

John F. Maissan, P. Eng.

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Profile

John Maissan is a widely experienced, results oriented, well organized, practical engineer. He has experience from the hands-on level to senior corporate management levels supervising multidisciplinary teams of engineers, technical, and other staff. Strengths include strong analytical capability, the ability to focus on detail, and the ability to effectively manage human resources. He is also comfortable and effective in practical, technical field work.

Areas of Expertise

Since starting his consulting business (leading Edge Projects Inc.) in 2003, John has served a wide variety of clients in renewable energy as well as in other energy fields. With respect to wind energy, cold temperature and rime icing issues in resource assessment and wind farm operations have predominated. Clients have included grid connected wind farm developers; remote mines interested in developing wind-diesel projects; utilities; and net metering interests. He has also assisted a variety of clients interested in developing or promoting northern, remote community wind-diesel projects by completing a number general state of the art and community specific prefeasibility studies. For other clients projects have included the identification and advancement of potential mini-hydro projects, hydrological studies, detailed evaluation and analyses of various energy technology options for net metering and independent power production, the provision of comparative evaluations of electrical infrastructure options for industrial clients and economic analyses of electrical generation costs based on fossil fuels and hydro projects.

Representing his employers John participated in a number of Water Board hearings over a period of about 15 years from the mid 1980s to the late 1990s. He has also been on witness panels for Yukon Energy while employed with them, and, more recently has participated as an intervenor in a number of Yukon Utilities Board proceedings on electric utility general rate applications and other matters.

John has developed his own proprietary Real Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE) model for evaluating energy projects in a manner similar to regulated electrical energy utilities.

Prior to starting his consulting business, John worked for 14 years for Yukon Energy Corporation, a regulated electric utility. Here he was the driving force behind a wind energy development program which gained Yukon Energy, and John in particular, national and

international recognition for ground-breaking work in wind turbine operations under cold climate and severe rime icing conditions. He also gained experience as Yukon Energy's staff project manager of two major projects valued at about \$15 million and \$27 million.

Prior to working for Yukon Energy and the Yukon government in a department responsible for energy and mines (3 years), John had a very successful career, spanning 15 years, as an extractive metallurgist in the mining industry. He held positions of increasing responsibility in copper-gold, copper-lead-zinc, and lead-zinc operations. This phase of his career culminated in the position of mine manager, successfully bringing a 300 ton per day underground gold mine into production.

Recent Experience in Renewable and non-renewable Energy

Experience gained in recent years includes:

1. Conducted an independent evaluation of the hydrology of a potential hydro power related water diversion project on the streams involved for a Yukon Renewable Resources Council.
2. Assisted YESAB with analyzing the impacts on Yukon electricity consumers if the Eagle Gold Project (Victoria Gold) were to connect to the grid and be served with power supplies from the grid.
3. Conducted studies identifying potential mini-hydro projects, advancing a known mini-hydro project, and co-authoring a study on potential commercial scale wind farm opportunities for a First Nations client.
4. Conducted a study examining available power generation technologies (principally renewable options) applicable to Yukon for net metering and independent power production (IPP), including a review of net metering and IPP policies across Canada.
5. Participated in the evaluation of Yukon sourced natural gas for power generation in Yukon as a potential alternative to hydro and diesel generated power for industry and power utilities by completing economic analyses of the various options including transmission alternatives.
6. The completion of detailed studies on community wind-diesel projects in the Canadian north including technology review, economic assessment of projects, and advice on practical approaches for inexperienced developers. He has also authored or co-authored several community specific wind-diesel and PV-diesel project prefeasibility studies.
7. The development and installation of wind monitoring stations employing both heated and unheated sensing instruments, including stand-alone locations that do not have access to grid power. Associated with this work practical interpretation of analytical data and the writing of management (and non-technical) level reports were completed.
8. The provision of expert advice to northern industrial clients on wind resource assessment and wind farm operations in very cold and icing climates. This included an assessment of icing severity and the identification and evaluation of wind turbine icing mitigations options.

9. The preparation of a prefeasibility report on an industrial wind-diesel (and potentially grid connected) project in which the wind project was exposed to an icing environment. This project included an assessment of the site icing severity, energy losses, and mitigation economics.
10. The preparation of a detailed state-of-the-global-art report on cold climate and icing environment wind farm operations (with detailed references) for a major Canadian electric utility. This included a lengthy videotaped presentation of the report to a large group of technical staff.
11. The selection and installation of two grid connected wind turbines (Bonus 150kW in 1993 and Vestas 660kW in 2000) and the development and installation of after-market modifications to minimize the impacts of low temperatures and rime icing.
12. The management of feasibility studies on hybrid wind-diesel systems for two small Yukon communities served by diesel generated power only and involvement in several other wind-diesel project prefeasibility study assessments.
13. John was co-chairperson and a key organizer of the Yukon International Wind Conference held in Whitehorse, Yukon in May of 2003. This conference focused on cold climate opportunities and incorporated a wind-diesel workshop.

Education and Professional Development

- BAsC. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Waterloo in 1973
- 5 years of cooperative engineering studies in extractive metallurgy and the paper industry
- Wind energy development courses
- Negotiating skills, University of British Columbia
- Extractive metallurgy courses, McGill University
- Supervisory and Management courses throughout working career
- Safety systems courses throughout working career
- Frequent ongoing professional development courses and seminars, including: *Why Projects Fail* (Robert Goatham, BSc (hons), PMP, CQA), full day March 26, 2013; *Residential Solar Power* (Richard D. Seifert BA, MS, (retired) professor University of Alaska Fairbanks) full day January 30, 2013; *PV Design and Installation Workshop* (Mr. Mario Borsato, certified PV installer and trainer, Ontario), February 3-7, 2014.

Professional Memberships

- Association of Professional Engineers of Yukon
- Professional Engineers Ontario

Awards

- R.J. Templin Award for outstanding contributions to the development of Canadian Wind Energy Technology – Canadian Wind Energy Association, 2001
- Governor General's Caring Canadian Award, 1996

Publications and Presentations

- Authored and made a technical presentation on Yukon’s electrical loads and supplies to the Yukon Chamber of Commerce 2013 and 2014
- Authored and co-authored several published community wind-diesel pre-feasibility studies up to and including 2012
- Reports and technical presentations on wind energy in cold and icing climates to utility and other clients up to and including 2013
- Papers and presentations on wind energy development in the north, including wind-diesel projects, to the Canadian Wind Energy Association and other conferences, and a variety of energy related workshops on a fairly regular basis from 1996 to present
- Presentation to the Utility Wind Integration Group (UWIG – USA based organization of electric utilities involved in wind power), 2000
- Presentation to Circumpolar Climate Exchange Conference, 2001
- Several educational presentations on wind energy to the public, in school classrooms, and to special interest groups
- Paper and presentation to the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum, 1982

Work With First Nations

John is comfortable working with First Nations and their development corporations, and has been able to earn their respect. First Nations are major landowners in Yukon and have considerable influence on governmental and independent decision making boards. Throughout his Yukon Energy career, John has worked in cooperation with First Nations, for example carrying out wind monitoring projects, hydro reconnaissance and hydrology work, and wind-diesel feasibility projects.

Professional Work History

Consulting Experience

2003 to present

Leading Edge Projects Inc.

President

2003 to present

- Assisted in evaluating the potential impacts on Yukon power consumers of connecting a large industrial client to the grid and supplying it with grid power
- Performed mini-hydro site search, advanced a known mini-hydro site, and hydro related hydrology work
- Performed detailed economic analyses of electrical generation costs based on fossil fuels and alternatives
- Prepared desk-top studies on the feasibility of solar photovoltaic and wind energy supply to a Yukon First Nations community development
- Completed an assessment of alternative energy technologies applicable to net metering and independent power production
- Prefeasibility and technical studies on various potential community wind-diesel and PV-diesel projects in Northwest Territories

- Led the practical research and development needed to learn how to adapt wind turbines to low temperature and severe rime icing conditions
- Was a member of senior management team that successfully brought Yukon Energy from a third party operated and managed utility to a self staffed, independently operating utility on January 1, 1998
- Led and participated in several Yukon Territory Water Board regulatory hearings
- Participated in several Yukon Utilities Board rate applications, and was a member of several witness panels
- Was a key leader in the development and implementation of Power Smart energy efficiency and conservation programs, for both residential and commercial customers
- Was very involved in a substantial hydro reconnaissance program over a period of several years
- Was responsible for overseeing the technical aspects of the management contract under which the Yukon Energy Corporation's assets were being managed by an investor-owned utility

Government Experience

1986 – 1989

Yukon Government Director, Energy and Mines Branch 1986 – 1989

- Managed a staff of five delivering energy and mining related programs to the public
- Participated in intergovernmental committees, meetings, and conferences
- Participated in several government-private sector committees and collaborative initiatives

Mining Industry Experience

1973 – 1986

Mount Skukum Gold Mine (Yukon) Mine Manager 1985 – 1986

- Hired as Mill Manager, promoted to Mine Manager and successfully brought the 300 ton per day mine into production

Cyprus Anvil Mining Corporation (Yukon) Mill Manager 1984 – 1985

- Worked with a team of senior staff to engineer the necessary upgrades to the mill and bring the idle mine back into production again
- Worked with potential mine purchasers on reopening plans. The mine was successfully sold and reopened

Noranda Mines Geco Division (Ontario) Assistant Mill Superintendent 1977 – 1984

- Started as mill metallurgist responsible for the metallurgical operation of the mill
- Was responsible for a technical team of up to 4 staff
- Led intensive metallurgical testing and pilot plant work leading to a successful major mill upgrading program which significantly improved the metallurgical performance of the operation

- Authored and presented a paper on the mill upgrade to a CIM Conference in 1982

Halibury School of Mines Teacher 1975 – 1977

- Taught metallurgy and mineral processing at the Tarkwa School of Mines in Ghana, West Africa on a CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency) sponsored project

Noranda Mines Horne Division (Quebec) Technical Assistant 1973 – 1975

- Worked several work terms here before commencing as a Technical Assistant (Metallurgist) on a full time basis in 1973
- Was responsible for the metallurgical testing of ores, up to and including pilot plant level, of potential new mines – base metals, gold, uranium, fluorspar, molybdenum, etc.
- Deeply involved in the metallurgical testing and successful milling of copper smelting slag to complement the newly developed Noranda Process copper smelting technique