

Backgrounder

Mactaquac Generating Station Life Achievement Project



The Decision Process

NB Power's recommendation to maintain Mactaquac Generating Station to its intended 100-year lifespan balances financial, technical, social and environmental considerations while respecting its mandate to provide safe, reliable energy to New Brunswickers at low and stable rates.

The fact-based decision involved NB Power's Board of Directors, three years of expert research and reporting, engagement with key stakeholders and the public, and consultation with First Nations.

The project is subject to regulatory oversight and approval through legislated processes administered by the Province of New Brunswick's Environment Department and the New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board.

The foundation for NB Power's decision process lies in its legal obligations including:

- Providing safe, reliable electricity to New Brunswickers at low and stable rates as described in the *Electricity Act*;
- Following all provincial environmental rules and regulations relevant to hydro operations;
- Respecting the legal rights of First Nations.

As an electricity provider, NB Power considered the business case for each of the options under consideration and the potential impacts on the operation of New Brunswick's power system.

Environmental aspects of life achievement at Mactaquac were supported by the Comparative Environmental Review (CER) report, which identified the potential impacts on people, the economy and the environment and seeks ways to reduce or minimize them. In addition, potential impacts on traditional uses of the Saint John River are being examined by a Traditional Knowledge study supported by the Maliseet communities.

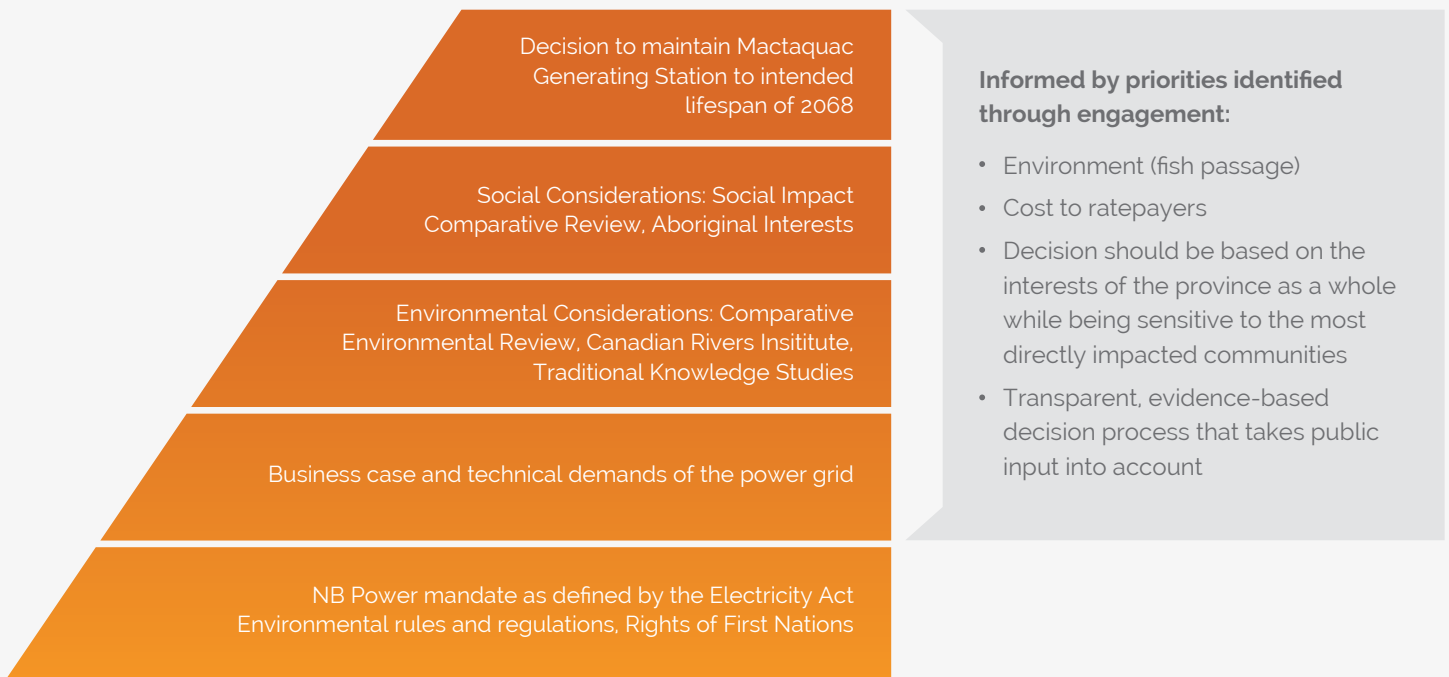
Potential impacts on the Saint John River and fish passage continue to be studied by the University of New Brunswick's Canadian Rivers Institute. NB Power has committed to achieve targeted fish passage goals on the Saint John River as informed by science, ongoing studies and regulatory decisions.



Social aspects of life achievement were supported by the Social Impact Comparative Review Report and aboriginal consultation with Maliseet communities.

All of the factors listed above, including the final recommendation and the manner in which the project will be implemented, were informed by the priorities of customers identified through NB Power's public engagement efforts.

MACTAQUAC LIFE EXTENSION PROCESS – 2014-2016



DECISION PROCESS 2016-BEYOND

Fall 2016 NB Power Management recommended project to NB Power Board of Directors

2017 NB Power seeks appropriate environmental and financial approvals

Anticipated regulatory approvals and project launch

Winter 2016 NB Power Board of Directors decision shared with Province of New Brunswick and public

2017 Public hearing and approval process to be defined by the EUB

For more backgrounders on other topics of interest and project updates, visit the [project website](#).