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**YUKON ALLOCATES MONEY FOR CARMACKS-STEWART LINE TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

WHITEHORSE – As part of its commitment to long-term sustainability and energy efficiency, the Yukon government will allocate up to \$10-million in funding for Stage One of the Carmacks-Stewart Transmission Project from Carmacks to Pelly Crossing.

The funding is contingent on the Yukon Energy Corporation obtaining Yukon Utilities Board approval of the Power Purchase Agreement with Minto Explorations and receiving all necessary permits and approvals for the project.

“The Yukon government is committed to the long-term efficiency and reliability of the territory’s hydroelectric system, as part of our Climate Change Strategy,” Premier Dennis Fentie said. “The government, in partnership with industry and the Yukon Energy Corporation, is participating in a number of projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, cutting down on the territory’s dependence on diesel-generated electricity and developing sustainable energy projects.”

“Stage One of the Carmacks-Stewart Transmission project will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 24,100 tonnes per year, and more, if a second mine goes into production in the Carmacks area,” Fentie added. “It will also end Pelly Crossing’s reliance on diesel-generated electricity.”

The Yukon government will also work with Yukon Energy Corporation and industry to ensure that Stage Two can be constructed without any direct cost to other ratepayers.

Stage Two will link the Whitehorse-Aishihik-Faro and Mayo-Dawson electrical grids by constructing the line from Pelly Crossing to Stewart Crossing. Connecting the grids will increase the flexibility and reliability of the entire electrical systems. It will also move the government one step closer to its goal of a Yukon-wide hydroelectrical grid.

The Yukon government has designated the Carmacks to Stewart Crossing transmission line as a regulated project under part three of the *Public Utilities Act* and will forward Yukon Energy’s forthcoming application for Energy Certificates for the project to the Yukon Utilities Board for a public review.

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