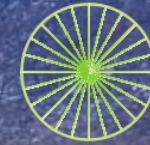


HDR



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KIVALLIQ  
HYDRO-FIBRE  
LINK



Photo from Nukik Corporation

# Connecting the Arctic

## Inuit-lead Submarine Cable Routing & Feasibility Study

October 25/26, 2023







# Agenda

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**01** | Introductions

**02** | What is the KHFL?

**03** | Pre-Feasibility Goals & Study Overview

**04** | Opportunities & Constraints

**05** | Data Collection, Gaps, Challenges

**06** | Permitting Review

# Introductions



**Darcy Quinn**  
*Senior Director of  
Commercial Planning  
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Development, NUKIK*



**Sarah Zappala**  
*Routing and Siting  
Lead*



**Alison Williams**  
*Intermediate  
Environmental  
Planner*



**Ryan Doyle**  
*Senior Environmental  
Planner/Project  
Manager*

# What is the Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link?

The Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link (KHFL) is a **100% Inuit-owned and Inuit-led inter-tie project** that will be Nunavut's first infrastructure link to Southern Canada, providing clean, renewable power and fibre-optic internet capacity.



- ✓ Connecting Manitoba's grid into the Kivalliq region of Nunavut
- ✓ Reduce reliance on diesel and associated emissions.
- ✓ Provide homes, businesses and mines with renewable, cost-effective power and reliable high-speed internet
- ✓ Unlock future renewable energy generation in the North that in turn can be shared with southern Canada.
- ✓ Multi-generational socio-economic benefits for communities of Arviat, Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove.
- ✓ Protect marine environment by reducing shipping of diesel in the Arctic.
- ✓ Benefit Canada's sovereignty in the high Arctic





# Goals of the Submarine Pre-Feasibility Study

Nukik reviewing possible alternative routes and options including land and submarine routes. Pre-feasibility focused on potential alternative submarine option.



Identify and review key opportunities and constraints

Develop potential route corridor(s) for consideration

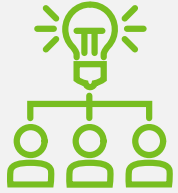
Identify data gaps and needs along the route corridor(s)

Identify and offer recommendations regarding environmental and regulatory requirements and constraints

Identify risks and potential mitigation measures for constructability

Develop Pre-Feasibility Report

# Routing and Siting



- Integrated routing and siting team



- Documented and justifiable process meeting regulatory requirements (e.g., Federal and Provincial)

- ROUTE DEVELOPMENT
  - Identify Routing Criteria
  - Collect Data
  - Identify Project Area
  - Project Area Reconnaissance
  - Refine Project Area

## IDENTIFY PROJECT AREA

- STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH
  - Develop Public Participation Plan
  - Agency Outreach

- ROUTE DEVELOPMENT
  - Develop Study Corridors
  - Refine Study Corridors

## DEVELOP CORRIDORS/ROUTE OPTIONS

- STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH
  - Agency Outreach
  - Key Stakeholders/Local Officials Meeting
  - Public Open House

- ROUTE DEVELOPMENT
  - Develop Alternate Routes
  - Field Review of Alternate Route Corridors
  - Refine Alternate Routes

## DEVELOP ALTERNATE ROUTES

- STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH
  - Agency Outreach
  - Key Stakeholders/Local Officials Meeting
  - Public Open House


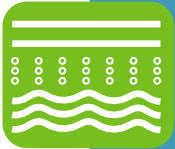
- ROUTE DEVELOPMENT
  - Select Primary + Alternate Routes
  - Field Review of Primary + Alternate Route(s) and Utility Survey
  - Finalize Primary + Alternate Route

## SELECT PRIMARY + ALTERNATE ROUTE(S)

- STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH
  - Agency Outreach
  - Key Stakeholders/Local Officials Meeting
  - Public Open House

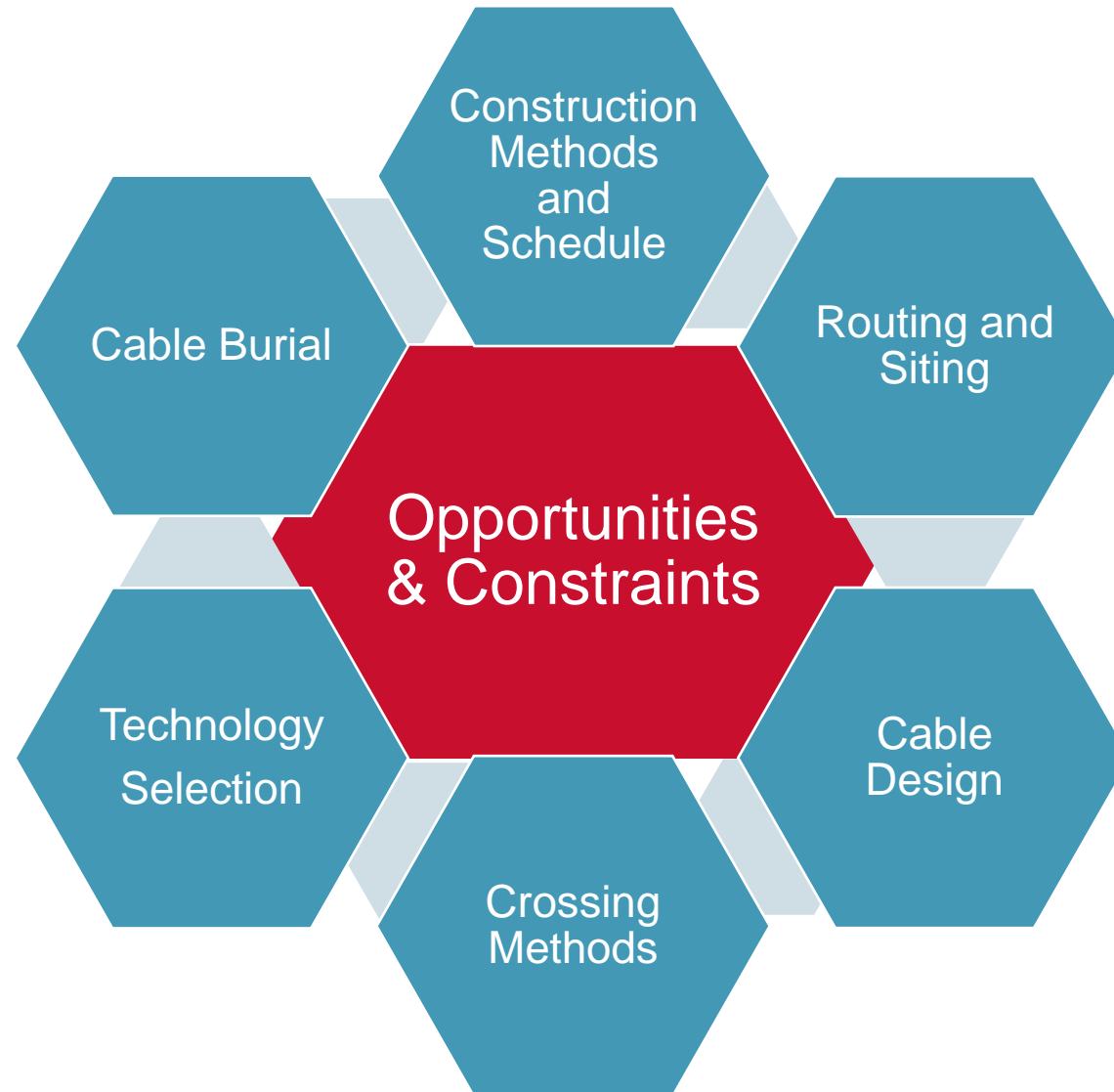
# Desktop Assessment Approach



Project Segment	Criteria
 <b>Landfall Locations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoidance of critical environmental features</li> <li>• Proximity to the HVDC transmission cable route to minimize environmental impacts, neighborhood disruption (i.e., disturbances, interruptions, or changes), and costs associated with the cable connections to the converter station.</li> <li>• Constructability and cost.</li> <li>• Minimization of cable route lengths.</li> <li>• Availability of suitable landfall locations (i.e., those that minimize environmental impacts and are within 5 miles of the substation).</li> <li>• Use of existing rights-of-way when a landfall location was not adjacent to the water.</li> </ul>
 <b>Underwater Route</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimizes extreme changes in slope and water depths.</li> <li>• Target fine to coarse grain sediments that are sufficient depth to meet target cable burial depths while avoiding pockets of contaminated sediments and organic sediments.</li> <li>• Avoids and limits crossing navigation channels and anchorage areas where there is increased potential for anchor drag.</li> <li>• Avoid known submerged shipwrecks and other cultural resources.</li> <li>• Avoid mining and or dredge spoil areas.</li> <li>• Minimize number of infrastructure crossings.</li> <li>• Minimize the overall length of the route to minimize impacts to aquatic communities and avoid sensitive habitats.</li> </ul>

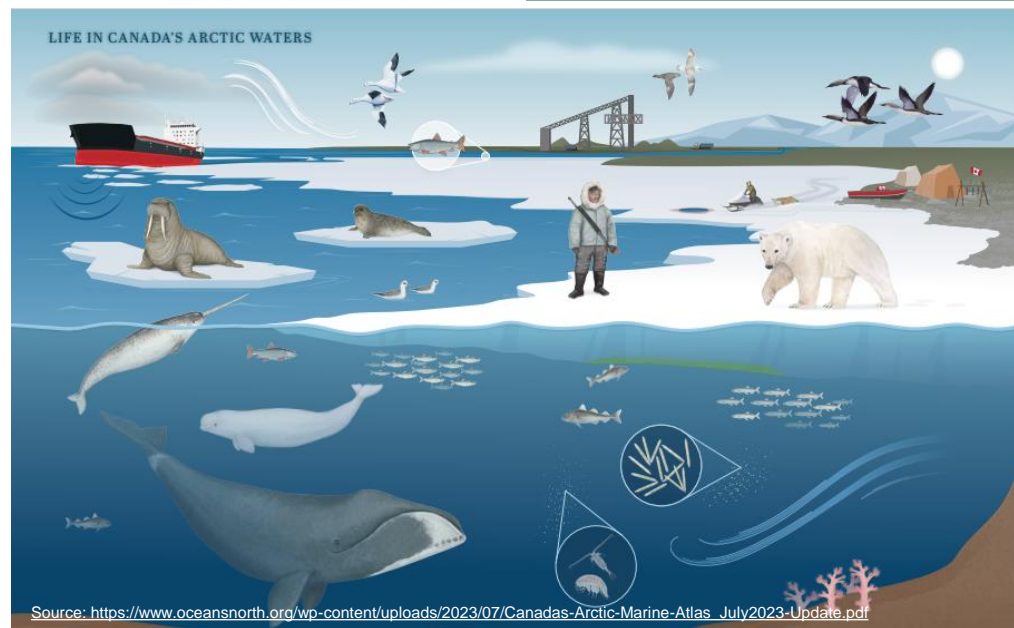
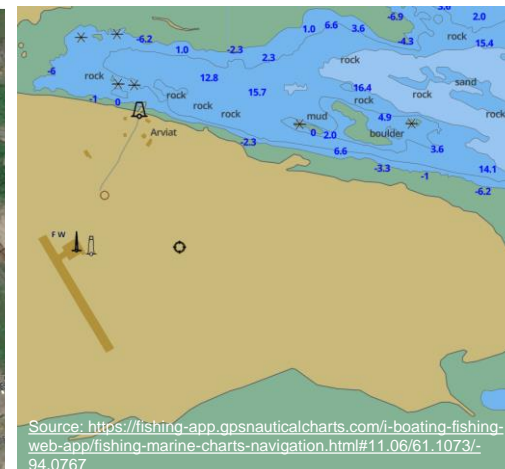


# Opportunities & Constraints



# Data Collection

- Key and relevant data search and collection (pre-feasibility assessment)
  - Bathymetry
  - Geotechnical (surface / subsurface)
  - Sediment type and quality
  - Ice scour
  - Protected areas
  - Shipping routes
  - Land use and community development plans
  - Data format (e.g., Digital, GIS, Non-digital / paper hard copy)
- Digital and Non-digital sources
- GIS inputs and Mapper



# GIS Mapper Example



KHFL - Submarine Cable Study

Map Layers

- KHFL - Submarine Cable Study Route
- Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS)
- CLSS-SATC - Administrative Boundaries
- Northern Canada 2011
  - Manitoba Development Plan Designations
- North Manitoba
- Churchill
- Arviat
- Chart-5450
- Chart-5449
- Chart-5002
- Federal Marine Bioregions

50 km  
50 mi

Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, NPS, AAFC, NRCAN | Fisheries and Oceans Canada Powered by Esri





# Submarine Cable Corridor



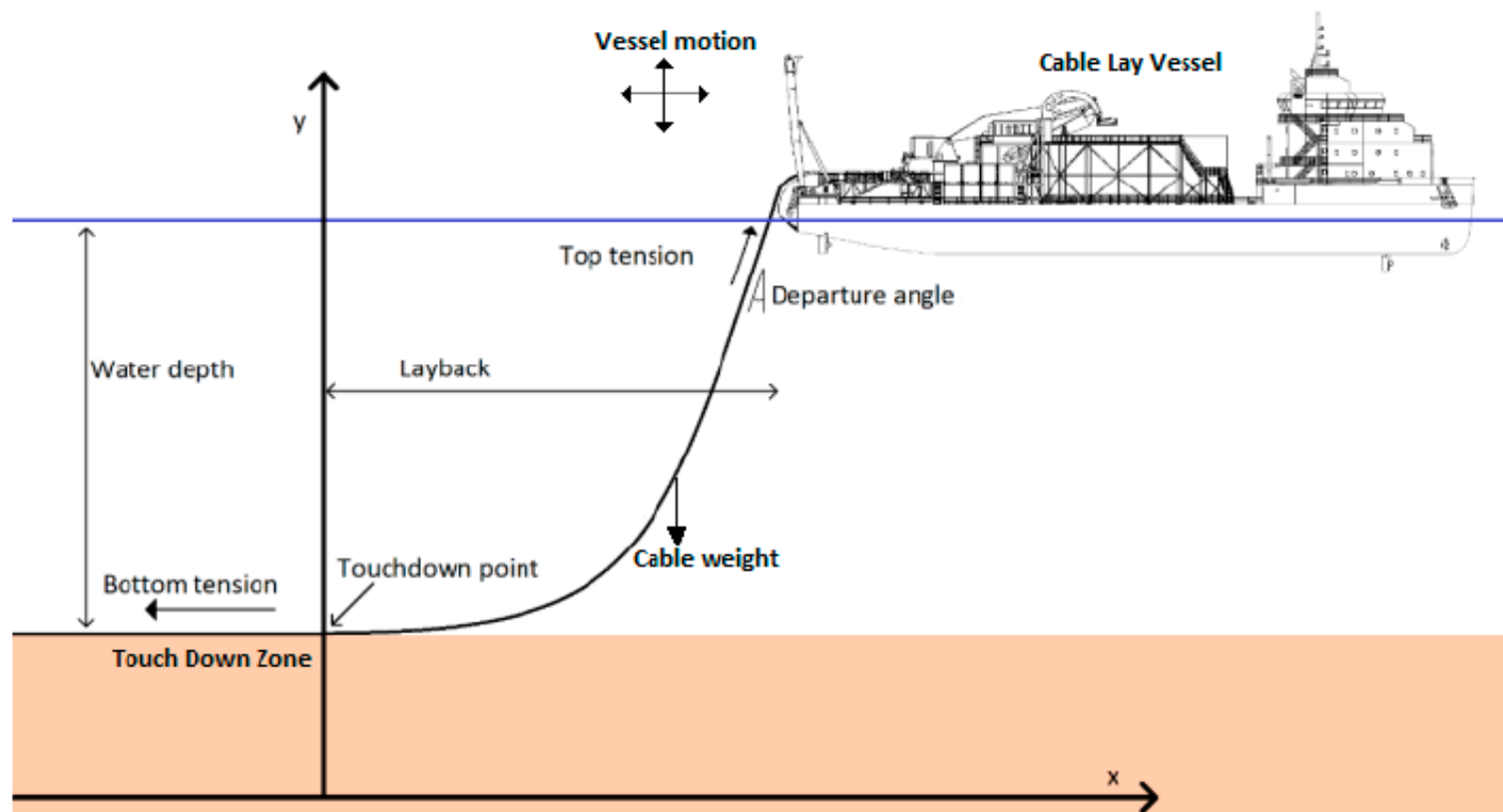
KHFL - SUBMARINE CABLE  
PROPOSED LOCATION AND LANDFALL





# Construction Methodologies

- Jetting Technology
- Trenchless Technology at Landfall
  - HDD considerations
    - HDPE fabrication
    - Drill duration



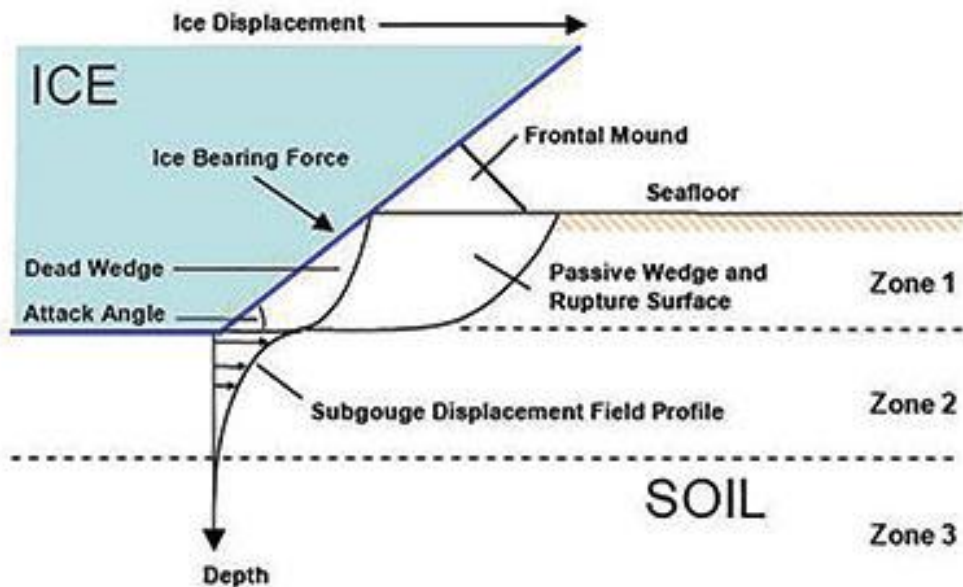
Source: <https://doi.org/10.3390/jmse8010048>



# Key Constructability Risks



<https://asmeitr.medium.com/google-and-iiio-to-build-largest-undersea-internet-cables-how-the-internet-works-3a7f3926a242>



**Submarine Cable Availability**



**Ice & Ice Scour**



**Geotechnical Conditions**

# Permitting Considerations



- Identification of applicable permits and requirements
  - Federal, provincial/territorial (Manitoba/Nunavut), municipal/local
  - Permitting matrix and ‘triggers’
- Federal and Provincial/Territorial Coordination
- Agency, Stakeholder, and Indigenous engagement and coordination including early outreach and engagement (e.g., workplans, surveys, etc)
- Seasonal Timing Restrictions (species specific)
- Regulatory complexity

Questions?