

**Englobe completed an engineering project with the Pikangikum Ojibway First Nation, making it the first of 17 Aboriginal communities in Northern Ontario to be connected to the power grid.** The Wataynikaneyap transmission line project is a model of collaboration that can be used by other remote communities to deal locally with contaminated sites caused by years of reliance on fuel-based electricity.

### **For greater autonomy over its environment and the health of its population**

As a result of this connection, obsolete petroleum facilities were dismantled and 13 hydrocarbon-contaminated areas, where children played and elderly people walked, were rehabilitated to limit the negative impact on the environment and human health. To do this, Englobe worked with the Pikangikum First Nation and built a soil and water treatment facility directly on the remote territory. This infrastructure can now be used by the community to address other challenges, including waste management. [\[See images through this secured WeTransfer link\]](#)

One of the most important objectives of the project was to maximize the socio-economic benefits for the local community so that it could have greater community ownership of its territory. In short, here are some positive impacts:

- An on-site liaison officer to maintain good cross-cultural relations, facilitate local hiring and job integration;
  - 20 members of the Pikangikum First Nation were hired by Englobe for this project.
- Prioritization of local and/or Aboriginal suppliers for the execution of the work and transportation of goods;
- Treatment of contaminated soils on site which reduces costs, GHG emissions related to transportation and the risk of cross-contamination by moving soils out of the community;
- Construction of new roads allowing better access to homes and the opportunity for residential development;
- Redistribution of resources: the felling of trees to build the roads was limited and the remaining wood was returned to the community to build houses or infrastructure. The felling was done at a time of year that did not affect bird nesting.

*“Our team developed a great synergy of mutual assistance with the community throughout the project. We’re so proud of this project and of the relationships we built with the Pikangikum community. I believe we helped **shift local perceptions** about consultation and working with private partners and demonstrated that **Indigenous-owned and managed projects can be very successful.**”*

- Brandon Mac Kay, Senior Project Manager, Englobe

Englobe is one of Canada's leading companies specializing in engineering, environmental sciences and soil and biomass processing.

Spokespersons are available for interviews:

- **Brandon MacKay**, Senior Project Manager, Englobe
- **Kenneth Strang**, HR Representative & Council Representative for Pikangikum First Nation

I invite you to contact me at **(514) 607-1623** to discuss this news.