



President's Message

There are never enough words that can be said about someone who has done exceptional work for the benefit of their own people. This summer and last fall, we sadly bid farewell to two colleagues who contributed significantly to the construction of the Five Nations Energy Inc. transmission line project which, as you know, is owned by the communities of Attawapiskat, Kashechewan and Fort Albany. I want to acknowledge two of our own who worked with us to provide better and more efficient electrical service to our coastal communities.

Our two friends were totally committed to completing and maintaining this magnificent asset. The efforts on the part of these two remarkable individuals along with the other team members of the project have brought better living conditions for the folks up along the coast. In time I know that our people will come to better appreciate what they have today, especially considering what we had to contend with before hooking up to better generating facilities to the south. Ernie T. Sutherland and Cecil MacDonald played key roles in helping to build this transmission line. Many obstacles were overcome to bring the project to reality, maintain the line and build upon its successes. Mr. Sutherland, as the first President of Five Nations Energy Inc. was heavily involved in the negotiations with all levels of government to get the project off of the ground and Mr. MacDonald

dedicated himself to the construction and maintenance of the line. You can find more information about Mr. MacDonald and his achievements later in this newsletter. On behalf of the member communities, we extend our words of appreciation to the families of these two individuals. God bless!

Earlier this past summer, some members of our board were given the opportunity to tour all three substations in each one of the communities. We also had a chance to see where the Five Nations Energy Inc. line connects to the Hydro One Networks line from Otter Rapids. As one of the participants taking the tour, it was totally astounding to see how big the equipment is and how much work is involved in maintaining and doing the work to upgrade these facilities. It is very impressive and today I have a much better appreciation of what our communities have as an asset. It is our hope too that our young people can begin to pursue the education required to become employed within this line of work. It wasn't that long ago that we had to sit in the dark to wait for Ontario Hydro to show up whenever the line went down. If the weather was bad, we had to wait until it cleared up before repairs could begin. There was nobody else we could count on to provide a solution whenever a problem occurred. Five Nations Energy Inc. is happy to report that we now have our own people who provide the maintenance service, and our owner communities should be proud of this as well. It is quite encouraging to see our own young people doing the work themselves.

During one of the annual spring breakups two years ago, it was our own personnel who tackled the job of reconnecting both Kashechewan and Attawapiskat when some of our poles were knocked down by the ice on the Albany River crossing. For an event such as this, Hydro One had a tentative plan which would have taken close to three weeks before they could have fixed the damage. Under the direction

of our late colleague, Mr. MacDonald, and along with some assistance from our Hydro One friends in Moosonee, the Five Nations Energy Inc. team came up with its own plan. Because of their quick action, power was restored to Fort Albany within eight hours and Kashechewan and Attawapiskat were reconnected to grid supply 11 days later. If FNEI had not been able to reconnect the Kashechewan and Attawapiskat as quickly as it did, the fuel supply at both sites might not have been enough to keep the generators going. This would have meant more power outages and more costs to fly in more fuel for both communities.

We found out from the tour of the facilities that the total amount of the assets owned by the communities is at \$80 million. This figure is the value of all of the infrastructure including the lines, poles, equipment and the substations at each one of the three communities, but excluding the portion of the line from Attawapiskat to the Victor site. The ownership of this portion of the line will be transferred to FNEI once the work is done at Victor and this will add to the value of the total assets.

Each community is serviced by its own distribution company and each has its own distribution assets. Overall, the operation of the transmission and the three distribution companies is a huge success and should be the pride and joy of the communities. There is no other First Nation-owned transmission company anywhere else in Canada. Cat Lake was the only other First Nation-owned transmission company, but close to two years ago, it was handed back over to Hydro One because of financial difficulties. Five Nations is also one of the only five licensed transmission companies in Ontario. It is quite imperative that we continue to operate the way we do today and hopefully this will encourage other First Nation groups to set up their own transmission companies.

We are a model to be looked upon

Western James Bay Telecom Network to use FNEI Fibre Optic Cable to Deliver High Speed Internet Services

Contributed by Morry Brown, Project Coordinator, Western James Bay Telecom Network

Residents and businesses in Kashechewan and Fort Albany could soon receive high speed Internet services from the planned Western James Bay Telecommunications Network (WJBTN) if provincial and government funding is received to deliver advanced telecommunication services to the communities.

WJBTN, an initiative led by Mushkegowuk Council since 2002 with support from all of the Councils, the communities and Five Nations Energy Inc., has submitted funding applications to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and FedNor for the necessary electronic equipment to transmit data and telecommunication services on the fibre optic cable that Five Nations Energy Inc. is installing on the the new transmission line from

Moosonee to Kashechewan.

"We are grateful to the leaders of Five Nations Energy Inc. for providing 12 of the 24 fibre optic strands to the Western James Bay Telecom Network to deliver services to the communities," said Stan Louttit, Grand Chief of Mushkegowuk Council. "FNEI's investment in fibre optics ensures continuous on-line monitoring of their electrical transmission system that services the communities and enables the new Western James Bay Telecom Network to introduce modern telecommunication services to our residents at market prices."

A service provider was recently selected through a request for proposal to provide wireless high speed Internet services in Kashechewan, Fort Albany and Attawapiskat and to assist WJBTN to manage the fibre-based network when

it is launched later this year.

Construction crews are expected to extend the power line and optical ground wire which contains the fibre cable across the river from Kashechewan to the Fort Albany sub-station this summer. The new transmission line will then be energized to meet De Beers' electricity requirements for the new Victor Mine. High speed internet services for residents and high speed data for video conferencing and telehealth services to name a few will be available following the launch of the network.

High speed internet services are expected to be available in Attawapiskat in the summer of 2008 following the construction of the new pole line and activation of the fibre optic cable from Kashechewan to Attawapiskat this coming winter.

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Planned Outages for Summer and Fall 2007

The rest of the summer and fall of 2007 will be busy construction seasons for upgrading more of FNEI's substations as well as making changes to Hydro One's Moosonee and Otter Rapids stations. This construction is needed because of the larger electrical load that will be brought over the transmission line to power the DeBeers mine. Outages are also needed to connect an extra transformer in Fort Albany. It is not possible to make these changes while the electricity is on.

FNEI has completed a few outages already this summer. All of the work planned for these outages was completed successfully. The outage on June 13th for 3 hours and the outage on July 4th for 3 hours both went according to plan. Another outage occurred on July 23rd and 24th. Work was successfully completed as planned and on the 23rd, power was restored 2 hours ahead of schedule.

FNEI and Hydro One Networks have planned two more outage events within the next several months that are needed in order to complete more work to the transmission system. Please refer to the table for planned dates and lengths for outages for the various communities. You should keep in mind that these

might have to be changed. You can ask your local distribution company for the latest information, as the dates draw nearer.

As you may know, customers in Moosonee and Moose Factory are serviced by Hydro One Networks and customers in Fort Albany and northwards are serviced by FNEI's transmission line. To reduce the amount of time that its customers are without electricity, FNEI is timing one of its outages so it happens at the same time as the major outage that Hydro One Networks needs to do its work at Otter Rapids on Monday, July 23rd.

At the end of these outages, FNEI will have a second circuit from Moosonee to Kashechewan. This means that reliability of service will increase because there will be two supplies of electricity available from

Moosonee. If one transmission line is damaged south of Kashechewan, FNEI will still be able to bring power to all three communities through the other transmission line.

Shortly after the October 20th outage, FNEI will be able to complete its connection of the spare transformer in Fort Albany, similar to what was accomplished in Attawapiskat in May of this year. This will not require any additional outages if work goes as planned, and will further increase the reliability of electrical supply to Fort Albany.

FNEI is planning its construction work to keep the inconvenience of its customers at the lowest level possible, however, this work is needed in order to improve the transmission system so that the length and number of UNPLANNED outages is lower in the future.

Dates	Affected Locations	Length of Outage
Saturday, September 8	Fort Albany, Kashechewan, Attawapiskat and Victor Mine	14 hours
	Moosonee and Moose Factory	6 hours
Saturday, October 20	Moosonee, Moose Factory, Fort Albany, Kashechewan, Attawapiskat and Victor Mine	14 hours

