



**February 3, 2011**

## **Point Lepreau Generating Station Refurbishment Project Update**

Polishing activities on the Point Lepreau Generating Station's 760 calandria tube sheet bores continue. The polishing activities are approximately 65 per cent complete, with an expected milestone completion at the end of March 2011. As the tube sheet bores are polished, detailed inspections are performed. Some tube sheet bores require more polishing time than others.

This complex procedure requires precision to ensure a smooth surface finish that will result in the proper leak tight performance when the new calandria tubes are installed. In parallel with the polishing work on the reactor face, inspectors and engineers are reviewing the polishing results in order to be certain that completed polishing meets the expectation for this work. The project schedule is made up of a number of different, yet inter-related activities that are underway concurrently; training staff for upcoming activities, retooling for each of the project steps, polishing the tube sheet bores, gathering data on the polishing efforts and inspecting the results.

As work continues on each side of the reactor face simultaneously, workers are accustomed to seeing daily production fluctuations as the activities of polishing, cleaning, and inspection are carried out. While some of the polishing and inspection activities are taking longer to complete than originally planned, other activities were completed in shorter duration. These fluctuations in schedule are normal in any project work. It is important to highlight that as this work activity progresses, the milestone schedule is balanced, keeping us on track to meet the Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) polishing milestone at the end of March 2011. Should something change in this regard that would affect the milestone date, we will update our customers.

Project updates will be issued on a monthly basis and will include the progress on project milestones. Some of the upcoming milestones include:

- Calandria tube sheet bore polishing (March 2011)
- Calandria tube installation (August 2011)
- Fuel channel installation (December 2011)
- Lower feeder installation (May 2012)
- Return to Service (Fall 2012)

AECL remains on track to meet the target date of May 2012 for Phase 2 of the overall Point Lepreau Generating Station Refurbishment Project. Once retube activities are completed, NB Power will proceed with the remaining commissioning activities which will take approximately four months in order to safely return the reactor to service in the fall of 2012. We ran this station safely and efficiently for 25 years and once refurbished, we will run safely and efficiently for another 25 to 30 years. That is our goal every step of the way.

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