

Lower St. John River Hydro Community Liaison Committee

Draft Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2024

Via

Mactaquac Conference Trailer, Mactaquac Dam & Microsoft Teams

Attendance:

Bob Scott (Chair)	Liam O'Dell
Katelynn Everett	Krista MacDonald
Chris Bringloe	Roger Cyr
Debby Peck	Dustin Brownlow
Greg Carroll	Geoffrey Downey
Krista MacDonald	Gaston Damecour
David Duplessis	John Landry
Mark MacNevin	

Regrets:

Duncan Walker	Gisele Goguen
Larry Jewett	Arthur Slipp
Murray Crouse	Joe Daley
Chris Duffie	Jean-Francois Martel
Kaleigh Holder	John Michael McPhee
James Bates	David Coburn
Barb Hoyt	Ryan Lewis
Carl Urquhart	John Casey

Welcome (Bob Scott)

Bob Scott opened the meeting at 12:00pm by welcoming the members and asking those present and on-line to each introduce themselves

Approval of Agenda

Roger Cyr Approved, Gaston Damecour Seconded. Carried.

Approval of Oct 12, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Roger Cyr moved, David Duplessis, Seconded. Carried.

Safety Message (Greg Carroll)

Smoke Detectors – Test monthly, replace batteries (good reminder at daylight savings time), clean twice a year.

Mactaquac Station Update (Greg Carroll)

- Milltown – Decommissioning is in progress.
- Mactaquac – All units are available.
- Beechwood – All units are available.
- Tobique Narrows – All units are available.
- Grand Falls – All units are available.
- Sisson – Available
- Nepisiguit Falls – 2 units available. Unit 1 offline for refurbishment.
- Tobique- storage lakes are all at minimum storage capacity.
- NB Power Hydro Generation continues to be above normal, projected year end is looking to be around 117% of normal.
- DTI is continuing work on the approach channel bridge. The road has been limited to 1 lane to facilitate the repairs and as per GNB 511 website, this restriction will be in effect until November 30 / 2023.
- All NB Power Hydro Stations are currently prepared for this year's spring Freshet. All indications thus far are this is certainly a non-typical year with record low snowpack and river ice competency.
- The public is encouraged to check the province's River Watch website for the latest five-day river forecast (https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/public_alerts/river_watch.html)
- Public tours will be available this summer.

MLAP Update (Krista MacDonald)

- EIA is ongoing.
- First Nations Consultation is ongoing.
- Public Information Sessions – Deferred until April 8 (tentative) Will be in Fredericton, Woodstock, & Kingsclear (look for announcements via radio, NB Power website and social media)
- Project Development (is on track)
- Project Approval Process (is still targeting early summer 2024)
- Procurement Process (is being worked on now)
- Revised Project Timeline (the existing timeline had built in flexibility so is still relatively accurate)
- There will be lots of activity in the project area in 2025.

NB Power Corporate Update (Bob Scott)

- April 1st rate increase – hearings May 15 & 16
- AMI Update – Smart meters rolling out November 1st with 100% done in next 2 years.
 - Smart meters have many great benefits.
 - If you are away from home during a power outage you will get alert when power comes back on
 - Will let you know your energy usage and where you can reduce consumption.

Community Update

- Vehicles are running red light at dam at all times of the day and night. Because of the poor condition of the road surface on the bridge, travel is slower so drivers get frustrated and attempt numerous ways to get across the river more quickly (one possibility would be to have a police presence more often)
- Line ups on structure during DTI workby having the lights where they now are, there is a shorter light cycle than would be the case if the traffic lights were at each side of the river. The danger is that some drivers are making dangerous U-turns on the structure when they consider the traffic delay excessive.

- Central York must have EMO in place by end of year so hopes to connect with safety personnel at the power station.
- A reminder of the PGA tournament at the Mactaquac Golf Course this July. Good for tourism and the local economy. Much more traffic is expected in the area. DTI advises that the contractor at the bridge will be aware of the event and plan project work accordingly.

Date set for next meeting: June 20th, 2024, Mactaquac – Admin
Conference room

Meeting adjourned

1:10 P.M. Bob Scott

Information regarding our pilots/projects can be found on our website NBPOWER.COM under the A. About Us section.

Questions regarding Mactaquac Lifetime Achievement be emailed to mactaquac@nbpower.com

Meeting Recorded by: Candace Morgan