

## Update from Nalcor on the Spillway operation at Muskrat Falls – Feb. 10, 2017

We continue to increase the water level in a controlled and gradual manner at Muskrat Falls. This is a gradual process as we confirm the grouting work completed is effectively controlling seepage at the cofferdam. The current seepage amount seen is normal and the cofferdam is performing as designed and built. Grouting work on the temporary upstream cofferdam continues.

The water level at the Muskrat Falls cofferdam is approximately 18 metres, with levels immediately upstream of the falls slightly higher. Over the next few weeks, the water level will continue to be increased to establish an ice cover upstream of the Muskrat Falls site, thereby stopping the further buildup of ice immediately below the Muskrat Falls site.

The continued adjustments of the spillway gates and the increase in the upstream water level have not created any safety risks for downstream communities and will not have an impact on the ice cover that has already formed downstream. The ice that has built up in the river below the spillway is as expected and is consistent with what is typical for this time of year. We continue to closely monitor the ice and cofferdam performance.

Operational decisions at the Muskrat Falls site are focused on avoiding significant effects on water levels downstream. To date, there have not been any significant project-related water and flow changes.

We continue to advise the public to be safe when taking part in winter recreational activities around the Muskrat Falls site on the Churchill River.



*Upstream side of the spillway on February 10, 2017. Gate 3 remains closed; Gates 2, 4 and 5 remain partially closed; Gate 1 remains open. Gates are numbered 1 to 5 from right to left.*