

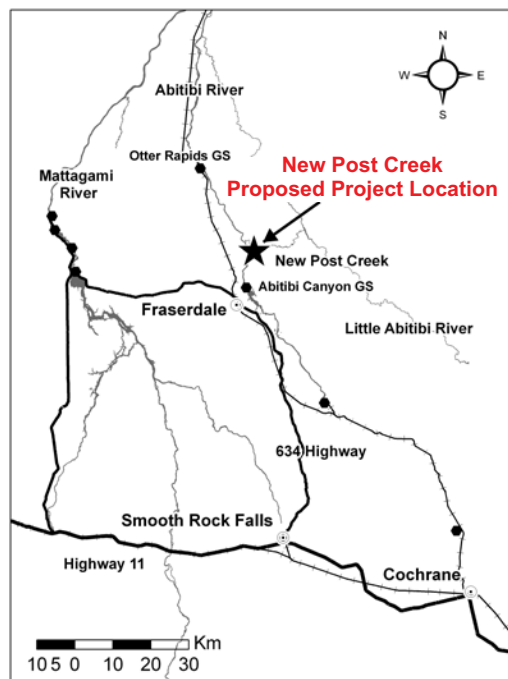
NEW POST CREEK HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NEWS

NEWSLETTER #1, NOVEMBER 2011

PROPOSED NEW POST CREEK HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG) and its partner Coral Rapids Power LP (CRP) [a wholly owned company of Taykwa Tagamou First Nation (TTN)] are proposing to develop approximately 25 megawatts of renewable hydroelectric power through the construction of a generating station on New Post Creek near its outlet to the Abitibi River (Proposed Undertaking or Project).

The Proposed Undertaking is located about 100 km north of the Town of Smooth Rock Falls and 13 km northeast of OPG's Abitibi Canyon Generating Station. The Project is located in the heart of TTN's traditional territory and near one of the community's Reserves.



The proposed generating station will include a dam with a water intake and penstock, powerhouse and tailrace channel. Associated activities include improvements to existing access roads, establishment of a construction site and installation of an approximately 7 km long transmission line that would connect to an existing transmission line on the west side of the Abitibi River.

The Proposed Undertaking occurs in an area that has previously been disturbed by both the original New Post Creek diversion and by forest harvesting that has occurred over the last twenty years. While environmental studies have only recently commenced it is our view and that of the environmental team that the Project represents a good economic opportunity with very limited environmental impacts owing not only to the past disturbed nature of the existing lands and resources, but that there are likely limited impacts from the Project as well. Strong efforts will be made during the environmental assessment process to ensure the net potential effects on the environment such as the fisheries can be mitigated. The environmental assessment looks at both construction and operational impacts.

The New Post Creek Hydroelectric Project has the potential to provide enough electricity to power approximately 20,000 homes. While not a large project, the Proposed Undertaking will produce several hundred person years of construction employment in the region and represents an economic opportunity for TTN.

Please take a few moments to read about this renewable energy project, and plan on attending one of our open houses that are described below. Listed below are phone numbers of the project team including the environmental consultant and a web site listed where you can learn more about the New Post Creek Project.

Heather Ferguson, Project Manager, OPG
Wayne Ross, President, Coral Rapids Power

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Under the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act*, the Proposed Undertaking is subject to the *Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Waterpower Projects* as a new project on a managed waterway. The Class EA planning process requires CRP and OPG to evaluate the



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positive and negative environmental effects of the Proposed Undertaking and prepare an Environmental Report on both the construction and operation phases of the Project.

To carry out the Proposed Undertaking, the deregulation of a small portion of the Little Abitibi Provincial Park is necessary to align with requirements of the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006*. Replacement lands adjacent to the Park boundary have been identified resulting in a larger park and enhanced ecological integrity. TTN and OPG were involved in the process to determine these replacement lands. The Class EA for Waterpower Projects process will be coordinated with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' Crown Land Use amendment and Class EA processes to amend the Park boundary for the Proposed Undertaking.



Photo: George Ross of TTN and Geri Poisson of Beacon Environmental carrying out Vegetation Surveys along New Post Creek

The Proposed Undertaking is also expected to require changes to the Abitibi River Water Management Plan, which will be pursued in accordance with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' planning requirements. The Proposed Undertaking will also be screened under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. Over the next year, CRP and OPG will use the Class EA process as a basis for coordinating all future consultation required for the planning stage of the Proposed Undertaking. If the Project proceeds as per the schedule, construction could begin in 2014.

OPG AND CRP ARE SEEKING INPUT AS PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

To encourage public participation, CRP and OPG will be scheduling two rounds of Open Houses to introduce the Project. The first round of Open Houses will be held on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at the Curling Club (Reg Lamy Cultural Centre Lounge), 195 5th Street in Smooth Rock Falls, from 4:00pm – 8:00 pm., and on Thursday December 1, 2011 at the Scout Hall, 438 11th Avenue in Cochrane from 4:00 to 8:00 pm.

NOTE: MNR and Ontario Parks will be hosting information sessions on their related proposed amendments concerning the Little Abitibi Provincial Park (amendments to park management direction, park boundary and Crown Land Use Policy Atlas), at the same time and location noted in this Notice to allow consultation on both processes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CRP and OPG has retained SENES Consultants Limited to undertake the Class EA process. For more information or to be put on the mailing list, please contact:

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Please visit us at: www.newpostcreek.com.

