

# Muskrat Falls Generation Project Stakeholder Update

AUGUST 14, 2019

## Impoundment Update

We are currently impounding (raising the level of the water) the Muskrat Falls reservoir. The elevation of the water level in the reservoir is currently around 31 m. We anticipate that by the end of September, we will have increased the water level in the reservoir to 39 m - the reservoir's full supply level.

During the impoundment process, we will continue to provide important information such as safety hazards as well as details about our dam safety monitoring program.

## Dam Safety Monitoring Update

The safety of our dams and facilities is our priority. We have a comprehensive Dam Safety Program for the Muskrat Falls generation facility. Our monitoring indicates that all of the structures are behaving as expected in response to reservoir impoundment. There are no safety concerns with the Muskrat Falls dams and facilities.

We have designed our dam safety monitoring program to detect any effects arising from the force or pressure of the water from the reservoir on permanent structures including the South Dam, Powerhouse, Spillway, North Dam, North Spur and three Transition Dams. We use a combination of manual and automated processes to frequently monitor the facility to confirm that the structures are performing as designed and expected. Trained staff walks around the structures to inspect, observe, and record the structures' behaviour and travel by helicopter to survey the entire reservoir area. Various instruments measure and record conditions such as water pressure, movement, water level and temperature.

Here is the [Dam Safety Weekly Monitoring Summary Report](#) for August 5 to August 11. This information has also been posted to our Muskrat Falls Project [website](#).

## Safety Awareness During Impoundment

During impoundment, there are a number of hazards that exist in and around the reservoir area. Conditions in the river, along the banks, and in the newly impounded areas, are constantly changing and changing rapidly. To ensure public safety during impoundment, it is important to avoid the Muskrat Falls reservoir area between Muskrat Falls and Gull Island.

## Water Level Monitoring on the lower Churchill River

The Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment - Water Resources Management Division (WRMD-MAE) regularly reports water levels on the lower Churchill River on its website - [https://www.mae.gov.nl.ca/wrmd/ADRS/v6/Lower\\_Churchill/Lower\\_Churchill.asp](https://www.mae.gov.nl.ca/wrmd/ADRS/v6/Lower_Churchill/Lower_Churchill.asp). The water level monitoring gauge just upstream of the Muskrat Falls facility is 03OE001 – Churchill River above Upper Muskrat Falls.

## CONTACT US

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