Nalcor Energy receives federal release from environmental assessment for Labrador-Island Transmission Link

November 26, 2013, St. John’s, NL – Today Nalcor Energy was advised that the Government of Canada has released the Labrador-Island Transmission Link from environmental assessment. Nalcor is currently reviewing the federal government’s response.

“The environmental assessment process for the transmission project has included years of extensive research and consultation,” said Gilbert Bennett, Vice President, Nalcor Energy – Lower Churchill Project. “We’re pleased to be moving forward and will continue to engage with residents and stakeholders across the province during construction.”

The approximately 1,100km Labrador-Island Transmission Link will deliver electricity produced at the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric generating facility to the island of Newfoundland. The High Voltage direct current (HVdc) system is the first of its kind in the province, and includes 400km of transmission line in Labrador, with 700km on the island, as well as 35km of underwater cable that will cross the Strait of Belle Isle from Forteau, Labrador, to Shoal Cove, on the island.

The review process for the transmission project was initiated in January 2009, when Nalcor registered the project with provincial and federal environmental regulatory agencies. Nalcor has conducted extensive environmental studies, including significant consultation with Aboriginal, regulatory and public stakeholders, to identify and mitigate potential environmental impacts of the transmission project.

Federal release of the Labrador-Island Transmission Link from this process represents the conclusion of the environmental assessment process for the Lower Churchill Project. The transmission project was released from environmental assessment by the provincial government in June 2013. The generation project also underwent an environmental assessment and was released in March 2012.

-30-

Media Contact:
Karen O’Neill
Senior Communications Advisor, Lower Churchill Project
e. koneill@nalcorenergy.com p.709.737.1427 c. 709.690.2012