation retains aboriginal title on Category A lands.

**Category B settlement land:** Settlement Land where a Yukon First Nation has rights equivalent to fee simple to the surface of the lands only. There is no right to mines and minerals other than gravel and top soil (referred to as Specified Substances). The Yukon public continues to have access to Category B lands for fish and wildlife harvesting. A First Nation retains aboriginal title on Category B lands.

**Centreline:** A line that bisects a right-of-way into equal parts.

**Chert:** A compact rock consisting essentially of microcrystalline quartz.

**Colluvium:** The name for loose bodies of sediment that has been deposited or built up at the bottom of a low grade slope or against a barrier on that slope, transported by gravity. The deposits that collect at the foot of a steep slope or cliff are also known by the same name.

**Commissioning:** To put into active service.

**Community knowledge:** Information held by community members, such as farmers, hunters, fishers and naturalists, who are familiar with the environment in a specific geographic area. Community knowledge may be used in the environmental assessment of a proposed project. For example, fish harvesters in a specific area may know where the best "fishing spots" are, and therefore may contribute to identifying potential fish habitat.

**Compliance monitoring:** A broad term for a type of monitoring conducted to verify whether a practice or procedure meets the applicable requirements prescribed by legislation, internal policies, accepted industry standards or specified terms and conditions (e.g., in an agreement, lease, permit, license or authorization). Mitigation monitoring is one type of compliance monitoring.

**Conductor:** Any material that will readily carry a flow of electricity. In the context of transmission lines, each of the three wires comprising a circuit is referred to as a conductor.

**Confluence:** The point of juncture of two or more streams (or other waterways).

**Conservation:** Any various efforts to preserve or restore the earth's natural resources, including such measures as: the protection of wildlife; the maintenance of natural prairie grasses, wetlands or wilderness areas the control of air and water pollution and the prudent use of farmland, mineral deposits, and energy supplies.

**Contaminant:** A form of pollutant or substance that may directly or indirectly damage humans or the environment.

**Corona:** An electrical discharge, frequently luminous. Corona occur on transmission lines and sub-station components, including insulators, conductors, lines, cable terminations, bushings, and transmission line surge arresters, and can indicate faulty equipment.

**Corridor:** A narrow tract of land forming a passageway

**Council:** The Council for Yukon Indians or any successor to it or, in the absence of a successor, the first nations named in the schedule to the Yukon First Nations Land Claims Settlement Act.

**Course of action:** The action that a responsible authority may or may not take in relation to a project as a result of the environmental assessment decision.

**Cover:** Vegetation such as trees or undergrowth that provides shelter for wildlife.

**Crawler tractor:** A vehicle with tracks instead of wheels. The tracks spread the weight of the vehicle across a larger area, resulting in a lower ground pressure compared to wheels. This makes them very well suited for use on soft ground, mud and snow.

**Critical habitat:** As defined in the Species at Risk Act, "critical habitat" means the habitat that is necessary for the survival or recovery of a listed wildlife species and that is identified as the species' critical habitat in the recovery strategy or in an action plan for the species.

**Crown Corporation:** A state-controlled company or enterprise.

**Cumulative effects:** The likely effects of the project in combination with the likely effects of other past, existing and future projects and activities. To be considered a cumulative effect, the other past, existing and future projects being considered in the assessment must affect a VC that is also being affected by the principal project; in this way the projects act cumulatively upon a valued component.

**Danger tree:** Any tree outside the specified clearing boundaries determined by Yukon Energy's Representative to be a hazard to the security of the transmission system.

**dBA:** A-weighted decibels, though originally intended for the measurement of low-level sounds, are not commonly used for the measurement of environmental noise and industrial noise.

**Dead-end structure:** Transmission line towers made of heavier gauge steel that equalize stresses on the conductors and which are normally located at angle points and large spans.

**Debitage:** Lithic debris and discards found at the sites where stone tools and weapons were made.

**Decision body:** Under YESAA this refers to:

- (a) A first nation, if the project is to be located wholly or partly on its settlement land and
  - (i) the first nation has the power under the Yukon First Nations Self-Government Act or under its final agreement to issue an authorization that is required for the project to be undertaken,
  - (ii) the first nation is a proponent of the project, has the power to grant an interest in land that is required for the project to be undertaken or has received an application for financial assistance for the project, or
  - (iii) no decision document is required for the project from any federal agency or the territorial minister;

- (b) the territorial minister, if any territorial agency, municipal government or territorial independent regulatory agency
  - (i) has the power to issue an authorization that is required for the project to be undertaken,
  - (ii) in the case of a project to be located wholly or partly on non-settlement land, is a proponent of the project, has the power to grant an interest in land that is required for the project to be undertaken or has received an application for financial assistance for the project, or
  - (iii) is responsible for the administration of mines and minerals in category B or fee simple settlement land or Tetlit Gwich'in Yukon land, where the project involves a right to work those mines and minerals;
- (c) any federal agency that
  - (i) has the power to issue an authorization that is required for the project to be undertaken,
  - (ii) in the case of a project to be located wholly or partly on non-settlement land, is a proponent of the project, has the power to grant an interest in land that is required for the project to be undertaken or has received an application for financial assistance for the project, or
  - (iii) is responsible for the administration of mines and minerals in category B or fee simple settlement land or Tetlit Gwich'in Yukon land, where the project involves a right to work those mines and minerals;
- (d) the federal minister, if the project is to be located wholly or partly on non-settlement land, no other federal agency is a decision body under paragraph (c) and
  - (i) the territorial minister is not a decision body, or
  - (ii) the territorial minister is a decision body and
    - (A) the Governor in Council has the power to issue an authorization that is required for the project to be undertaken, or
    - (B) a federal independent regulatory agency is a proponent of the project, has the power to issue such an authorization or has received an application for financial assistance for the project; or
  - (e) the federal minister, if the project is to be located wholly on settlement land and
    - (i) the Governor in Council or a federal independent regulatory agency has the power to issue an authorization that is required for the project to be undertaken, or
    - (ii) a federal independent regulatory agency has received an application for financial assistance for the project.

**Decision document:** A decision document issued by a decision body under section 75, 76 or 77 of YESAA.

**Decommission:** To take out of active use (typically involves the dismantling and removal of the original structure(s) and associated facilities).

**Deflection:** A deviation or a specified amount of deviation from a given point.

**Demographic:** Information pertaining to human population dynamics, including the size, structure and distribution of populations, and how populations change over time due to births, deaths, migration and

ageing. Demographic analysis can relate to whole societies or to groups defined by criteria such as education, nationality, religion and ethnicity.

**Density:** The number of individuals in relation to the space in which they occur.

**Designated office:** An office maintained under subsection 22(1) of YESAA.

**Determination of significance:** Taking into account the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, a conclusion about whether adverse environmental effects are likely to be significant. The significance of adverse environmental effects is determined by a combination of scientific data, regulated thresholds, standards, social values and professional judgment. For example, the ecological context of a project may be a determinant of whether likely adverse effects are significant.

**Direct effect:** The initial, immediate effects caused by a specific activity. This may include:

- a change that a project may cause in the environment; or
- a change that the environment may cause to a project.

**Direction or nature of the effect:** positive, neutral, or negative/adverse; in the case of socio-economic effects, as noted in the YESAB Guides, effects may at times be considered to be both positive and negative.

**Distribution system:** The wood poles, conductors, and transformers that deliver electricity to customers. It transforms higher voltage to lower voltage, usable levels.

**Disturbance :** A disruption in the normal functioning of an organism or system.

**Domestic Resource Use:** The harvest of natural resources for personal use or consumption (i.e., not sold).

**Drainage basin:** A region of land where water from rain or snowmelt drains downhill into a body of water, such as a river, lake, dam, estuary, wetland, sea or ocean. Each drainage basin is separated topographically from adjacent basins by a ridge, hill or mountain, which is known as a water divide or sometimes a watershed.

**Duration of the effect:** How long the effect would last. Effects may be considered low, moderate or high. Low effects are short term, lasting less than one year or not materially beyond the duration of the construction phase or the decommissioning phase of the Project. Moderate effects are medium term, lasting from 1 to 10 years or no more than one-generation span of the species affected. High effects are long term, lasting more than 10 years or more than one generation of the species affected or lasting throughout a major portion of the operations phase of the Project.

**Easement:** The permission or right to use a defined area of land for a specific purpose such as transmission line rights-of-way.



**Ecodistrict:** Integrated map units characterized by relatively homogeneous physical landscape and climatic conditions. Subdivisions of an ecoregion.

**Ecological or Socio-Economic Context:** The sensitivity to environmental or socio-economic disturbance, capacity to adapt to change. This may be ranked as low, moderate or high; where ranked low, the VC is resilient to imposed change, where ranked moderate the VC has some capacity to adapt to imposed change and where ranked high the VC is fragile and has low resilience to imposed change.

**Economic leakage:** The fraction of money which is not re-spent in the circular flow of money through the economy. Leakages typically include personal savings and the purchase of imported goods.

**Ecoregion:** An integrated map unit characterized by a unique combination of landscape physiography and ecoclimate. Subdivisions of an ecozone.

**Ecosystem:** A functional unit consisting of all living organisms (plants, animals, microbes, etc.) in a given area, and all non-living physical and chemical factors of their environment, linked together through nutrient cycling and energy flow. An ecosystem can be any size (e.g., a log, pond, forest) but always functions as a whole unit.

**Ecozone:** Areas of the earth's surface representative of very generalized ecological units that consist of a distinctive assemblage of physical and biological characteristics.

**Effects monitoring:** The monitoring of environmental and socio-economic effects, or of the effectiveness of mitigative measures.

**Elevation:** An indication of the vertical distance of a point above or below sea level, expressed in metres.

**Emission:** A substance discharged into the air; the giving off of gases from industrial processes or engine exhaust from transport vehicles.

**Employment Rate:** The proportion of individuals in the active labour force that have a job. This includes all persons working for wages or salaries, all self-employed persons (with or without paid help) working in their own business, farm or professional practice, and all persons working without pay on a family farm or business during the reference week.

**Endangered:** As defined by COSEWIC: a species facing imminent extirpation or extinction.

**Environment:** The components of the Earth and includes:

- (a) air, land and water;
- (b) all layers of the atmosphere;
- (c) all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms; and
- (d) the interacting natural systems that include the components referred to in (a) to (c).

**Environmental component:** Fundamental element of the physical, biological or socio-economic environment, including the air, water, soil, terrain, vegetation, wildlife, fish, birds and land use that may be affected by a proposed project, and may be individually assessed in the environmental assessment.

**Environmental Management System (EMS):** Part of an organization's overall management practices related to environmental affairs. It includes organizational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing and maintaining an environmental policy. This approach is often formally carried out to meet the requirements of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14000 series.

**Environmental monitoring:** Periodic or continuous surveillance or testing, according to a predetermined schedule, of one or more environmental components. Monitoring is usually conducted to determine the level of compliance with stated requirements, or to observe the status and trends of a particular environmental component over time.

**Erosion:** Physical and chemical breaking down and transportation of geologic material.

**Executive committee:** The executive committee of the Board established by section 8 of YESAA.

**Existing project:** An activity that has been undertaken or completed and that, if proposed to be undertaken, would be subject to assessment under section 47 of YESAA.

**Eyrie:** Variant of aerie, and referring to the nest of a bird of prey, typically built at high altitude.

**Fauna:** The animal life of a region.

**Federal minister:** With regard to YESAA this means the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, unless another member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada is designated by the Governor in Council as the federal minister for the purposes of this Act.

**Fee simple settlement land:** Land that is, or is to be treated as, fee simple settlement land, as referred to in the definition "settlement land". Settlement Land owned under the same form of fee simple title as is commonly held by individuals who own land. For example, buying an individual lot in a subdivision will normally be held in fee simple title.

**Feller buncher:** A piece of forestry machinery equipped with an attachment that cuts trees in place. It consists of a standard heavy equipment base with a tree-grabbing device furnished with a circular saw or a shear - a pinching device designed to cut small trees off at the base. The machine then places the cut tree on a stack suitable for a skidder or forwarder, or other means of transport (yarding) for further processing.

**Final agreement:** A final agreement within the meaning of the Yukon First Nations Land Claims Settlement Act or the agreement contained in Appendix C to the Gwich'in Agreement.

**Financial assistance:** A payment, loan or loan guarantee, but does not include:

- (a) a refund, remission, reduction or deferral, or any other form of relief from the payment, of a tax, duty or fee, other than relief provided by law to permit the undertaking of an activity specifically named in the law;
- (b) assistance for anything done preliminary to a project, such as a feasibility study, that does not have effects on the environment; or
- (c) assistance for an environmental or socio-economic study undertaken in relation to the assessment of a project, except a study that itself comprises a project.

**Firm power:** Power (electricity) that must be supplied as agreed under contract, even under adverse conditions.

**Fish Habitat:** Spawning, nursery, rearing, food supply and migration areas upon which fish depend

**First Nation:** A Yukon First Nation, within the meaning of the Umbrella Final Agreement, and includes the Gwich'in Tribal Council, in relation to consultation, or the Tetlit Gwich'in, in relation to any other matter.

**Flora:** The plant life of a specific area or locality.

**Flow:** Motion characteristic of fluids (liquids or gases); any uninterrupted stream or discharge.

**Fluvial:** Refers to all topics associated with the flow of water. Fluvial usually refers to rivers, streams and sometimes through flow, overland flow and percolation. It may also refer to glaciers and oceans, though these are usually known as glacial, oceanic and coastal.

**Footprint:** The surface area occupied by a structure or activity.

**Fragmentation:** See Habitat Fragmentation.

**Frequency of the effect:** Refers to how often an impact would occur, and may be ranked as low, moderate or high. Low frequency means the effects would never occur, occur once or seldom occur. Moderate frequency means the effect would occur occasionally. High frequency means the effect **would** occur continuously, on a regular basis or at regular intervals.

**Furbearer/ furbearing mammals:** Referring to those mammal species that are trapped for the useful or economic value of their fur.

**Generating Station:** A generating station is a structure that produces electricity. It can be run many different ways, including by burning coal or natural gas, or by using water (hydro) power. If it uses water, the station will normally be a dam, with turbines inside.

**Geographic or socio-economic extent of the effect:** May be ranked as low, moderate or high. Where there is a low geographic extent the effect extends only within the Project footprint or Project Site Area; for socio-economic effects this includes residents and activities in the Route Study Area other than

communities. Where there is a moderate geographic extent the effect extends beyond the footprint and is within the Project Study Region; for socio-economic effects the effects would extend to a moderate number of people within a definable group in this region. Where there is a high geographic extent the effect extends beyond the Project Study Region and is within Yukon, or extends outside Yukon. For socio-economic effects the effect may extend to a major portion of a definable group of people, e.g., a major portion of specific communities.

**Geographic Information System (GIS):** A computerized information system which uses geo-referenced spatial and tabular databases to capture, store, update, manipulate, analyze, and display information.

**Geomorphic:** Of or resembling the earth or its shape or surface configuration.

**Gigawatt:** A Gigawatt is the unit of electrical power equivalent to one billion watts or one million kilowatts.

**Glacial till:** Till is an unsorted glacial sediment. Glacial drift is a general term for the coarsely graded and extremely heterogeneous sediments of glacial origin. Glacial till is that part of glacial drift which was deposited directly by the glacier. It may vary from clays to mixtures of clay, sand, gravel and boulders.

**Glaciofluvial:** Pertaining to the meltwater streams flowing from wasting glacier and especially to the deposits and landforms produced by streams.

**Glaciolacustrine silts:** Sediments pertaining to, derived from, or deposited in glacial lakes.

**Government agency:** A federal agency or a territorial agency.

**Government fiscal flows:** The composition and level of government revenues and expenditures. Revenues are generally collected through direct and indirect taxation or bond issuance, and expenditures typically include operations, capital investment and transfers.

**Greenhouse gas:** Gaseous components of the atmosphere that contribute to the "greenhouse effect". Some greenhouse gases occur naturally in the atmosphere, while others result from human activities. Naturally occurring greenhouse gases include water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone. Certain human activities, however, add to the levels of most of these naturally occurring gases.

**Grid power:** An electrical power transmission system over a large area is often referred to as the grid. Redundant paths and lines are provided so that power can be routed from any power plant to any load center, through a variety of routes, based on the economics of the transmission path and the cost of power. Power that is supplied from such a system is referred to as grid power.

**Groundwater:** The portion of sub-surface water that is below the water table, in the zone of saturation.

**Guy wires:** A metal wire used to aid stability in tall structures. It is attached to the structure on one end and the ground on the other.

**Habitat:** The area or environment where an organism or ecological community normally lives or occurs. It is the space uniquely suited to required functions (e.g., breeding) through the arrangement of food, water, shelter, and cover.

**Habitat fragmentation:** The process of environmental change resulting from the emergence of discontinuities in an organism's preferred habitat. Habitat fragmentation can be caused by geological processes that slowly alter the layout of the physical environment or by human activity such as land conversion, which can alter the environment on a much faster time scale.

**Habitat Protection Area:** An area identified as requiring special protection under Yukon's Wildlife Act. It is an area where disturbance to wildlife, or to the plants on which it depends, could lead to the decline of a species or population. It may be an area where a wildlife species is concentrated at certain times of year, a habitat type that is rare in the Yukon or a site that is particularly fragile. Habitat Protection Areas can provide the buffering and linkage of core protected areas described in the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy.

**Hand clearing:** clearing vegetation in sensitive areas using tools carried by hand such as chain saws, brush saws, axes or similar equipment.

**Heavy equipment:** That type of machinery used in clearing operations, such as skidders, crawler tractors, loaders and tree shears and does not include hand-held equipment or vehicles approved for travel on access roads.

**Hectare (ha):** A metric unit of square measure equal to 10,000 square metres or 2.471 acres.

**Herbicide:** A product used to destroy or inhibit plant growth.

**Heritage resource:**

- (a) a moveable work or assembly of works of people or of nature, other than a record only, that is of scientific or cultural value for its archaeological, palaeontological, ethnological, prehistoric, historic or aesthetic features;
- (b) a record, regardless of its physical form or characteristics, that is of scientific or cultural value for its archaeological, palaeontological, ethnological, prehistoric, historic or aesthetic features; or
- (c) an area of land that contains a work or assembly of works referred to in paragraph (a) or an area that is of aesthetic or cultural value, including a human burial site outside a recognized cemetery.

**Heritage site:** A heritage site is a location where a landmark of natural or cultural importance is legally protected. Heritage resources in the Yukon are protected under the *Historic Resources Act* and are defined as (i) historic sites, (ii) historic objects, and (iii) any work or assembly of works of nature or human endeavour that is of value for its archaeological, palaeontological, pre-historic, historic, scientific, or aesthetic features.

**Hiab:** Hiab, or Hydrauliska Industri AB, is a Finnish manufacturer of loader cranes, demountable containers, forestry cranes, truck-mounted forklifts and tail lifts. The term in some countries is used as a synonym for loader cranes of any make (as is the case here).

**Hydroelectric power:** Hydroelectric power is electricity harnessed from the energy of moving or falling water. Most hydroelectric power comes from the potential energy of dammed water driving a water turbine and generator.

**Hydrology:** The science dealing with the properties, distribution and circulation of water.

**Hydrograph:** Hydro (meaning water) and graph (meaning chart) refers to a record of discharge (flow) in a stream or river through time.

**Ice jamming:** Melting ice becomes trapped in narrow reaches of the river resulting in flooding upstream.

**Impact:** A positive or negative effect of a disturbance on the environment or a component of the environment.

**Indirect effect:** A effect caused by a given action but occurring later in time or further removed in distance.

**Infrastructure:** The basic features needed for the operation or construction of a system or community (e.g. roads, utilities etc.).

**Insulators:** An insulator is a material or object which contains no movable electrical charges. When a voltage is placed across an insulator, no charges flow, so no electric current appears.

**Interested publics/ other publics:** Any person or body having an interest in the outcome of an assessment, for a purpose that is not frivolous or vexatious, and includes:

- (a) the Fish and Wildlife Management Board established under the Umbrella Final Agreement, in relation to a project that is likely to affect the management and conservation of fish or wildlife or their habitat;
- (b) the salmon subcommittee of the Fish and Wildlife Management Board, in relation to a project that is likely to affect the management and conservation of salmon or their habitat; and
- (c) a renewable resource council established under a first nation's final agreement, in relation to a project that is likely to affect the management and conservation of fish or wildlife or their habitat within the traditional territory of that first nation.

**Intermontane plain:** Geographic term referring to a largely area of land, with generally low relief, located between mountains.

**Invasive Species:** noxious weeds or other vegetation which are not native to a particular habitat. These species may be harmful to the existence of other plants or may be unwanted, wild or feral plants that may be harmful to human, animal or property.

**Journeyman:** A tradesman who may well have completed an apprenticeship but is not yet able to set up his or her own workshop as a master.

**Kilovolt (kV):** A volt is the unit of electrical force or potential that causes a current to flow in a circuit. One kilovolt (kV) is equal to 1,000 volts.

**Kilowatt (kW):** The unit of power equivalent to 1,000 watts.

**Kilowatt Hour (kWh):** The unit measure of electrical power equivalent to use of 1,000 watts for a period of one hour (e.g., ten 100-watt light bulbs switched on for one hour would use one kWh [or 1,000 watts for one hour]).

**Kinnikinnick:** Common term for bearberries, or three species of dwarf shrubs adapted to arctic and sub-arctic climates.

**Lacustrine:** Of, pertaining to, or inhabiting lakes.

**Labour Force Participation Rate:** The labour force available in the week (Sunday to Saturday) expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over.

**Land Use Permit:** A Land Use Permit allows you to do a specific activity over a specified period of time. It does not give you any exclusive rights or tenure to the land.

**Letter of Intent (LOI):** A document outlining an agreement between two or more parties before the agreement is finalized.

**Likelihood:** The degree of certainty of an event occurring. Likelihood can be stated as a probability.

**Lithic:** An artifact consisting of stone

**Magnitude of effect:** The level of detectability of effect, which for the purposes of assessment may be described as low, moderate and high. Effects described as low are unlikely to be detectable or measurable, or are below established thresholds or acceptable change; for some environmental assessments this means that less than 5% of the VC population or area is affected. Effects described as moderate could be detectable within normal range or variation with a well designed monitoring program, or below established thresholds of acceptable change. For some environmental assessments, from 5-10% of the VC population may be affected. Effects described as high would be readily detectable without a monitoring program and outside normal range of variation, or exceeds established thresholds of acceptable change. For some environmental assessment, greater than 10% of the VC population may be affected.

**Marshalling area or yard:** An open area used to stock-pile, store and assemble construction materials.

**Megawatt (MW):** A watt is the unit used to measure electric power. A megawatt (MW) is 1,000,000 watts.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** A legal document describing an agreement between parties.

**Merchantable:** A tree or a stand of trees that has reached maturity (rotation age and/or size) and is suitable and/or ready for harvest.

**Mitigation (mitigative measures):** measures for the elimination, reduction, or control of adverse environmental or socio-economic effects, which include:

- (a) Avoiding effects altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action.
- (b) Minimizing effects by limiting the degree of magnitude of the action and its implementation.
- (c) Rectifying the effects by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment.
- (d) Reducing or eliminating the effects over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.
- (e) Compensating for effects by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

**Moiety:** Term used to describe each descent group in a culture which is divided exactly into two descent groups.

**Monitoring:** Any on-going process or program for measuring the actual effects of constructing or operating a development.

**Nodwell:** a tracked vehicle for utility applications, often equipped with a man-lift bucket, backhoe, or post-hole auger.

**Non-productive Land:** Includes all forest land not capable of producing timber of merchantable size.

**Non-settlement land:**

- (a) land other than settlement land;
- (b) water lying on or flowing through land, including settlement land; or
- (c) mines and minerals, other than specified substances, in category B or fee simple settlement land or Tetlit Gwich'in Yukon land.

**Not sufficiently regenerated land:** land that is still in the process of recovering from prior forest fire activity.

**Organic material:** Refers to any material that is capable of decay or of being decomposed or is the product of decomposition, and is usually the remains of a recently living organism, and may also include still-living organisms. Also called organic matter.



**Orthographic photos:** An aerial photographs that have been geometrically corrected ("orthorectified") such that the scale of the photograph is uniform, meaning that the photo can be considered equivalent to a map.

**Overburden:** The soil (including organic material) or loose material that overlies bedrock.

**Panel of the Board:** A panel established under subsection 65(1), paragraph 93(1)(a) or subsection 95(1), 103(1) or 105(1) of YESAA.

**Permafrost:** Permafrost is defined on the basis of temperature, as soil or rock that remains below 0°C throughout the year, and forms when the ground cools sufficiently in winter to produce a frozen layer that persists throughout the following summer.

**Phase:** Describes the distinct time periods in which project related effects accrue. There are three phases associated with the project: Construction, Operation and maintenance, and Decommissioning.

**Physiography:** A description of the natural features of the surface of the earth.

**Plan:** Any plan, program, policy or proposal that is not a project or existing project.

**Pole framing:** The construction of poles and corner towers, including cross arms, bracing, and preparation of foundation for poles.

**Pole setting:** Pole setting involves the installation of poles in the ground. This includes digging the holes with an auger or drill, placing the poles upright into the holes, and screwing in anchors to hold the pole in place.

**Poorly Drained Soils:** Poorly drained soils are typically deposited on locally shallowly sloping terrain and tend to accumulate water due to the site's inability to drain water away from the location, poor soil percolation potential or a combination of both.

**Potential labour force:** All persons in a given population, excluding institutional residents, age 15 years and over.

**Power grid:** A network of electric power lines and associated equipment used to transmit and distribute electricity over a geographic area; or, the network of transmission lines that link all generating plants in a region with local distribution networks to help maximize service reliability

**Probability:** The chance or possibility that a specific event will occur.

**Project:** An activity that is subject to assessment under section 47 or 48 and is not exempt from assessment under section 49 of YESAA. For the purposes of this submission document it is the Carmacks-Stewart/Minto Spur Transmission Project.

**Project Site Area:** The area that contains the transmission line right-of-way and footprint areas ultimately needed for the Project construction and operation. This is the ultimate footprint area for the project. Mapping of the preferred route describes in effect an area of about 100 m width within which the Project Site area will be located.

**Project Study Region:** The portion of the Northern Tutchone Planning Region between Carmacks and Mayo that is generally in close proximity to the Klondike Highway and the existing access road from the Klondike Highway to the Minto mine site.

**Proponent:** Proponent, in relation to a project or other activity, means a person or body that proposes to undertake it, or a government agency, independent regulatory agency, municipal government or first nation that proposes to require — under a federal or territorial law, a municipal by-law or a first nation law — that it be undertaken.

**Public Consultation and Involvement Program (PIP):** A plan developed by Yukon Energy describing public consultation and involvement activities being carried out in 2006. It was provided to YESAB in January 2006 (See Appendix 4A for a copy of the PIP Plan).

**Purchase Power Agreement (PPA):** An agreement to be negotiated between Yukon Energy and Minto mine setting out the respective rights and obligations between the parties with regard to the supply and purchase of electrical power.

**Push brace:** A wood brace attached to a wood pole supporting an overhead service. The push brace is attached to the same side of the pole as the service drop cable, to prevent tension on the cable from pulling the pole over.

**Range:** The geographical area where a species can be found.

**Raptor:** A bird of prey (for this study, includes eagles, hawks, falcons, owls and osprey).

**Rate stabilization fund:** Governments have over the years supported a series of rate relief programs. These programs have been funded by Yukon government contributions or at times directly by the Yukon Development Corporation. In 1998 after the Faro mine closed, the territorial government provided \$10 million for the Rate Stabilization Program. The annual cost of this program is approximately \$3.5 million and it reduces Yukoners' electricity bills by as much as a third. This fund is now being operated from internal funds provided by the Yukon Development Corporation. The program has been extended until March 31, 2007.

**Ratepayer:** A person who pays a regular charge for the use of a public utility, as gas or electricity, usually based on the quantity consumed.

**Rare:** Infrequently occurring in Yukon or uncommon.

**Reactor:** A device whose primary purpose is to introduce reactance into a circuit.

**Reconnaissance:** An examination or survey of a region in reference to its general geological character (e.g., wildlife occurrence in Project area).

**Recreational:** Where the primary intent is enjoyment.

**Regeneration:** The renewal of the natural vegetation, either by natural or artificial means.

**Registered Trapping Concession:** A parcel of land on which the holder is given exclusive rights to harvest furbearing animals.

**Regulatory:** Relating to a regulation or pertaining to legal requirements.

**Remediation:** The act or process of correcting a fault or deficiency

**Renewable Resources Council (RRC):** The Yukon First Nation Final Agreement provided for the establishment of Renewable Resources Councils (RRC's) in each of First Nation's Traditional territories. Acting as independent public interest advisory bodies, the RRC's may make recommendations on any matter related to fish and wildlife conservation, the establishment of Special Management Areas and to forest resources management.

**Residual Effects:** Effects of a project that are expected to remain after mitigation measures have been implemented.

**Re-vegetation:** The reestablishment and development of self-sustaining plant cover on disturbed sites. This may require human assistance such as ground preparation and reseeding or the natural vegetation of the area will be encouraged to re-grow in the area.

**Right-of-Way (ROW):** Area of land cleared and maintained to accommodate a structure such as a road or a transmission line.

**Riparian:** Along the banks of rivers and streams.

**Riparian Zone:** The interface between land and a water body. They are typically characterized by hydrophilic vegetation and are often subject to flooding. Riparian zones are associated with water bodies and wetland areas.

**Route Study Area:** This is the area defined in MOU between NTFN and Yukon Energy to guide the selection of a preferred route and Project Site Area for the Project, consisting of conceptual 500m wide study areas for the Carmacks Stewart/Minto Spur Transmission Project route running generally along the Klondike Highway from Carmacks to Stewart Crossing and routing options for the Minto Spur Project generally alongside the existing access road to the Minto Mine.

**Rut:** A furrow or track in the ground, especially one made by the passage of a vehicle or vehicles.

**Scoping:** The iterative process of identifying issues of concern related to the project, including the selection of Valued Components (VCs), identification potential pathways of effects along with the spatial and temporal boundaries for assessing effects of the project.

**Sedimentation:** Deposition of suspended solids in surface water.

**Sediment load:** Sediment load is divided into three categories: 1) Suspended Load: Contains organic and inorganic particulate matter that is suspended in and carried by moving water. 2) Dissolved Load: All organic and inorganic material carried in solution by moving water. 3) Bed load: Coarse materials such as gravel, stones, and boulders that move along the bottom of the channel. These materials move by skipping, rolling, and sliding

**Self-government agreement:** Self-government agreement has the same meaning as in the Yukon First Nations Self-Government Act.

**Settlement land:** Land that is category A settlement land, category B settlement land or fee simple settlement land under a final agreement or under section 63 of the Yukon Surface Rights Board Act, or land that is to be treated as such by virtue of a self-government agreement, and includes Tetlit Gwich'in Yukon land, but does not include water or mines and minerals defined to be non-settlement land.

**Shoreline:** The narrow strip of land in immediate contact with the sea, lake or river.

**Significance:** A measure of the residual effects after the application of mitigation measures. Effects may be considered significant (high residual effect), potentially significant (moderate residual effect), not significant/ insignificant (low residual effect) or not significant/ negligible (no definable effects).

**Slash:** Debris resulting from the felling of trees and shrubs.

**Socio-economic effects:** Includes effects on economies, health, culture, traditions, lifestyles and heritage resources.

**Soil Fixing Vegetation:** Plants with root structures that grab the soil and hold it in place.

**Soil liquefaction:** The process by which saturated, unconsolidated soil or sand is converted into a suspension. It is commonly observed in quicksand, quick clay, turbidity currents, and as a result of earthquake shock in unconsolidated sediments. It can be caused when flowing water reduces the friction between sand particles (as from an underground spring), or when a sudden change in pressure or repeated shock acting on water saturated or supersaturated sediments (as in an earthquake).

**Species:** A group of inter-breeding organisms that can produce fertile offspring.

**Species at risk:** Plants or animals that are in danger of extinction or extirpation throughout all or a portion of their range.

**Spur Line:** Referring here to a transmission line of lower voltage that branches from a higher voltage transmission line, and is attached to the transmission system at only one end.

**Stage:** Refers to a period of development activity. There are two stages of development of the CS/MS Project.

**Staging:** Resting and gathering of waterfowl such as geese and ducks on a water body prior to, or during fall migration.

**Stand:** A community of trees sufficiently uniform in species, age, arrangement, or condition to be recognized as a separate group from the forest or other growth in the area.

**Step-down transformer:** Equipment that steps down high voltages and currents of the electrical power system to convenient levels for use.

**Subsistence economy:** An economy in which a group obtains the necessities of life through self-provisioning. In such a system wealth is not measured in any form of currency, but rather exists in the form of natural resources.

**Substation:** An assemblage of equipment for switching and/or transforming or regulating the voltage of electricity.

**Surficial Geology:** The geology of surficial deposits, including soils; the term is sometimes applied to the study of bedrock at or near the earth's surface.

**Synchronous Condenser:** Equipment used to automatically regulate and correct power quality. In the case of the CS development, this equipment would be located at either terminus of the transmission line within the Carmacks and Stewart Crossing substations.

**Temporal:** Pertaining to time.

**Tangent:** A line meeting another line at a common point and sharing a common tangent line or tangent plane at that point.

**Tendering:** Providing different groups and companies with an opportunity to bid on a job. The general principle is that the qualified bidder with the lowest price gets the job. "Open tendering" means that anyone can bid. "Restricted tendering" means that only some types of companies can bid.

**Terrestrial:** Living on or in the ground, or related to the ground.

**Territory:**

- (a) in relation to a first nation for which a final agreement is in effect, that first nation's traditional territory and any of its settlement lands within Yukon that are not part of that traditional territory;

- (b) in relation to the first nation known as the Tetlit Gwich'in, the areas described in Annex A of Appendix C to the Gwich'in Agreement; and
- (c) in relation to any other first nation, the geographic area within Yukon identified on the map provided by that first nation under the Umbrella Final Agreement for the purpose of delineating the first nation's traditional territory.

**Thermokarst:** Refers to a land surface that forms as ice-rich permafrost melts. The name is given to very irregular surfaces of marshy hollows and small hummocks. Small domes that form on the surface due to frost heaving with the onset of winter are only temporary features. They then collapse with the arrival of next summer's thaw and leave a small surface depression.

**Threatened species:** As defined by COSEWIC, a species likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed.

**Three-phase circuit:** Three-phase power is a type of polyphase system to power motors and other devices. Three-phase systems may or may not have a neutral wire, which allows the three phase system to use a higher voltage while still supporting lower single phase appliances. In high voltage distribution systems it is common not to have a neutral wire as the loads can simple be connected between phases.

**Threshold:** A limit of acceptable change. Threshold measurements enable both project proponents and regulators to evaluate the acceptability of a project-related effects on a specific component of the environment by comparing the effects of the project against a pre-determine limit of acceptable change. Thresholds may be refined over time, as understandings of populations and ecological interactions evolve.

**Topography:** the relief features or surface configuration of an area.

**Total suspended solids:** The material residue that is left in a sample of water after it is evaporated that does not pass through a filter.

**Traditional economy:** A traditional economy is an economic system in which decisions such as the who, how, what, and for whom questions are all made on the basis of customs, beliefs, religion, habit, etc.

**Traditional knowledge:** The accumulated body of knowledge, observations and understandings about the environment, and about the relationship of living beings with one another and the environment, that is rooted in the traditional way of life of first nations.

Note: Often referred to as Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK), which is knowledge held by, and unique to Aboriginal peoples. It is a living body of knowledge that is cumulative and dynamic and adapted over time to reflect changes in the social, economic, environmental, spiritual and political spheres of the Aboriginal knowledge holders. Sometimes used interchangeably with Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), however TEK is generally considered to be a subset of ATK and is primarily concerned about knowledge about the environment.

**Traditional lifestyle:** Activities which have been followed by communities and people for long periods, often for generations.

**Traditional resource use:** Hunting, trapping, fishing and food gathering by Aboriginal peoples whether for subsistence purposes or not.

**Traditional territory:** Lands designated under the Umbrella Final Agreement that provide rights for subsistence hunting and fishing activities; allocation of 70 percent of traplines; representation on land use planning bodies; membership on the Yukon Water Board, Development Assessment Board, Surface Rights Board, Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Renewable Resources Councils.

**Transect:** A long, continuous sample area.

**Transformer/Switching Station:** A transformer/switching station is a facility that transforms electricity from a generating station to the higher voltages needed to carry it on the existing transmission system, or a facility that transforms electricity from the transmission system to the lower voltages needed to distribute it to customers.

**Transmission line(s):** A structure consisting of a series of towers and wires used to carry electrical power, generally at high voltage.

**Tributary:** A stream or river that flows into another river or other body of water.

**Umbrella Final Agreement:** Umbrella Final Agreement has the same meaning as in the Yukon First Nations Land Claims Settlement Act.

**Uncertainty:** The possible error or range of error which may exist within assumptions

**Understory vegetation:** An underlying layer of vegetation, especially the plants that grow beneath a forest's canopy.

**Unemployment Rate:** The proportion of individuals in the active labour force that do not have a job. The classification of unemployed does not account for the underemployed, or those individuals working part time but desiring a full time position. As well, the classification does not include discouraged workers: those individuals who wish to work but have ceased looking because they do not believe they will find a job.

**Ungulate:** Hoofed mammals, including elk, moose, deer and caribou.

**UTM Grid:** A grid system based upon the Transverse Mercator projection. The UTM grid extends North-South from 80oN to 80oS latitude and, starting at the 180o Meridian, is divided eastwards into 60, 60 zones with a half degree overlap with zone one beginning at 180o longitude. The UTM grid is used for topographic maps and geo-referencing satellite images.

**Valued Component:** Described in YESAB guides as an element of a project area that is valued for environmental, scientific, social, aesthetic, or cultural reasons. For the Project, VCs were identified in the process of scoping the Project and through the Public Involvement Program (PIP).

**VAR (volt-amperes-reactive):** In alternating-current power transmission and distribution, volt-amperes reactive (vars) are the product of the rms voltage and current, or the apparent power, multiplied by the sine of the phase angle between the voltage and the current.

**Vegetative/ treed buffer:** An area that protects or reduces impacts to a natural resource from human activity; a strip of land along roads, trails or waterways that is generally maintained to enhance aesthetic values or ecosystem integrity.

**Vegetative Mat:** The living vegetative layer found at ground level. This includes root, rhizome and mycelium structures and the material contained in the H (humus) and A<sub>1</sub> (soil horizon with organics) soil horizons.

**Viewscape:** A viewscape is all of the land and water seen from a point or along a series of points (a road or trail).

**Waterfowl:** Ducks, geese and swans (game birds that frequent water).

**Water regime:** A description of water body (i.e., lake or river) with respect to elevation, flow rate, velocity, daily fluctuations, seasonal variations, etc.

**Watershed:** The area within which all water drains to collect in common channel or lake.

**Watt-hour:** A watt-hour is a unit of energy. One watt-hour is the amount of electrical energy equivalent to a one-watt load drawing power for one hour.

**Wetlands:** Those lands where the water table is at, near or above surface or where land has been saturated for a long enough period to produce such features as wet-altered soils and water-tolerant vegetation.

**Wildlife habitat:** Any area providing food, shelter, cover, air and space, or any one of the aforementioned, to wildlife such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and/or invertebrates.

**Wildlife Key Areas - WKA:** Any area that is critical to wildlife during at least a portion of the year. This importance may be due to vegetative characteristics such as residual nesting cover, or behavioral aspects of the animals such as lambing areas. Key areas include: winter ranges, lambing/fawning/calving areas, dancing/strutting grounds, nesting areas, breeding grounds, riparian and woody drainages, and roosting areas.

**Work Force:** Persons within the labour market or are working or who are available for work.



**Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act – YESAA:** An Act to establish a process for assessing the environmental and socio-economic effects of certain activities in Yukon.

**Yukon Indian person:** A person enrolled under a final agreement — other than the Gwich'in Agreement — or a person who is a Tetlit Gwich'in.



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