

## Stakeholder Update – May 11, 2017

Due to natural spring conditions which include snow and ice melt, water flows and water levels downstream of the Muskrat Falls facilities will increase in the coming days. The water flowing through the spillway is being adjusted to match these changing flows. No significant releases of stored water are planned before the end of the spring melt. If carried out before the spring melt, this action could mobilize ice in the river and, if carried out during that period, would further increase flows and water levels downstream of Muskrat Falls.

In order to ensure that water levels upstream of Muskrat Falls do not increase above 22.5 metres through the period of higher spring flows, the elevation in the reservoir has been reduced to 21.5 metres; a level consistent with water levels in the Churchill River above Muskrat Falls during the spring melt.

Changing flows throughout the entire Churchill River in combination with warming weather has resulted in changes to the ice conditions and water levels on the river. Nalcor advises people to avoid the ice and river upstream and immediately downstream of these facilities as the ice cover is unsafe for recreational use.

We continue to closely monitor the temperature and the precipitation in the lower Churchill River watershed as we are seeing increased flows and water levels from the spring snow and ice melt. We are developing a plan for the safe installation of the safety boom upstream of the Muskrat Falls facilities.



*Upstream side of the spillway on May 11, 2017. Gates 1 & 5 are closed; and Gates 2, 3 & 4 are partially open. Gates are numbered 1 to 5 from right to left.*