

# Backgrounder

Mactaquac Generating Station Life Achievement Project



## Environmental and Social Considerations

NB Power's recommendation to maintain Mactaquac Generating Station to its original 2068 lifespan is expected to have limited environmental or social impacts as most of the work activities would take place within the existing footprint of the station.

Potential environment impacts of this project are discussed in greater detail in the Comparative Environmental Review final report. Social impacts are discussed in the Social Impact Comparative Review final report.

Potential environmental impacts of the Mactaquac Life Achievement project would be largely focused on the immediate area surrounding the station during work activities.

The head pond levels would remain the same as today.

NB Power will continue to work with the Canadian Rivers Institute (CRI) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to achieve targeted fish passage goals on the Saint John River as informed by science, ongoing studies, input from First Nations and stakeholders and future regulatory decisions.

This option will allow for the addition of multi-species fish passage to the existing facilities, using improved technology and taking advantage of an improved understanding of fish behavior resulting from ongoing research by CRI. Environmental flow studies being undertaken by the CRI may lead to enhanced flow regimes.

Funding has been allocated in the project budget of up to approximately \$100 Million to ensure installation of adequate multi-species fish passage.

Under this option, environmental and social impacts during operations would be consistent with status quo, with potential for improvements.



**Potential social impacts related to life achievement include the following:**

- Additional demands on local community infrastructure and housing related to potential addition of new workers between 2020 and 2036.
- Benefits to local and regional economy through direct and indirect jobs related to the project.
- Noise, vibration, dust and odour from maintenance and demolition activities, anticipated to be most pronounced during peak activity periods and largely limited to the area around the work zone.
- Some disruption to existing transportation routes and patterns from some project related activities.

This option will not require a new public river crossing.

In the coming months, NB Power will seek appropriate environmental approvals for the project.

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

