



## Énergie NB Power

September 30, 2011

### Point Lepreau Generating Station Refurbishment Project Update

#### Nearly half of fuel channel installations complete

The Refurbishment Project team continues to progress on the fuel channel installation sequence and has successfully completed approximately 48 per cent of the 380 installations. The project team is working diligently to complete this sequence in advance of the December 2011 target.

The NB Power and AECL team continues to work around the clock to complete all project activities safely and with the quality expected by New Brunswickers in order to complete the retubing work by May 2012. After the commissioning activities have been completed, the Station is expected to return to service by the fall of 2012 and deliver safe and reliable power to New Brunswick for the next 25 to 30 years.

“We are pleased with the continued progress on the fuel channel installation sequence,” said Rod Eagles, NB Power Refurbishment Project Director. “It is clear that the effort placed on preparation for this work is yielding very positive results for our project team in terms of their ability to perform this job safely and efficiently. We are looking forward to completing the retube activities in the spring of 2012.”

In parallel to the remaining refurbishment activities, NB Power continues to prepare the Station for restart. In early September 2011, NB Power successfully pressurized the main moderator system. It will remain in this configuration until the system is refilled with heavy water to help preserve and protect the asset condition of the system.

NB Power is seeking a five-year licence renewal from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission this fall. In addition, NB Power has requested authorization to load fuel into the reactor. NB Power filed its written submissions for these requests to the CNSC on August 24 (fuel load) and September 1, 2011 (licence renewal).

The first day of the hearings for NB Power’s proposed five-year licence renewal and request for the authorization to load fuel into the reactor at PLGS is scheduled for October 6, 2011, in Ottawa, Ontario. During this part of the hearing, the CNSC Commission will hear from NB Power and CNSC staff. Day two of the public hearings are scheduled for December 1-2, 2011 in Saint John, New Brunswick. During this part of the hearing, public interveners will have an opportunity to present their submissions to the CNSC Commission.

Project updates will continue to be issued on a monthly basis and will include progress on project milestones. The major milestones include:

- Fuel channel installation completion (December 2011)
- Lower feeder installation completion (May 2012)
- Return to service and generating electricity (fall 2012)

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