

# Muskrat Falls Generation Project Stakeholder Update

NOVEMBER 9, 2017

At Nalcor Energy, we are committed to sharing information with the people and communities where we live and work. The safety and health of people living and working in and around the Muskrat Falls facilities is our number one priority.

## Preparing for Winter - Creating an Ice Cover

In preparation for winter, it is critical that an ice cover is created upstream of the Muskrat Falls site. A stable ice cover will reduce the amount of ice that collects immediately downstream of Muskrat Falls and will protect the facilities under construction. There are two conditions needed to assist with creating the ice cover:

- a) The boom upstream of the Muskrat Falls site should be installed. This has been completed.
- b) The speed of the water current needs to be low enough so that as ice forms, it is held in place by the boom. Increasing the water level will reduce the speed of the current.

Additional information on the creation of an ice cover is available in a report completed by Hatch in 2016. Their report is available: [http://muskratfalls.nalcorenergy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Muskrat-Falls-Winter-Headpond-Freeze-up-Program\\_Hatch-2016-1.pdf](http://muskratfalls.nalcorenergy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Muskrat-Falls-Winter-Headpond-Freeze-up-Program_Hatch-2016-1.pdf)

## Water Level

As a first step in creating the ice cover, over the coming days we will be raising the water level upstream of the Muskrat Falls site from approximately 22 m to around 22.5 m.

Given the variability in conditions each winter, our plan is to slowly and progressively raise the reservoir level until an ice cover forms on the reservoir. Our objective is to have the ice cover form at the lowest reservoir level possible and we will not exceed 25 m water level in the reservoir this winter.

The Provincial Government provides information to the public on water levels in various locations on the lower Churchill River. Here's a link to view the Churchill River Mid Pool Station (03OE015) which is slightly upstream of the Muskrat Falls spillway:

[http://www.env.gov.nl.ca/wrmd/ADRS/v6/Template\\_Station.asp?station=03OE015](http://www.env.gov.nl.ca/wrmd/ADRS/v6/Template_Station.asp?station=03OE015)

## CONTACT US

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