



Peter Sutherland Sr. Generating Station New Post Creek Project



Newsletter #16

Fall 2016

President's Message

Wayne Ross, President

Watchay TTN Membership

This is the 16th Newsletter for the New Post Creek Project. The last newsletter came out in the spring of 2016, and a lot of exciting work has transpired since then. The construction work has advanced significantly and it is now anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of March 2017. This is very good news for the owners and constructors as there will be savings to be shared. If the current schedule is maintained, all parties, most importantly TTN, will benefit more from the project. Thank you to all who have worked so hard to get us to this stage.

Here is a brief summary of what has been completed since our last newsletter. The powerhouse is now enclosed and the turbines and generators are being installed. The penstock is completely installed and backfilling has commenced. The intake canal is also near completion. The contractors have installed the geo-membrane that keeps the water from mixing with the subsurface materials and are currently backfilling the canal. The diversion channel is closed and work is underway to dewater and tie in the west dam to the spillway. The spillway is now operational; the head gates are installed and water is passing through the spillway. The east dam is completed and is also tied into the spillway. The transmission switch yard is completed and the fibre-optic line is tied in to the Ontera line.

CRP has held several Board meetings since the spring of 2016. Our financing is nearly in place, and the Ontario Financing Authority has received CRP's application for the Aboriginal Loan Guarantee Program and it is currently being reviewed. Our partner OPG has assisted in this complex process to support the work of CRP. We are also finalizing our equity loan documents with our partner.

I continue to provide weekly and monthly updates to Chief and Council and a monthly mass e-mail to TTN membership.

If you require any additional information, please don't hesitate to call me or send a message.

I have worked on this project for many years and it is quite exciting to see the project nearing completion.

Meegwetch



The Powerhouse (foreground) and partially backfilled penstock (background) earlier this year.

Construction Update

The construction of Peter Sutherland Sr. Generating Station (PSSGS) project is currently ahead of schedule and is on track to be completed within budget. As of the end of October, the project was 82% complete. The project has managed to stay ahead of schedule and under budget for several months, a major accomplishment for all involved in this project. The project anticipates the head pond water-up and the final installation of the turbine and generator components to be completed within the next few months.

The Design/Build contractor, Kiewit/Aecon, has continued to manage challenging sub-surface conditions for many major components of the project. While the risks with sub-surface conditions are anticipated to continue for the remainder of the project, there are no additional delays anticipated. All major permits and approvals for the PSSGS construction and operations have been obtained or are in progress.

First Nations employment and contracting has been a success throughout the project. There are still some opportunities available for any TTN members that are interested in working on the project, as well as training. There has been over 50 million dollars in contracts awarded to the TTN joint ventures, partnerships, or businesses to support the project, including catering and housekeeping, aggregate supply, fuel supply, and the transmission line.

Safety on the project site has been a key priority and no lost time incidents and only nine first aid incidents have oc-

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curred to date.

The project hosted some important groups of visitors and celebrations over the summer, including TTN Elders, a celebration of National Aboriginal Day on June 21st, and the Minister of Energy. There was a tour of the project site, the New Post Hudson Bay Post and the New Post Creek Falls in August, with attendance from CRP, OPG, KGS, Kiewit, CRP Board, and Councilor Peter Archibald.

CRP staff are on site every Tuesday to support TTN members employed on the project, educate them on the Partnership Agreement and expectations, and identify any issues or concerns. CRP and OPG staff held socials in the camp tipi on Tuesday evenings. The camp tipi was taken down in November and shipped to TTN for the community to continue using. CRP and OPG staff are now available in the PSS trailer on Tuesdays for anyone who would like to stop in.

Major Project Components:

- The powerhouse building structure is complete only a few cubic metres of concrete are required to complete all the concrete work for the project. To date, more than 10,500 cubic metres of concrete have been poured for this project.
- The Intake head gate, stop logs, and trash rack are all installed, and all concrete has been poured. The final penstock pieces are installed, and the process to coat the interior joints of the penstock is underway.
- The spillway is complete; additional work continues on connecting the tie in from West Dam to the spillway.
- The transmission line and switchyard are complete and the substation equipment has been commissioned.



Top: A view from the intake area on the New Post Creek, showing the partially backfilled penstock and powerhouse.

Middle: Project team members from CRP, OPG, and members of the PSSGS Board at the project site.

Bottom: A look inside the powerhouse with the turbines and generators partially installed.

Employment and Training Update

Freda Ouellette - Employment and Training Coordinator

With the project well underway, there is a lot of activity at the construction site, and there is still a need for more workers in some areas. I am continuing to work with any interested TTN member to develop an individual training plan and a transitional plan to assist members in finding work. I am also continuing to update files for TTN members who have already registered.

We have had many successes in TTN contracting to date on this project, and our efforts to get training for TTN members has led to employment on the project as well as other projects. All of this has helped make the project a success. Construction is moving along more rapidly than expected and we could be at Commercial Operations Date in March! Most of the labour intensive work has been completed and the more specialised work in the powerhouse is beginning.

As the New Post Creek is a unionized project, it is very important that you keep up with your union dues to keep your name in good standing for future unionized employment opportunities in the surrounding area.

Recently we had five successful TTN members that have passed their G1 License and CRP will continue assisting TTN members that would like to pursue their G1 License till the end of December 2016. We have one TTN member currently enrolled in the Level 1 Trade School Carpentry program to pursue his Journeyman certificate.

CRP recently held a Manage Your Money Workshop and an Environmental Monitor Training Course.

I would like to acknowledge the TTN members who have taken training and were able to enhance their skills to obtain employment on the NPC project and other projects.

CRP is committed to going to the NPC Site every Tuesday and the TTN community every Thursday afternoon. If you are at either location on those days and want to discuss anything, please get in touch.

As for myself, I have taken another position elsewhere but will continue to work with CRP as needed on a part time basis until the completion of the project.

I am very grateful and honored that I got to be part of the New Post Project and very proud of our community!

Meegwetch



TTN members who completed the Environmental Monitor training program, from left to right: Linda Job, Lillian Trapper, Jeff Hardisty, Dallas Archibald, Wayne Ross, and Cecile Ross. (Missing from the photo are Krisha Archibald and William Archibald.)

Environment Update

The Project team has been working with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to develop offsetting measures to compensate for potential fish mortality as a result of this project. This is required as part of the DFO Authorization for Operations of the project. DFO, the Ontario Ministries of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) and Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) agreed on building fish habitat to compensate for the change in fish habitat caused by the project. During the summer the Project team worked to find a feasible and cost effective location for the habitat based on accessibility and satisfying DFO requirements. In September it was determined that the habitat should be placed in the Abitibi River, around the PSSGS tailrace.

In collaboration with the Joint Working Group (JWG), Kiewit/Aecon New Post, a Partnership (KANPP) determined the preferred route to connect the project with Ontera's fiber optic line would be along the existing railway. As a result an agreement was secured with Ontario Northlands Rail to use their Right-of-Way.

In July the JWG conducted its second annual Environmental Due Diligence Audit of KANPP's Environmental Management Plan. There were no major non-conformities or compliance issues found.

In September, with input provided by the JWG, KANPP finalized the project Site Rehabilitation Plan. The Project Team is currently developing a monitoring plan for Site Rehabilitation.

Environmental permits obtained during the summer and fall include: DFO Letters of Advice for the Permanent Civil Works (in-water work), the Spillway Diversion, and the Tailrace Construction; as well as approvals under the MNRF Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act for the Spillway upstream and downstream cofferdams, and Permanent Civil Works.

TTN Members working on the PSSGS Project

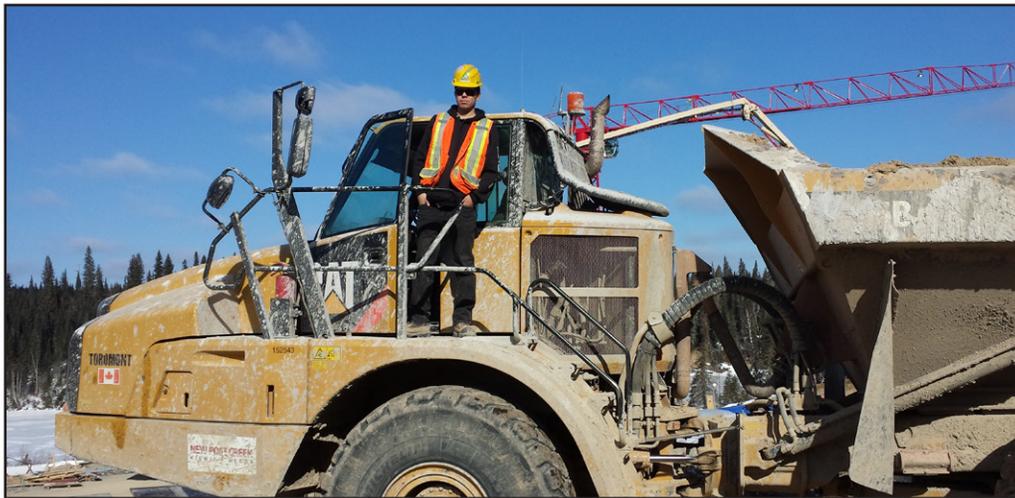


Keith Etherington - Operator

“We come from a long line of promises and contracts for our people. I am glad to see all parties honoring their part of the agreement – it’s why I have a job, and I couldn’t be more thankful”

What does this project mean to you as a TTN member?

“It is satisfying knowing that our community can utilize this resource as a training and skills development opportunity for members.”



Blane Chakasim - Operator

“The revenue from this initiative will benefit generations of TTN members – including my son’s education”

What do you hope to take away from this project?

“Experience so I can continue to grow in my career and contacts to secure a good job in the future.”

For project information please contact:

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