



Construction of Labrador-Island Transmission Link underway on the island

January 13, 2015, St. John's, NL – Transmission line construction activities for the new Labrador-Island Transmission Link are now underway on the Island.

Right-of-way clearing and access road construction for the Labrador-Island Transmission Link have commenced near Hampden in west-central Newfoundland, and work is expected to commence shortly on the Northern Peninsula.

The new 1,100 km transmission line will transmit power produced at the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric generating facility in Labrador to Soldiers Pond on Newfoundland's Avalon Peninsula, where it will ultimately be distributed to homes and businesses on the island's electricity system.

"The Labrador-Island Transmission Link will enhance the reliability and efficiency of our electricity system," said Gilbert Bennett, Vice President, Lower Churchill Project. "The start of clearing and site access activities on the island represents a significant step forward for construction of the new transmission line and is another milestone for the Muskrat Falls Project."

Following the results of a competitive procurement process, clearing and access construction for the segment of the transmission line between Shoal Cove and Badger will be carried out by two Newfoundland and Labrador-based businesses, Johnson's Construction Ltd. of Corner Brook and Springdale Forest Resources Ltd. of Springdale. Both companies, along with C&T Enterprises of Forteau, have also been contracted to complete the same activities for the Labrador portion of the transmission line between Muskrat Falls and Forteau.

"The Muskrat Falls Project is generating business and employment benefits in every corner of the province, and we're pleased that local contractors will be the driving force behind such an important piece of the project," said Bennett.

Right-of-way clearing and access road construction activities for this segment of the transmission line are expected to continue until the winter of 2015/2016. Contracts for clearing and access construction for the remainder of the transmission line from Badger to Soldiers Pond will be awarded in 2015 following a separate procurement process.

Transmission line construction, including tower assembly, erection and conductor (wire) stringing, will be carried out by Valard Construction of Edmonton, AB.

Throughout construction of the transmission line, heavy equipment and machinery will be operating in several regions across the province on a continual basis until completion of the transmission line in 2017. For the safety of workers, contractors and the public, the public is asked to use caution when travelling through areas where construction is ongoing and to respect posted safety signage.

At Nalcor Energy, the safety of our employees, contractors and the public is our number one priority.

Nalcor is committed to keeping the public informed throughout construction and will regularly post public notices, advisories and updates on the Muskrat Falls Project website (muskratfalls.nalcorenergy.com) and through Twitter and Facebook. A map of the Labrador-Island Transmission Link is also available on the project website.

QUICK FACTS

- The Labrador-Island Transmission Link (LITL) is an 1,100 km, 350 kilovolt (kV), High Voltage direct current (HVdc) transmission system running from Muskrat Falls in central Labrador, crossing the Strait of Belle Isle, and extending to Newfoundland's Avalon Peninsula.
- The right of way for the transmission line is 60 m wide.
- HVdc uses direct current to transmit power, and is used to efficiently transmit power over long distances and underwater.
- Power transmitted over the transmission line will be converted from High Voltage alternating current (HVac) to HVdc at the converter station in Muskrat Falls, transmitted over the line, and then converted back from HVdc to HVac at the Soldiers Pond converter station, before being added to the provincial grid to power homes and businesses.
- Approximately 3,300 transmission towers will be installed along the 1,100 km line.

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