LGA STUDY BRIEFS

### MAY 2023

# LGA STUDY BRIEF A

La Grande Alliance (LGA) has studied the return to service of the railway line between Grevet and Chapais (about 165 km). The line was dismantled in the 1990s, and the right of way (ROW) is now used for various activities, including a snowmobile/ATV trail and a logging road. These usages would be relocated nearby if the railway would be rebuilt.

Cree communities that could be impacted by the potential return to service are Washaw Sibi, Waswanipi, and Ouje-Bougoumou. They will all have a say in the decision to advance to the next stage of analysis.



## **PROPOSED ALIGNMENT**

The alignment design used LIDAR data and information obtained during site visits. To reduce construction costs, it would follow the existing ROW, however some earthworks would be needed to re-establish the ROW deformed by erosion and surface wear from current usages.

The line has been designed as a Transport Canada Class 3 track, with maximum speeds of 95 km/h (60 mph) for passenger and 65 km/h (40 mph) for freight.

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The Study Briefs are publications that highlight key findings from the transport infrastructure feasibility studies. The studied components presented are to be considered as proposals, and will remain as such until impacted communities agree to move to another round of studies. LGA STUDY BRIEFS

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## LGA STUDY BRIEF A PROPOSED FEATURES

The re-established railway would require replacement of 4 existing bridges, rehabilitation of 5 existing bridges and 38 level crossings, mostly on minor and forestry roads or trails. It would also include new passenger stations at Chapais and south of Waswanipi.

A transhipment yard in Chapais would be used for loading/unloading trains, storage, maintenance and exchanging traffic with other railways and shippers. The yard would represent 25 of the 44 jobs potentially created to operate the railway.

## **POTENTIAL FREIGHT TRAFFIC**

It is estimated that three days per week, one freight train would perform a round trip between Grevet and Chapais, carrying a mix of the traffic listed below.

Commodity	Quantity (tonne per yr)
Spodumene Concentrate	200,000
Bulk Copper Concentrate	193,400
Wood Chips	179,000
Goods	10,000
TOTAL	582,400

## **PROPOSED PASSENGER SERVICE**

Studies evaluate that as much as 5,000 annual passengers could use the railway line to travel East-West and reach VIA Rail's network to the south at Senneterre and Chambord.

To learn more about the Grevet-Chapais returnto-service, reports are available on demand. Two firms have been hired by the Cree Development Corporation to conduct the LGA studies. Each firm has Eeyouch Liaison Officers:

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