



Appendix H

Sanikiluaq Wind + BESS Project Stakeholder Engagement Strategy



Sanikiluaq

Wind + BESS Project

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1.0 Introduction

Sanikiluaq is the southernmost community in Nunavut, located on the north coast of Flaherty Island in the heart of Hudson Bay and Belcher Islands (Municipality of Sanikiluaq, n.d.). The Government of Canada founded two settlements in 1960: North Camp and South Camp but later consolidated its services in 1971 by relocating the inhabitants to the northern settlement (Travel Nunavut, n.d.). The northern camp was renamed in 1975 to Sanikiluaq (Qikiqtani Inuit Association, n.d.), after the ilagiit nunagivaktangit leader Sandy Kiluaq (Travel Nunavut, n.d.). As of 2016, 882 people live in the community, 95% of which are Inuit (Qikiqtani Inuit Association, n.d.). The community has 231 private dwellings, 2 grocery stores, a hospital, schools, an airport, and a gift shop (Statistics Canada 2019).

Sanikiluaq has an elevation of 32 m above sea level and is composed of numerous rocky cliffs that tower 155 m above sea level (Travel Nunavut, n.d.). Generally, the climate is cold, with the average high being 10 C in the month of August and the average low being -23 C in the month of February (Weather Atlas, n.d.). Sanikiluaq sees snow 10 months of the year, with snowfall amounts ranging from 1 mm in September to 101 mm in November (Weather Atlas, n.d.).

The Sanikiluaq Wind Energy and BESS Project ('Project') is a wind energy and storage platform tailored for deployment in the remote Hamlet of Sanikiluaq. The pre-FEED project configuration consists of 1,000 kW wind energy combined with 1,000 kWh of battery energy storage. A meteorological evaluation tower (MET) (Pinard 2018) was installed in the community in March 2017 and actively collects raw wind data. A bankable Wind Resource Assessment (Zephyr North 2020) was completed by Zephyr North based on the data collected. The Site-Specific Wind Resource Assessment confirmed that the wind resource in the area is promising.

The project aims to provide clean, affordable, and reliable energy to the community while assuring local ownership, job creation, and a local economic boost. A primary goal of the project is to reduce diesel reliance for electricity production in the community by at least 50%. While the annual offset will remain the same, it is expected that there will be periods of time where the penetration rate is exceeded, especially in the winter months. As such, early analysis is ongoing to determine any potential to use excess electricity to generate heat locally for community buildings, or if there may be an opportunity to integrate additional storage technologies into the facility.

It is planned that the project will be owned in partnership with the Hamlet of Sanikiluaq. This could be through the formation of a joint venture agreement between a Nunavut Nukkiqsautiit Corporation (NNC)-led holding company and the Hamlet, or through the establishment of some form of community enhancement fund which will be administered by local individuals within the community. Regardless of structure, it needs to be ensured that the Project's value will be shared directly with the community.

2.0 Purpose

Stakeholder Management is critical in the development of the Sanikiluaq Wind + BESS Project. Stakeholders must be engaged in the early phases in order to build trust throughout the duration of the Project's life. It is important to understand the values and issues that stakeholders have in order to address them and maintain alignment as the Project moves through its phases. This strategy identifies key stakeholders and establishes strategies for managing relationships, issues and communications to ensure the project business and communications objectives are achieved.

The Sanikiluaq Project is community-led and community driven, so much of the stakeholder engagement strategy varies significantly from a traditional energy project. For example, one of the most important and impactful stakeholders is Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC), currently Nunavut's electrical utility. Traditionally, QEC would be leading energy projects in the region, so this stakeholder plan may look remarkably different from prior energy projects in Nunavut to-date. However, QEC's mission to provide safe, reliable, efficient, and affordable energy for Nunavummiut aligns well with Inuit-led renewable energy projects. Regardless of the stakeholder, the project team will anchor its communications in three key values:

Honesty & Transparency. The project team will be truthful, factual and sincere when sharing Project information, addressing priorities, interests and concerns.

Respect & Dignity. The project team will uphold the highest level of integrity throughout the consultation and communications process, recognizing and respecting the opinion, knowledge, culture and abilities of individuals and communities.

Work as a Community. The project team will always act with the community's best interest at heart. Project communications must always reflect positively upon the community and the values in which it upholds.

3.0 Communications & Stakeholder Engagement Strategies

The project is lead by the Nunavut Nukkiqsautiit Corporation (NNC); NNC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Qikiqtaaluk Corporation, which is the Inuit birthright development corporation created by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association. NNC's goal is to sustainably power communities in the Qikiqtani Region through empowering communities and supporting community/local ownership of renewable energy projects, reflecting the needs of Nunavut as voiced by communities and Inuit leaders.

3.1 The Community

Overview & Focus Areas

NNC's Inuit led approach has resulted in an early focus on community inclusion, so social and economic considerations for the people of Sanikiluaq have been established in the project from the outset. It will be the project team's responsibility to ensure that these considerations are retained within all decision making as the project advances through the design, construction and operational phases of the project.

Key focus areas, interfaces and considerations for communications with the community include:

- general awareness of overall progress and activity timelines;
- consultation during the planning phase to ensure alignment prior to construction;
- engagement with schools through design contests and learning opportunities;
- updates on employment opportunities ahead of each construction season;
- updates on employment opportunities during the operations phase of the project;

updates on community benefits, such as enhancement funds.

Community Communications Protocol – Development and Construction Phase

The following details regarding the Communications Plan with the Community is specifically in relation to the development and construction phases of the Project, but not the operations phase. As the Project approaches its operations phase, this document will be revised to address the communication plan that is most suitable for the Project team and community. In general, communications protocol should follow along these lines, unless exceptions are noted by NNC management.

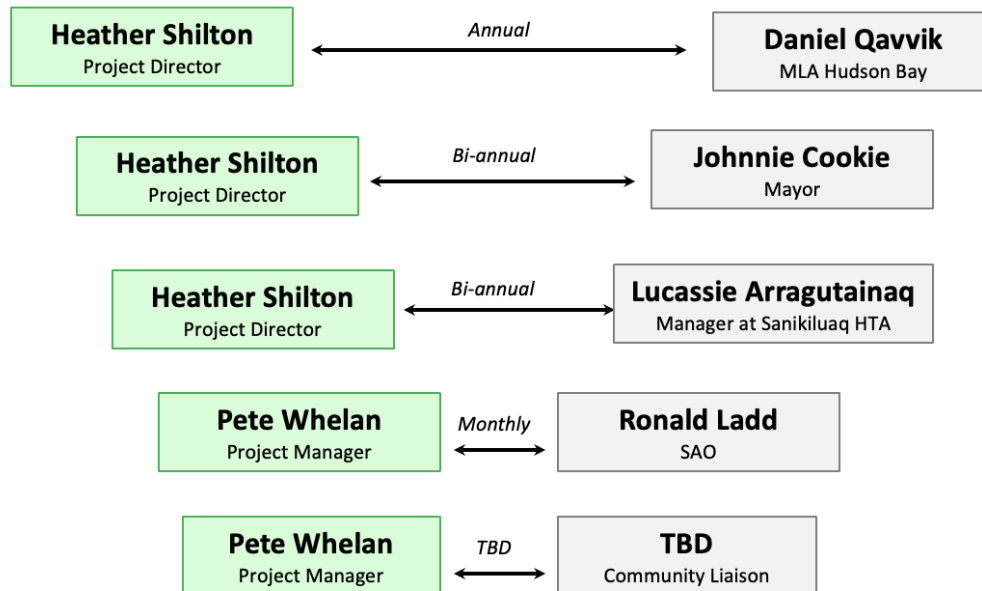
Item	Communication Strategy	Communication Method	Frequency
1	Host Public Engagement sessions for public	PowerPoint Presentation	Annually
2	Present at various meetings to update on progress and opportunities: 1) Hamlet Council Meetings 2) Hunters and Trappers Board Meetings	PowerPoint Presentation (including printed copies)	<u>Quarterly:</u> Spring & Fall Sessions – In Person Fall & Summer Sessions - Virtually
3	Regular distribution of Project progress updates to the Town of Sanikiluaq	Issuance of Project Report to SAO (pdf)	Monthly
4	Consistent communication and coordination with Community Liaison	Video Conferencing/Emails	TBD*
5	Engagements with Nuiyak and Paatsaali schools	1) Naming Contest 2) Renewable Energy Curriculum Content	<u>Annually:</u> Naming Contest – 2022 Curriculum Content – 2023 onwards

**Frequency will vary depending on project phase and ongoing activities.*

Communications Protocol

The following Zipper Diagram outlines the communications interfaces between the Project Team and the Town of Sanikiluaq.

Sanikiluaq Wind + BESS Project: Community Communications



3.2 Territorial Government & Qulliq Energy Corporation

The territorial government is a key stakeholder in the project; many of the project aspects including permits and approvals, are stewarded by the territorial government. Perhaps of most importance to the Sanikiluaq Project is coordination with the Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC).

The territorial government is generally aligned with the advancement of renewable energy in Nunavut; much of the focus of the stakeholder plan herein is focused on strengthening communications with and access to QEC to ensure strong collaboration and open and fair negotiation of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). QEC collaboration is a significant project risk; delays in PPA negotiations can have and have had a significant delay and impact on the overall project, so much of the stakeholder plan will focus on mitigating that risk.

The communications strategy, in general, is to keep government officials responsible for QEC informed of project progress and risks associated with any gaps in communications with QEC. The general strategy is as follows:

- i. Develop a *Monthly Stakeholder Report* suitable for regular updates of QEC management and periodic updates of ministers responsible and board members;
- ii. Develop a *Zipper Diagram* that illustrates the communications required between the Project Team and QEC Management;
- iii. Meet with QEC Management and present both the *Zipper Diagram*. Get formal agreement with QEC Management on the communications structure and frequency;

- iv. Develop communications relationships between both technical and management levels of the project team; this is important to ensure alignment of the design with the current operations.

Communications Protocol

In general, communications protocol should follow along these lines, unless exceptions are noted by NNC management.

Territorial Government & Quilliq Energy Corporation Communications Plan

Item	Communication Strategy	Communication Method	Timing & Frequency
1	Introduce Minister responsible for QEC to the project, communications plan, and provide updates	In-person meeting + monthly report + Zipper Diagram	Winter & Fall
2	Hold Communications Alignment Meeting with QEC to establish communications protocol and frequency.	In-person meeting + monthly report + Zipper Diagram	Winter 2022
3	Issue regular progress updates to QEC	Distribution of monthly report	Monthly
4	Engage in detailed technical review workshop with QEC technical group	In-person workshop + design package (drawings and reports)	Spring 2022
5	Engage in HIRA Workshop with QEC prior to advancing to “IFC” drawings	In-person workshop (if possible) + HIRA package	Fall 2022
6	Ad-hoc and open communication between Project Team and QEC technical staff	Emails, phone calls	Regular/Frequent

The following Zipper Diagram outlines the communications interfaces between the Project Team and the Town of Sanikiluaq.

Sanikiluaq Wind + BESS Project: Territorial Government & QEC

