

# Muskrat Falls Generation Project Stakeholder Update

**AUGUST 28, 2019**

## **Impoundment Update**

Following a planned hold, on Thursday, August 22 we resumed raising the water level in the Muskrat Falls reservoir. Since then the water has been raised to approximately 35m. We will continue to raise the water level by a rate of around a half a metre per day up to 39m - the reservoir's full supply level.

Throughout 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.

Here is the surveillance monitoring and instrumentation summary for [August 19 to August 25](#). This information has been also been posted to our Muskrat Falls Project [website](#).

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.

## **Safety Awareness During Impoundment**

During impoundment, a number of hazards 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, please avoid the 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 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: [https://www.mae.gov.nl.ca/wrmd/ADRS/v6/Template\\_Station.asp?station=03OE001](https://www.mae.gov.nl.ca/wrmd/ADRS/v6/Template_Station.asp?station=03OE001).

## **CONTACT US**

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