



Énergie NB Power

Press Release

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NB Power continues to seek innovation for customers through the Maritime Provinces Customer Load Control for Wind Integration Project

Fredericton, N.B. – NB Power will be investing approximately \$3.6 million towards a smart-grid pilot project entitled “The Customer Load Control for Wind Integration Project”. This project was one of the 19 projects selected for funding from the Government of Canada’s *Clean Energy Fund* in January 2010.

“We are very pleased to collaborate with other Maritimes utilities, the New Brunswick System Operator and UNB in this project, which will play a major role in achieving a sustainable future for our customers,” said Gaëtan Thomas, President and CEO (Acting) of NB Power. “We remain committed to investing in these technologies, and participating in events such as today’s Smart Grid Summit in Saint John, in order to help safeguard the environment for future generations of our customers.”

The project will utilize an innovative technology cluster to provide fast acting ancillary services for wind integration, by controlling commercial and residential loads without affecting the customer. Communication devices will be installed to thermal equipment and appliances in customers’ homes and businesses to allow for non – intrusive control of electricity consumption to match variable supply from wind turbines.

“The findings of the pilot are intended to produce results that will enable us to implement additional wind resources, reduce greenhouse gases while continuing to provide our customers with seamless energy,” added Thomas. “Additionally, this collaboration will build upon a regional expertise and minimize redundancy while simultaneously building economic spin-offs.”

“NB Power’s smart grid pilot project is a first of its kind, and I am incredibly proud of this initiative,” stated Energy Minister Jack Keir. “Our government has identified the smart grid as a terrific opportunity for the NB ICT industry. We are building partnerships and exploring all opportunities in this area, in fact today we are hosting the first ever NB Smart Grid Summit, in which NB Power is also participating. Our government hopes to announce further support for NB Power’s project in the very near future”, added Keir.

The project, which is estimated to cost \$32 million in total, is expected to be completed by 2014.

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