

Muskrat Falls Generation Project Stakeholder Update

AUGUST 6, 2019

All activities at the Muskrat Falls site required for impoundment (raising water levels in the Muskrat Falls reservoir) have been completed. In preparation of impoundment, we've also made changes to the gates in the Spillway. Given recent increased precipitation in the lower Churchill River, water flows are naturally increasing. We anticipate that the water levels in the reservoir will begin to increase later this evening and will rise to approximately 30m over the coming days. We anticipate that by the end of September the water level in the reservoir will reach its final required elevation of 39m.

This update provides important information for you regarding safety hazards as well as details about our dam safety monitoring program. We will continue to share information on these two important topics throughout the impoundment process.

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, will be constantly changing and can change rapidly. It is important to avoid the Muskrat Falls reservoir area between Muskrat Falls and Gull Island.

Overview of Dam Safety Monitoring During Impoundment

Ensuring that our dams and facilities are safe is our priority. We have a comprehensive Dam Safety Program for the Muskrat Falls generation facilities. We have a dam safety team in place that uses a combination of manual and automated processes to frequently monitor the facilities to confirm that the structures are performing as designed.

During impoundment, our trained staff will regularly walk around the structures inspecting, observing and recording the structures' behaviour. They will also travel by helicopter to survey the entire reservoir area. Our automated monitoring includes a variety of instruments that measure and record conditions such as water pressure and seepage, structure movement, water level and temperature.

We'll keep the public up-to-date on our monitoring activities and share information about the observations and performance of the structures through a weekly report. This report will be emailed to stakeholders, posted on our website (<https://muskratfalls.nalcorenergy.com/>) and shared on Nalcor Energy's Facebook and Twitter pages. Next week, we'll issue the first report.

This document provides detailed information on our dam safety monitoring program which includes the types of monitoring instruments installed in the structures, the conditions that we record, and the processes used to observe the behaviour of the structures.

Keeping You Informed

Following the start of impoundment, we will keep stakeholders informed through our weekly updates. In addition to providing information about water levels, we will also issue a dam safety monitoring report with information and observations from our dam monitoring program.

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Water Level Monitoring on the lower Churchill River

To view the water level changes in the lower Churchill River, visit the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment - [Water Resources Management Division \(WRMD-MAE\) website](#). 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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