



Nalcor provides update on Muskrat Falls hydroelectric facility

November 18, 2016 - Early on November 18, Nalcor Energy took precautionary measures to lower water levels in the Muskrat Falls reservoir following increased water seepage through the temporary cofferdam. Nalcor opened the spillway gates, thereby increasing the flow of water and reducing the water level in the reservoir.

Nalcor notified communities and stakeholders in the area of the potential for increased water flows. Water levels and flow rates in the river were consistent with spring flow conditions but have reduced as the water level in the reservoir was lowered.

There is no risk to local residents, communities or Muskrat Falls site workers.

A full inspection of the cofferdam will be completed and any remediation work identified through the inspection will be carried out. Once completed, Nalcor will begin to gradually raise water levels in the reservoir by closing the spillway gates. A timeline for this work and continuation of river impoundment has not yet been established.

The temporary rock-filled cofferdam is approximately 450 metres long and 26 metres high. It was built by placing rock materials across the main river channel to allow for the permanent and main concrete dam to be built at Muskrat Falls. Structures such as this are commonly used during the construction of hydroelectric facilities. The temporary cofferdam is not designed to be completely impervious, and therefore some water will seep through under normal operating conditions. Localized seepage requiring repairs after impoundment is not uncommon for cofferdams constructed in-water, and the potential for localized repairs immediately after impoundment was anticipated by the designers of the dam.

Construction activities continue throughout the Muskrat Falls construction site.

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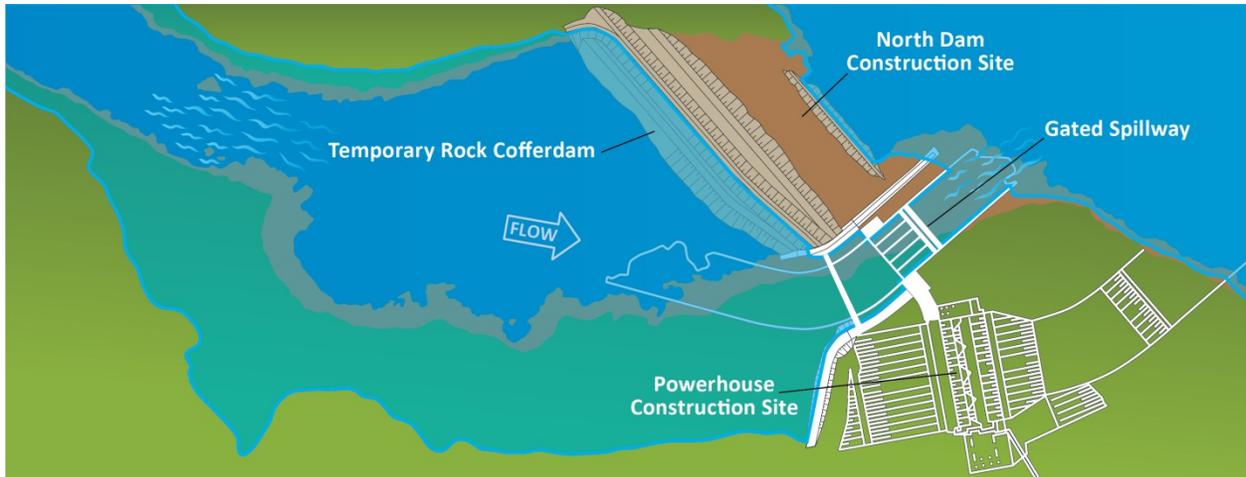
Media Contact:

Karen O'Neill

Communications Manager, Lower Churchill Project

t.709.737.1427 c.709.690-2012

koneill@nalcorenergy.com



Caption: Illustration of the temporary rock cofferdam at the Muskrat Falls site.



Caption: Photo of the temporary cofferdam constructed at Muskrat Falls, November 2016