

Project Overview

The Qikiqtarjuaq Deep Sea Port is a transformative infrastructure project critical to advancing Nunavut's economy, enhancing Arctic sovereignty, and supporting Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework. This port will enable Nunavut to retain economic benefits from its offshore fisheries, address infrastructure gaps, and establish a strategic presence in the Arctic to bolster national security.

The project aims to:

- Support economic resilience by reducing economic leakage from Nunavut's offshore fisheries.
- Enhance Arctic sovereignty through improved marine infrastructure, advancing Canada's ability to respond to security and geopolitical challenges
- Create opportunities for Nunavummiut, including visible career paths in marine industries and community development.

Strategic Importance

- **Economic Impact:** The port will enable local processing of eco-certified offshore fishery products, retain revenue, and reduce operational costs for the fishing industry.
- **National Security:** Establishing the port aligns with Canada's Arctic security strategy, providing critical infrastructure to support fisheries, research, and national defense operations.
- **Community Development:** Collaborative development with Inuit organizations ensures alignment with reconciliation and community-driven growth.

Project Scope

Phase I Infrastructure:

- Fixed dock with 10m depth at low tide and 15,000m² laydown area.
- Access road improvements (3km).
- Offloading crane (23-tonne capacity), site power, and terminal building.
- Vessel refueling, wastewater treatment, and secure storage facilities.

Phase II and Secondary Infrastructure:

- Search and rescue operations office and resources.
- Maintenance garage, additional warehousing, and harbor improvements.
- Crew accommodations and enhanced communications infrastructure.

Partnerships and Opportunities:

Call to Action: Collaboration with federal departments, Inuit organizations, and private stakeholders is essential.

Potential Partners:

- Federal Departments (Transport Canada, CIRNAC, CanNor, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Department of Defense).
- Inuit organizations (Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated).
- Private Sector (Arctic Cooperatives Limited, Royal Arctic Line).



Proposed Partnership Model: A P3+ arrangement, leveraging public, private, and Indigenous expertise to deliver and sustain the project.

Impact for Canada and Nunavut

- Economic Resilience: Retains and expands benefits from Nunavut's fisheries.
- Arctic Security: Enhances Canada's capacity to respond to Arctic challenges.
- Community Benefits: Provides jobs, visibility of marine industries, and infrastructure improvements.

Project Timeline

- Design Phase Completion: October 2025.
- Operational Target: Seasonal operations from July to October annually.

Next Steps

To move this project forward, the Government of Nunavut requests:

- Federal investment to close the funding gap and realize the full project scope.
- Collaborative discussions to finalize partnership structures and responsibilities.



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ARCTIC SECURITY CORRIDOR/GRAYS BAY PORT & ROAD



Grays Bay, Nunavut



Deep water port and 230 km all season road connecting the Grays Bay port and the northern terminus of the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Lake Winter Road at Jericho Station in Nunavut.



Provides critical infrastructure in Nunavut that enhances Canada's presence and operational capability in the Arctic.



Facilitates economic and resource development through job creation and providing a reliable transport network for mineral extraction, including critical minerals, in resource rich areas.



Creates a strategic transportation and shipping corridor linking the Northwest Passage to the Canadian highway system.



Objective: Develop a 230km all-weather road and port linking Nunavut to the Northwest Territories, unlocking access to mineral-rich regions.

National Interest Alignment:

- **Critical Minerals Access:** Supports Canada's growing need for responsibly sourced rare earth elements and battery metals, which are essential for clean energy and defence applications.
- **Northern Transportation Corridor:** Strengthens Arctic logistics, reduces reliance on southern transit routes, and enhances supply chain security.
- **Economic Development:** Opens pathways for investment in mining and trade, particularly in strategic minerals required for Canada's energy transition and national security.
- **Global Competitiveness:** Positions Canada as a leader in supplying critical minerals needed for the global clean energy economy.

Project Overview

The Arctic Security Corridor/Grays Bay Road and Port will create a deep water port and 230 km all-season road connecting the Grays Bay port and to the Northwest Territories to the southern provinces of Canada. This project provides critical infrastructure in Nunavut that enhances Canada's presence and operational capability in the Arctic.

Strategic Importance

- Facilitates economic and resource development through job creation and providing a reliable transport network for mineral extraction, including critical minerals, in resource-rich areas.
- Creates a strategic transportation and shipping corridor linking the Northwest Passage to the Canadian highway system.
- Critical Minerals Access: Supports Canada's growing need for responsibly sourced rare earth elements and battery metals, which are essential for clean energy and defence applications.
- Northern Transportation Corridor: Strengthens Arctic logistics, reduces reliance on southern transit routes, and enhances supply chain security.
- Economic Development: Opens pathways for investment in mining and trade, particularly in strategic minerals required for Canada's energy transition and national security.
- Global Competitiveness: Positions Canada as a leader in supplying critical minerals needed for the global clean energy economy.
- Nation-building infrastructure: The only all-season road access to a deep water port on the Northwest Passage. It is a multi-user, multi-purpose asset that will reinforce Arctic sovereignty and security in defence of the northern border of North America.

Project Scope

Objective: Develop a 230 km all-weather road and port linking Nunavut to the Northwest Territories, unlocking access to mineral-rich regions.

A vital infrastructure corridor between southern Canada, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

- Port of Grays Bay
 - Located on the Coronation Gulf in western Nunavut
 - Capable of docking large naval vessels – up to 50' (15m) draft and 800' (240m) length, June to November
 - Includes all-season facilities: airstrip, storage, crew accommodations, and designed to resupply Canadian Coast Guard's Polar Icebreakers
- Road Infrastructure
 - A 900 km all-season road within a utilities corridor to connect to the North American highway network
 - Passes through the mineral-rich Slave Geological Province (copper, zinc, lithium)
 - Connects to Lac de Gras diamond mines, supporting NWT's largest industry and use of Diavik as a support hub

Impact for Canada and Nunavut

- Enhances Canada's Arctic sovereignty and operational presence
- Unlocks economic potential in Nunavut and NWT through access to critical minerals
- Provides Inuit-led development opportunities (WKR as proponent)
- Creates jobs and long-term infrastructure for remote communities
- Construction will require skilled workers, resources, goods, and services from across Canada
- Strengthens Canada's role in global clean energy supply chains

Project Timeline

Standard Schedule (through Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)):

- 2025: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submitted to Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)
- 2026: Review of Draft EIS, submission of Final EIS
- 2027: NIRB recommendation, ministerial approval, issuance of Project Certificate
- 2028: Licensing and preparation for construction
- 2029: Mobilization and start of early works construction

Accelerated Schedule (for national security purposes):

- 2025: Interim Project Certificate issued, Draft EIS filed
- 2026: Licensing, construction preparation, Draft EIS review
- 2027: Early works construction begins, NIRB recommendation on revised Project Certificate

Next Steps

- Government of Canada to determine if national security requires acceleration of the project
- Ensure funding certainty through start of construction
- Consider use of legislative tools (NuPPAA Section 151) for schedule acceleration
- Support from Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc expressed in March 4, 2025 joint press release



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Kivalliq Region, Nunavut



A 1,200 km link from Manitoba's electricity grid and communications network to 5 Nunavut communities, or 23% of Nunavut's population, and 2 mines.



Establishes critical energy and communications infrastructure that strengthens Canada's presence in the Arctic.



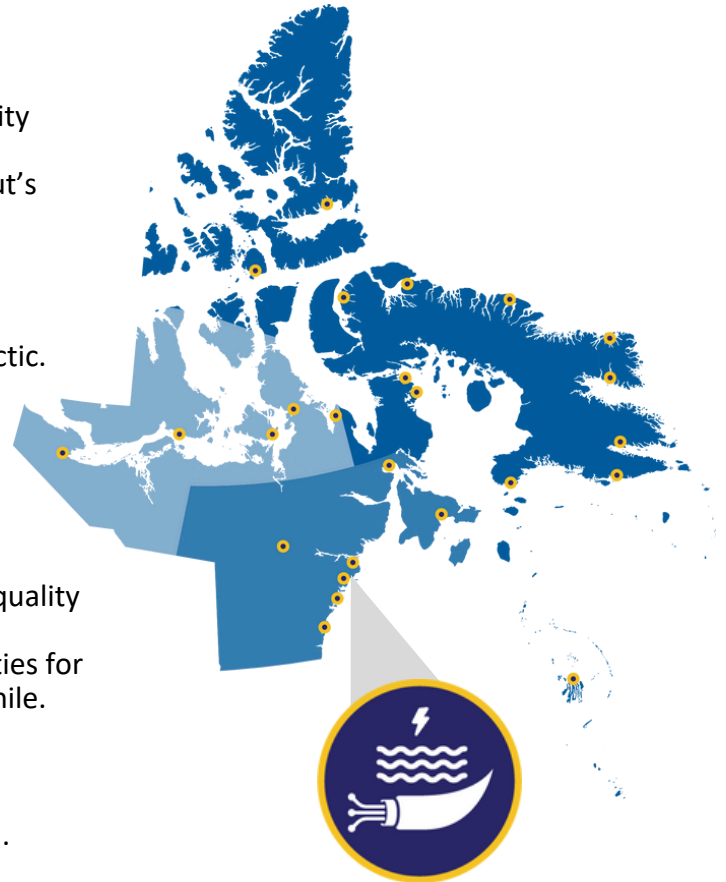
Provides the potential to reduce all diesel consumption for both heat and electricity generation for 23% of Nunavut's population.



Reduces energy costs and improves the quality of life for communities, enabling more sustainable development and opportunities for industries such as mining and tourism while.



Creates a strategic transportation and shipping corridor linking the Northwest Passage to the Canadian highway system.



Objective: Construct a 1,200km high-voltage transmission line connecting Manitoba's hydroelectric grid and high-speed internet to five Kivalliq communities: Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, and Baker Lake. The project will include over 370km of medium-voltage 'feeder' lines and will be Nunavut's first infrastructure link to southern Canada. The system will provide 150 megawatts (MW) of capacity and at least 1,200 gigabits per second (Gbps) of fibre-optic bandwidth, ensuring sustainable power and broadband access for generations to come.

National Interest Alignment:

- **Clean Energy Transition:** Reduces Nunavut's reliance on diesel, cutting carbon emissions by 380,000 metric tonnes annually—a major contribution to Canada's Net-Zero 2050 goals.
- **Digital Connectivity:** Reduces the reliance on satellite connectivity and provides reliable broadband access to remote communities, improving education, healthcare, and economic participation.
- **Economic Growth:** Supports local industries, enhances business investment, and reduces the cost of living in Arctic communities.
- **Energy Security:** Strengthens Canada's national energy grid, reducing reliance on foreign fossil fuels.



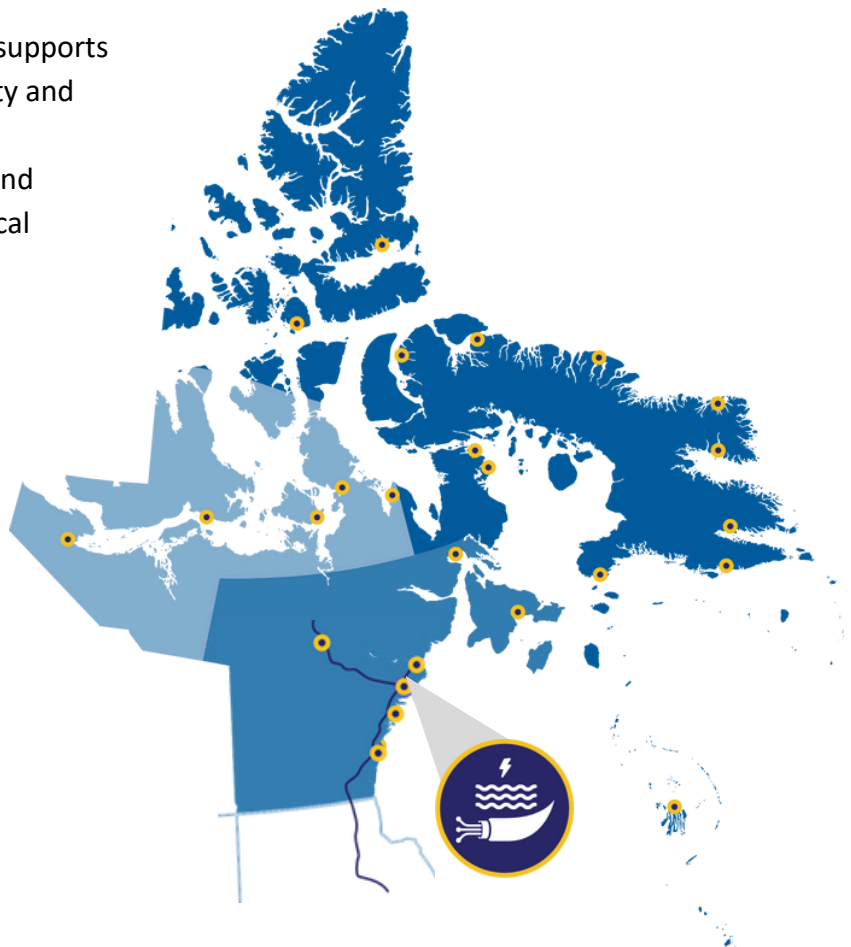
Project Overview

Strategic Importance

- Establishes critical energy and communications infrastructure, strengthening Canada's Arctic presence.
- Reduces all diesel consumption for electricity and heat for 23% of Nunavut's population.
- Strengthens Arctic sovereignty and security by building essential infrastructure links between North and South.
- Supports Canada's Net-Zero 2050 goals by significantly cutting greenhouse gas emissions.
- Positions Canada to catch up with other Arctic nations in developing northern infrastructure and energy security.
- Reinforces national energy security by reducing reliance on foreign fossil fuels.

Project Scope

- Objective: Construct a 1,200 km high-voltage transmission line connecting Manitoba's hydroelectric grid to five Kivalliq communities: Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, and Baker Lake.
- Includes over 370 km of medium-voltage feeder lines, creating Nunavut's first infrastructure link to southern Canada.
- Delivers 150 MW of clean energy capacity and at least 1,200 Gbps of fibre-optic bandwidth.
- Led by Nukik, a 100% Inuit-owned and Inuit-led company advancing energy security in the Kivalliq.
- Multi-purpose infrastructure: supports cost-effective, secure electricity and digital connectivity.
- Will serve both communities and industrial users, including critical mineral mining and tourism.



Impact for Canada and Nunavut

Stronger Communities:

- Inuit-led development creates local training, employment, and business opportunities.
- Enhances healthcare and education through improved internet access.
- Stabilizes electricity costs and reduces cost of living.

Economic Growth:

- Reliable energy and broadband make businesses more competitive.
- Unlocks opportunities in critical minerals, mining, and clean energy.
- Supports local entrepreneurship and diversified economic development.

Environmental Protection:

- Eliminates the need for millions of litres of diesel annually.
- Prevents spills and cuts diesel-related pollution and emissions by 380,000 metric tonnes per year.

Next Steps

- Advance development through detailed project design and regulatory approvals.
- Secure full funding commitments through PPP arrangements.
- Coordinate with federal and territorial partners on implementation, permitting, and community engagement.





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IQALUIT HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT



Iqaluit, Nunavut



Hydropower dam system



Provides a reliable, sustainable energy source, strengthening the resilience of Nunavut's capital and supporting essential infrastructure that is critical for maintaining sovereignty in the region.



Potential to reduce diesel consumption for electricity generation in Iqaluit by 100% .



Model for renewable energy solutions in northern and remote regions.



Showcases Canada's commitment to sustainable development in the Arctic.



Objective: Develop a hydroelectric facility near Iqaluit to transition the city to renewable energy.

National Interest Alignment:

- **Energy Security:** Replaces imported diesel with locally generated hydroelectric power, reducing Nunavut’s dependence on costly, emissions-heavy energy imports.
- **Cost Reduction:** Lowers energy costs for residents and businesses while reducing long-term federal diesel subsidies. Savings on government diesel spending can be reinvested in Inuit-led and Inuit-owned renewable infrastructure.
- **Climate Action:** Supports Canada’s Net-Zero 2050 targets by cutting greenhouse gas emissions and delivering clean, sustainable energy to Nunavut’s capital.
- **Economic Growth & Affordability:** Creates jobs, supports locally owned businesses, and aims to reduce electricity costs for all. Nunavummiut currently pay some of the highest power rates in the country.
- **Indigenous Economic Reconciliation:** Advances reconciliation through Inuit ownership, leadership, and benefits from infrastructure development.

Project Overview

The Iqaluit Nukkiksautiit Project is an Inuit-led renewable energy project to replace diesel power in Iqaluit with 15–30 MW of clean hydroelectric power by 2030. Located approximately 60km northeast of Iqaluit at Kuugaluk (McKeand River South), this project is spearheaded by Nunavut Nukkiksautiit Corporation (NNC), Nunavut's first 100% Inuit-owned renewable energy developer, and a subsidiary of Qikiqtaaluk Corporation, owned by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association.

Strategic Importance

- **Energy Sovereignty:** Replaces diesel dependence with secure, clean, and locally controlled energy, enabling Iqalungmiut to lead their own energy future.
- **Economic Reconciliation:** Exemplifies Inuit-led economic development and aligns with Canada's reconciliation commitments.
- **Arctic Security:** Supports critical infrastructure growth in Nunavut's capital and bolsters Canada's northern energy resilience.
- **Environmental Benefits:** Potential to eliminate over 15 million litres of diesel use annually, significantly cutting emissions and environmental harm.
- **Cost Relief for Nunavummiut:** Offers the potential to lower electricity rates across the territory, improving affordability and supporting economic resilience for all Nunavummiut.

Project Scope

- **Capacity:** 15–30 MW waterpower facility, scalable to meet 100% of Iqaluit's current and future electricity needs, with potential to offset thermal heating loads.
- **Project Site:** Kuugaluk, selected via community-led process prioritizing social, environmental, and technical criteria — supported by ~75% consensus through ranked ballot voting.
- **Timeline:**
 - Current Phase: Data Collection (2024–2027)
 - Next Phase: Detailed Engineering & Permitting
 - Construction Readiness: By 2028, with full operation by 2030
- **Core Activities:**
 - Field Data Collection (geotechnical, environmental, archaeological)
 - Engineering Design
 - Access Road Planning (in collaboration with Amaruq Hunters and Trappers Association)
 - Ongoing Public and Rightsholder Engagement (centered on Free, Prior, and Informed Consent)
 - Utility Engagement with Qulliq Energy Corporation — MOU anticipated by June 2025

Impact for Canada and Nunavut

- Lower Costs: Reduced reliance on subsidized diesel lowers fiscal burdens on the Government of Nunavut and federal government.
- Economic Growth: Enables critical infrastructure expansion and industrial development in Iqaluit.
- Energy Stability: Provides reliable, sustainable power for generations, supporting population growth and Arctic security.
- National Priorities: Aligns with climate action, clean energy goals, and northern development strategies including the Iqaluit Operational Security Hub.

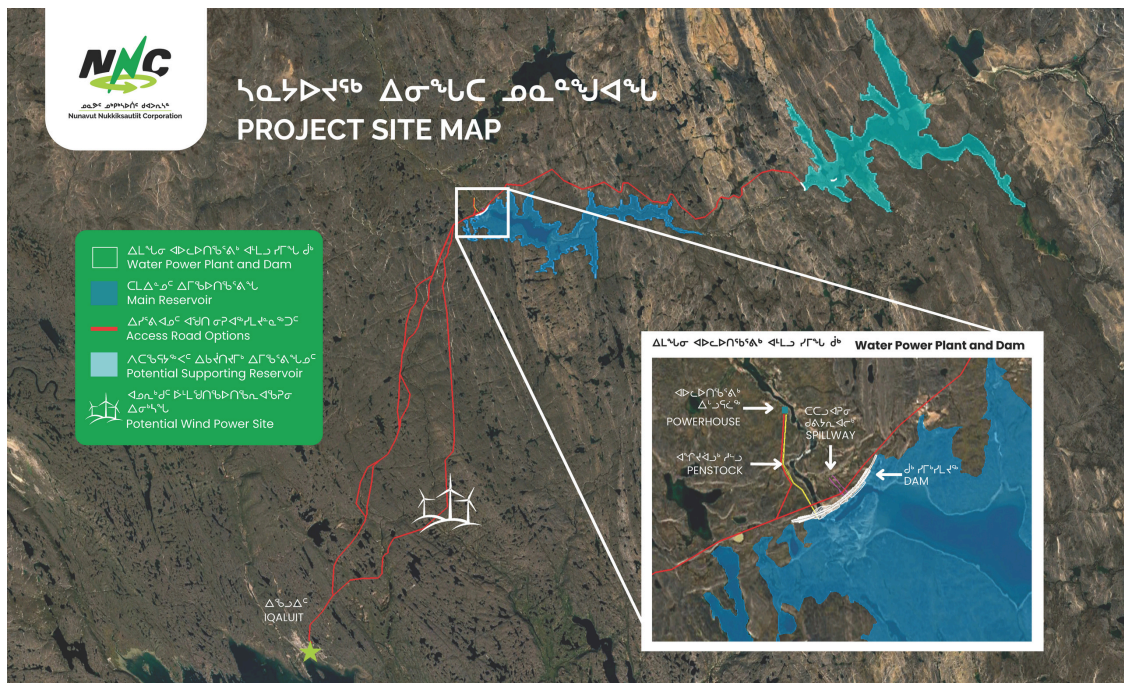
Project Timeline

The project timeline assumes continuity of Government of Canada ITCs

- 2022–2024: Site selection and early engagement.
- 2024–2025: Start of FEED phase; hydrometric stations installed, key engineering and archaeology contracts awarded.
- 2025–2028: Detailed engineering, permitting, and financing activities.
- 2028: Construction readiness.
- 2030: Project completion and commissioning.

Next Steps

- Finalize federal funding support to bridge outstanding development financing.
- Complete MOU with Qulliq Energy Corporation by June 2025 to define commercial framework.
- Continue public engagement ensuring Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is embedded throughout project decisions.
- Issue outstanding Requests For Proposals for LiDAR, environmental assessments, geophysical data collection, and camp services.
- Grow partnerships with Canada Infrastructure Bank and federal departments for long-term investment and delivery.





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Government of Nunavut
Nunavut Kavamanga
Gouvernement du Nunavut