



September 23, 2022

MR. RYLAND JOHNSON  
MLA, YELLOWKNIFE NORTH

**Oral Question 1144-19(2): Cost of the Whatì Transmission Line**

This letter is in follow-up to the question regarding the cost of the Whatì Transmission Line raised on June 3, 2022, when I committed to provide information on how much has been spent on the project to date.

In 2014, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) spent approximately \$200,000 to conduct a preliminary engineering and environmental study to identify a potential routing corridor for the Whatì Transmission Line.

The original routing proposed was not acceptable to the Tłı̨chǫ Government, and it was requested the GNWT consider alternative routing. The GNWT is now working collaboratively with the Tłı̨chǫ Government to advance the Whatì Transmission Line in a manner consistent with the *Tłı̨chǫ Government – GNWT Infrastructure Cooperation Agreement*.

In early 2021, the GNWT paid approximately \$100,000 to acquire Light Detection and Ranging data for the proposed project area. In March 2022, the GNWT provided \$125,000 in funding to the Tłı̨chǫ Government to cover the cost of a technical refresh study to identify a routing corridor that is acceptable to both the Tłı̨chǫ Government and the GNWT.

Once the new routing corridor is determined, additional preliminary engineering and design work will be completed based on that specific routing. This work will include an internal capital cost estimate for the Whatì Transmission Line.

Diane Archie  
Minister, Infrastructure

c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Legislative Coordinator  
Deputy Minister, Infrastructure