

City of Yellowknife

Raw Water Supply Upgrade

Open House

April 16, 2026

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Yellowknife acknowledges that we are in Chief Drygeese territory. From time immemorial, it has been the traditional land of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of all other Indigenous Peoples including the North Slave Métis, and all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Agenda



Welcome + Introductions

- Objectives
- Team



Introducing the Project

- History
- Why We're Here
- Project Schedule



Project Elements

- Existing Raw Water System
- Proposed Pumphouse Upgrades
- Raw Water Supply Intakes
- Regulatory + Engagement



Discussion & Questions

An aerial photograph of a large body of water, likely a reservoir or lake, with a dense forest of evergreen trees along the shoreline. A small boat is visible in the water near the shore. The text 'Objectives' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Objectives

- Promote awareness about the regulatory process and engagement
- Share project information (design, water volume and supply, timing)
- Gather input on new water intake locations
- Identify concerns about potential impacts
- Field any additional questions

The Team



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE



Chris Greencorn
Director, Public Works
and Engineering



Wendy Newton
Manager, Engineering



Tim Morton
Manager, Environmental
Impact and Regulatory
Affairs



Ryan King
Project Engineer



Morag McPherson
Regulatory Lead

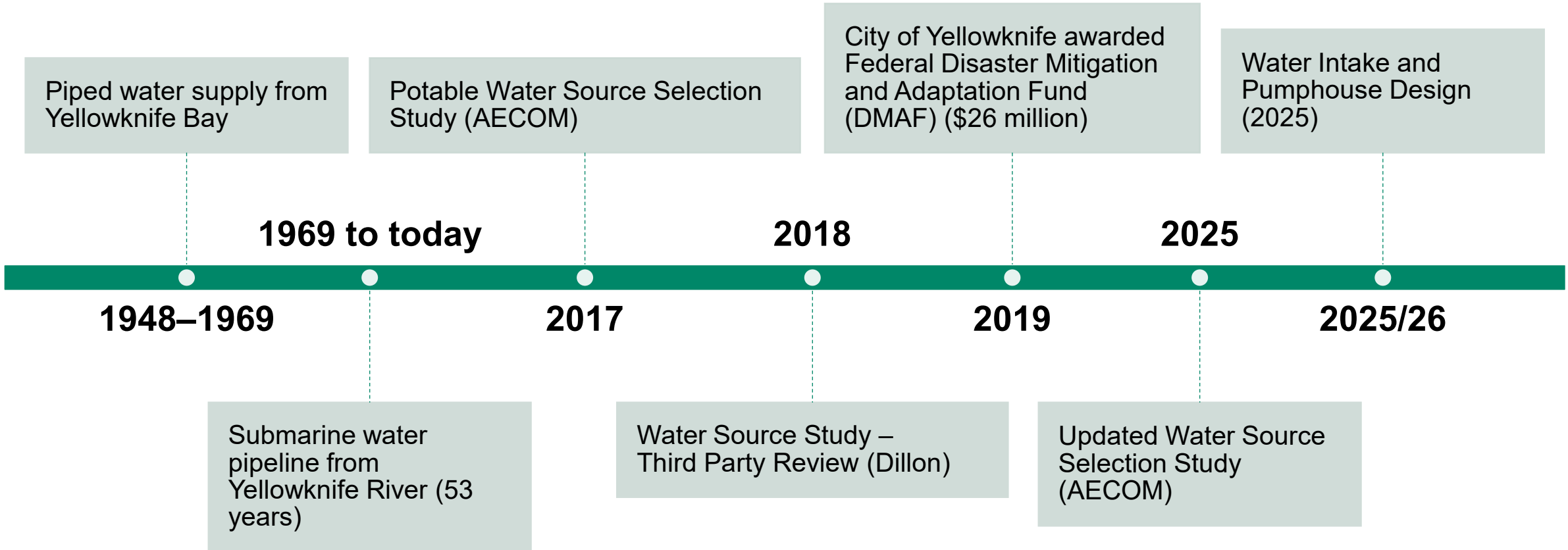


Erin Huck
Engagement
Lead

Introducing the Project

- History
- Why We're Here
- Project Schedule

History



Why We're Here

- Provide a safe and reliable drinking water supply to the City of Yellowknife.
- Request to increase of water volume intake for the growing community
- Use federal funding to upgrade important infrastructure for drinking (raw) water system
- Ensure City's water licence is compliant to allow water to be drawn from Yellowknife Bay or River.

Why We're Here

Type A Water Licence Amendment (Part D: Water Use)

The City is requesting to:

- Change the purpose of **water use** for Yellowknife Bay from Equipment Maintenance to Drinking Water and
- **Increase maximum quantity** of water for Yellowknife Bay and Yellowknife River from 4,000,000 m³/yr to 8,000,000 cubic metres annually.

Type A Water Licence MV2021L3-0003 (Draft Amendment, Part D: Water Use)

Purpose of Water Use	Name and Type of Water Source	Location	Geographic Coordinates		Proposed Water Use Volume/Rate, including units
			Latitude	Longitude	
Drinking Water*	Yellowknife River Type: River	PH2 intake	62.52138° N	114.31769° W	8,000,000 m ³ /year for duration of the Water Licence
Drinking Water*	Yellowknife Bay Type: Lake	PH1 intake	62.45112 °N	114.35188° W	8,000,000 m ³ /year for duration of the Water Licence

* The combined annual quantity of water intended for drinking water purposes withdrawn from either Yellowknife River or Yellowknife Bay will not exceed 8,000,000 m³ per year.

Why We're Here

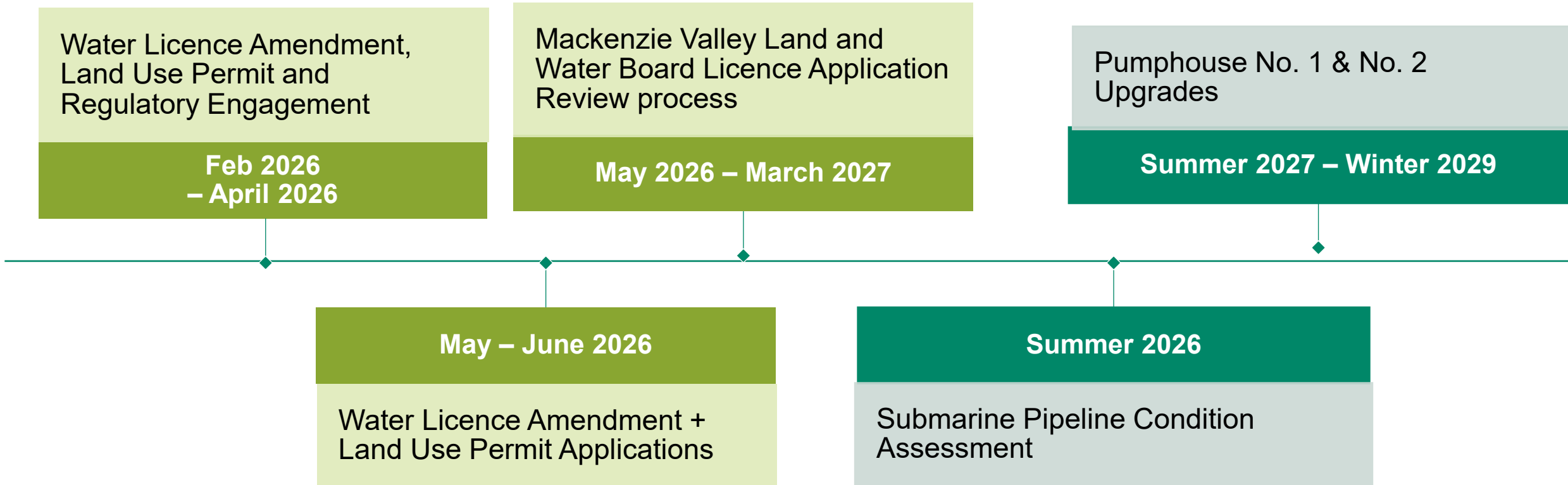
Type A Land Use Permit

Pumphouse No.1 upgrades

- New Type A Land Use Permit Application for construction
- Will be subject to Preliminary Environmental Screening under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*
- Will required additional regulatory approvals



Project Schedule

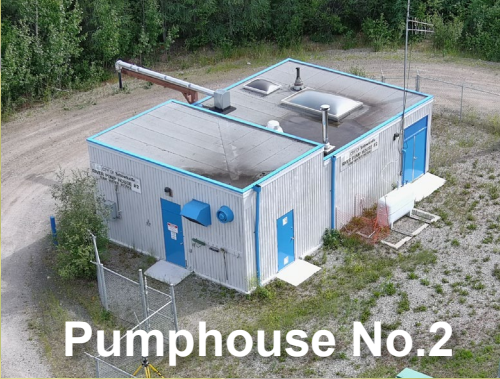
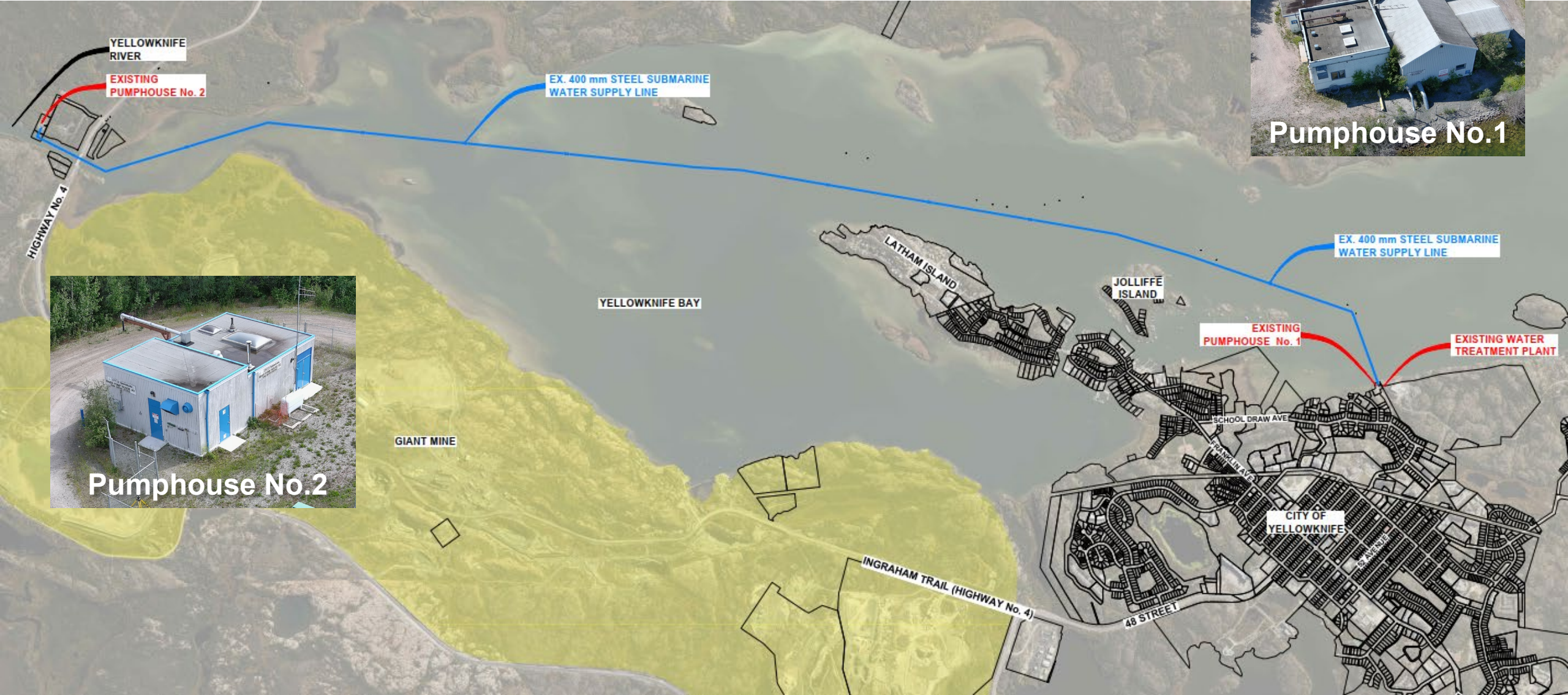


* Estimated schedule - to be revised as planning progresses

Project Elements

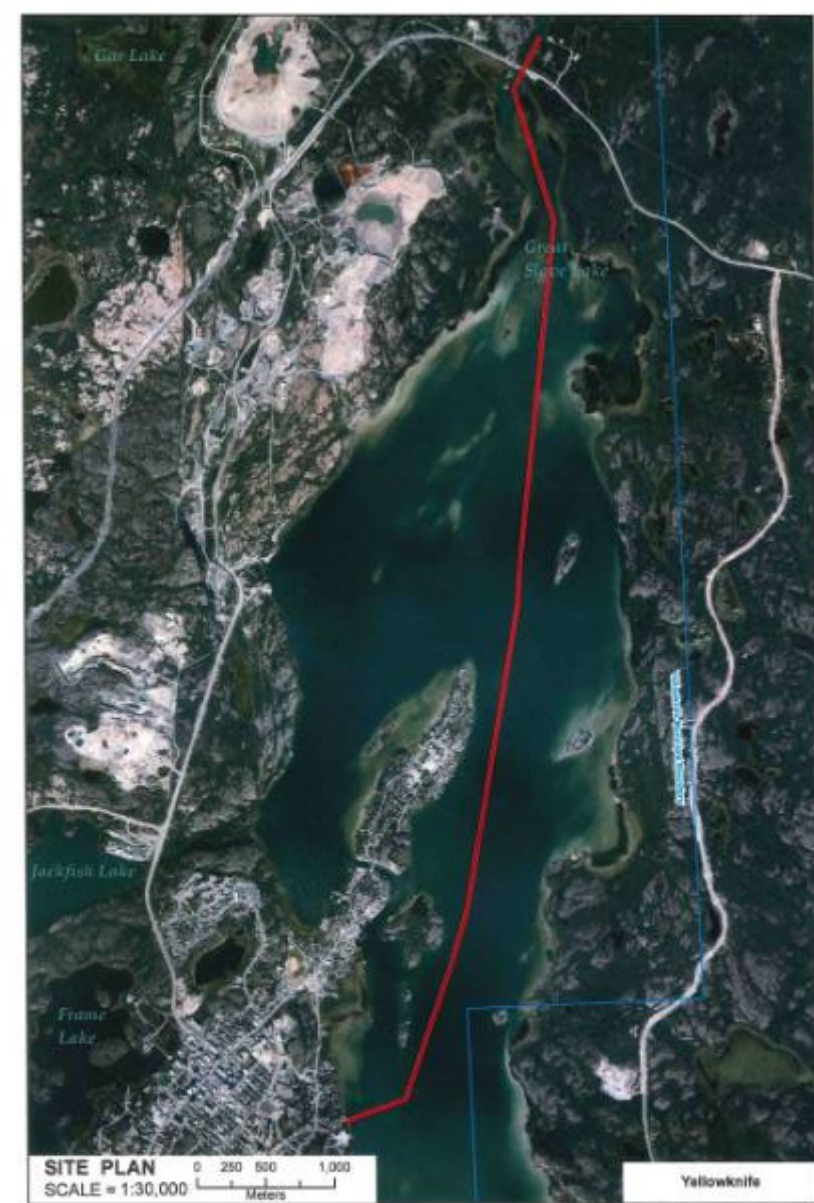
- Existing Raw Water System
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Existing Raw Water System



Existing Raw Water Supply Pipeline

- Lease agreement between City and Northwest Territories
- Existing pipeline will remain in place.
- Limit sediment disturbance to Yellowknife Bay lake bed
- Internal condition assessment on current pipeline upcoming
- Ongoing sediment sampling and water quality monitoring during construction



 Government of Northwest Territories / Gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest		
ANNEXED HERETO AND FORMING PART OF N.W.T. LICENSE No. 85J/8-136-4		
License Width: 20 m License Area: 16.76 ha	Drawn By: Ipeck Date: Thursday, September 17, 2020 Date of Image: September 10, 2015	MANAGER, TERRITORIAL LAND ADMINISTRATION 
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 11N Projection: Transverse Mercator Datum: North American 1983	*Location of pipeline and associated infrastructure provided by the City of Yellowknife	DATE September 21, 2020

Pumphouse No. 2 – Proposed Upgrades

- Modest building upgrades
- Replace pumps and piping
- New ventilation, heating, & cooling
- New exterior generator
- Electrical upgrades (E-House)
- Heating upgrades
- Building and road expansion



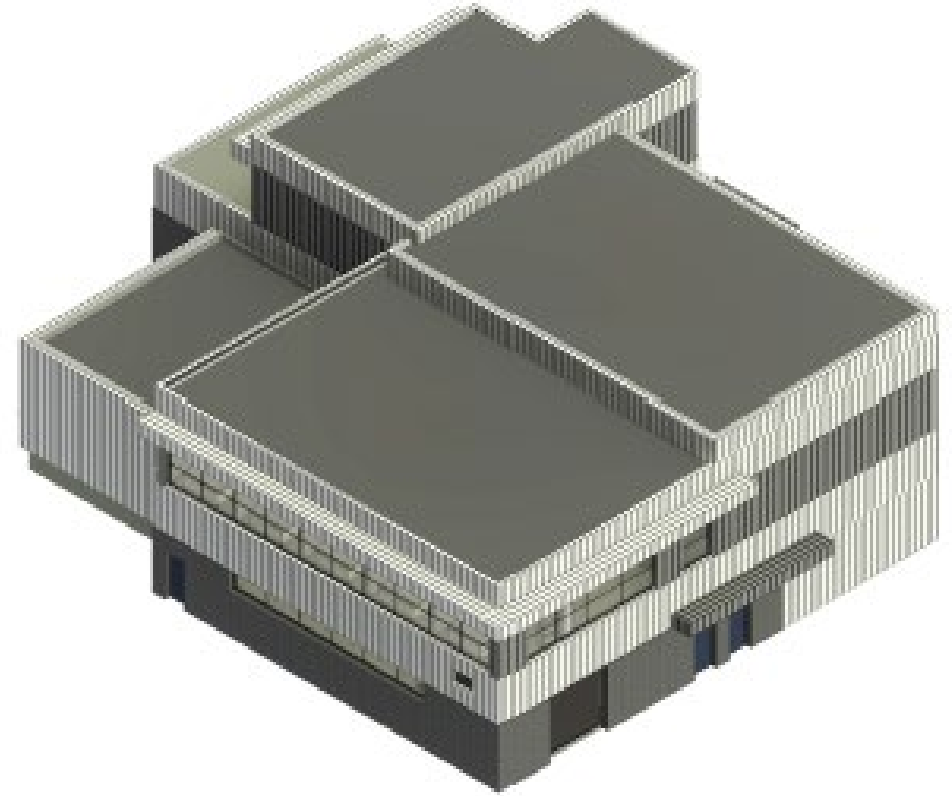
Example E-House Design (Schneider Electric)



Proposed Upgrades – Pumphouse No. 2

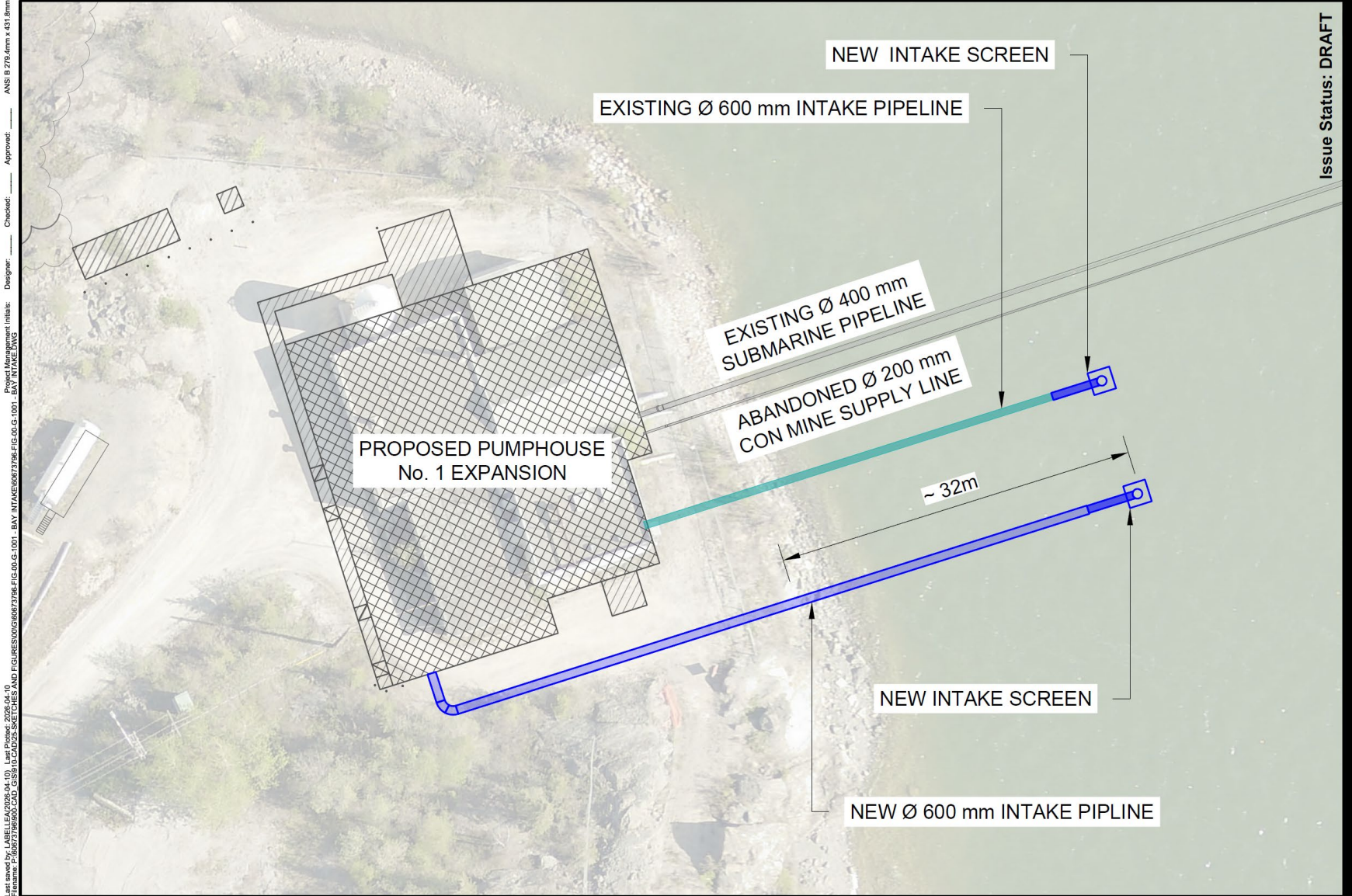
Pumphouse No. 1 – Proposed Upgrades

- 75 year design life for new structure
- Replace entire structure
- Change in pumping philosophy
- New process piping
- New heat, ventilation, cooling
- New generator
- New office space on second floor
- Site grading, parking, water/wastewater



Conceptual Rendering – Pumphouse No. 1

Existing and New Intake Pipeline Locations



File saved by: LABEL LEA (2026-04-10) | Last Printed: 2026-04-10
Filename: P:\00673796\00_CAD_GIS\10\CAD\25_SKETCHES_AND FIGURES\00673796-FIG-00-G-1001 - BAY INTAKE.DWG
Project Management Initials: Designer: _____ Checked: _____ Approved: _____
ANSI B 279-4mm x 431.8mm

Pumphouse 1 Raw Water Intake
City of Yellowknife
Project No.: 60673796 Date: 2026-04-10
Pumphouse 1 Raw Water Intake Plan
Issue Status: DRAFT
AECOM
00-G-101



Intake Material + Features

High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)

- Proven in submarine pipeline construction
- Does not corrode
- Relatively light material
- Concrete weights required for submersion where exposed on lakebed



Steel

- Existing lake intake and pipeline material
- Susceptible to corrosion




Screen Intake Design

A close-up photograph of a fish, possibly a small bass or similar species, caught on a fine, curved metal screen. The screen is part of a larger intake structure, with a red brush strip visible above it. The fish is positioned in the center of the frame, its head and body pressed against the screen. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the screen and the scales of the fish.

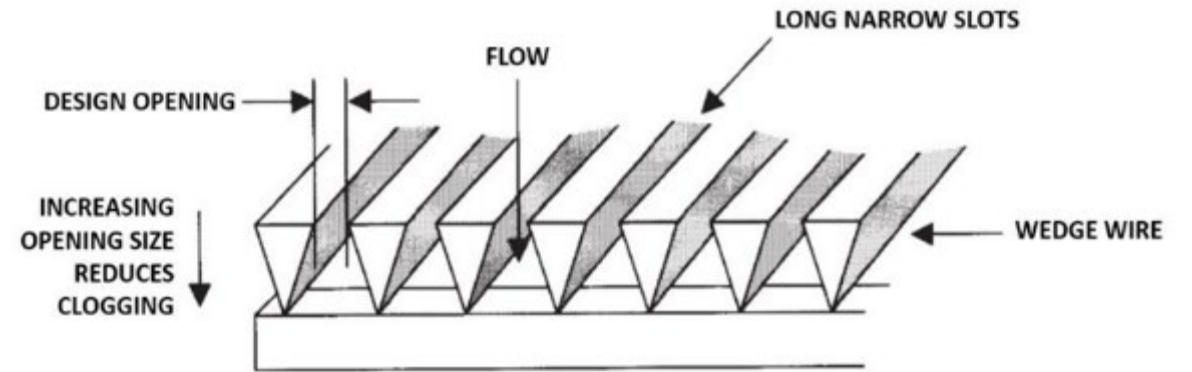
Regulations
Full Intake Screens

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Code of Practice: End-of-Pipe Fish Protection Screens

Key Fish Species in Yellowknife Bay				
Species Group	Species	Wiilideh Name	DFO required approach Velocity	Photos
Salmon and Walleye	Inconnu	wiilii	0.098 m/s	
	Lake Trout	łiwezq		
	Lake Whitefish	łi		
	Cisco	wiilitsòà		
	Arctic Grayling	ts'èt'ìq		
	Walleye	-		
	Longnose Sucker	dohdorı		
	Ninespine Stickleback	-		
	Slimy Sculpin	-		
Pike	Northern Pike	ıhdaà	0.055 m/s	
Eel	Burbot	Nqkwè	0.035 m/s	

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Code of Practice: Key Design Requirements

- Effective screen area
- Screen material
- Screen shape



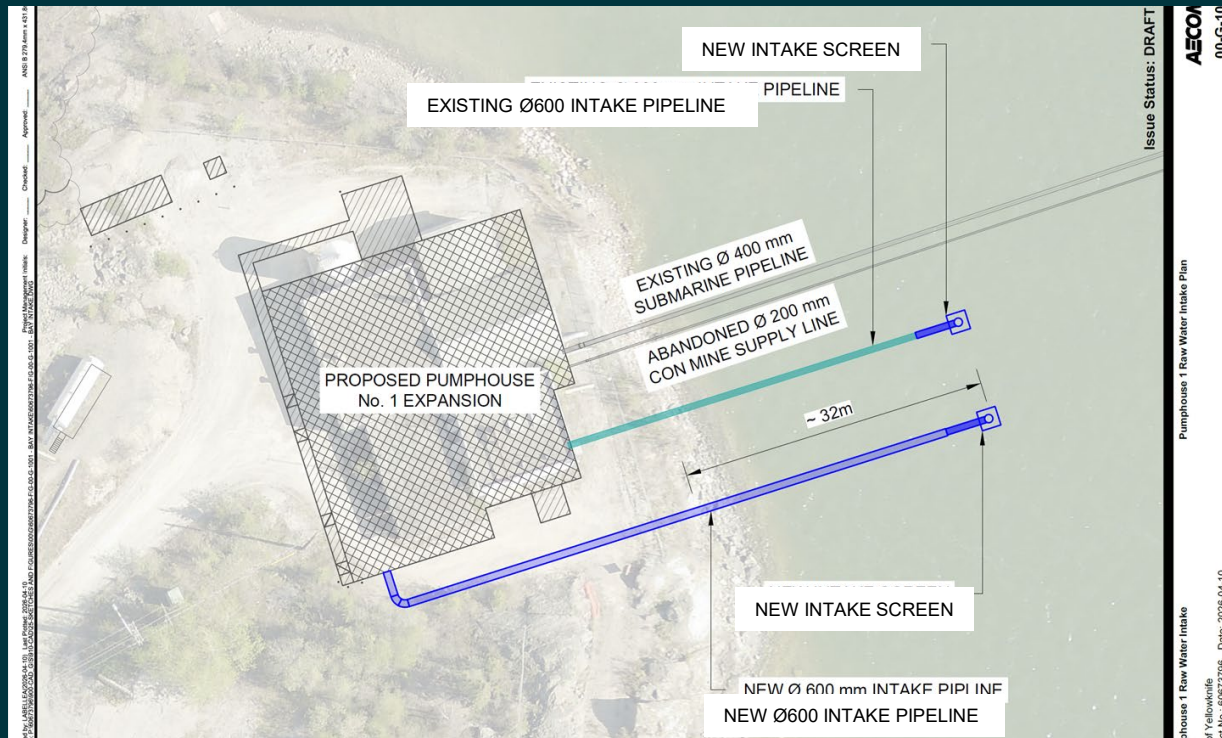
Yellowknife Bay – Cylindrical Tee Style Screen



- New Tee screen will replace existing 600mm intake pipe
- Ideal for lakes and other locations with abundant depth
- Space efficient and easy to install relative to the half intake style screen
- 0.035 m/s maximum approach velocity at 20-year maximum instantaneous Water Treatment Plant flowrate

Pumphouse No. 1 Intakes

- Existing intake pipeline to get new intake screen
- New intake pipeline to be installed



Regulatory + Engagement



Regulatory

Department of Fisheries and Oceans *Fisheries Act*

- Codes of Practice
- Measures to protect fish and fish habitat
- Request for Review

Transport Canada *Canadian Navigable Waters Act*

Government of the Northwest Territories

- Land tenure updates – Commissioner's Land lease

Others

- Explosives permit
- City permits

Engagement

- Notification of Affected Parties
- Regulator Engagement
- City Web Page



Cisco run at Tartan Rapids, Yellowknife River. Photo: Paul Vecsei

Discussion & Questions



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

waterlicence@yellowknife.ca

AECOM

Ryan King
306.280.4471

Ryan.king@aecom.com

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better world