

WUSKWATIM FACT SHEET - MAY 17, 2009

- Today marks an important milestone on the Wuskwatim Generating Station the start of concrete placement on the station's spillway structure. The concrete placed today is the first of the approximately 110,000 cubic metres of concrete and 7,000 tonnes of reinforcing steel that will be used by the time the project is completed in 2011.
- The tempo of construction will increase significantly, as major civil, electrical and mechanical components of the project are built and installed. Peak employment of approximately 700 people will be reached on site this year, and work will continue on the project over the winter months. Getting the spillway completed is critical to overall progress of Wuskwatim, as the entire flow of the Burntwood will be diverted temporarily through the spillway to allow construction of the station's main dam.”
- The spillway is an integral part of Wuskwatim's structure and plays a major role in station operation. The spillway helps control water levels in the station's forebay, and features three large openings through which excess water can pass when not needed for hydroelectric generation. Each opening is nine metres across. Large steel gates — raised or lowered by hoists at the top of the structure — control the water flow.
- Prior to this year, work at Wuskwatim focused on gaining access to the site, developing the infrastructure needed to support workers building the project, and readying the site for the start of civil construction. These activities included building a 48-kilometre access road, construction offices, a modern 700-person camp complete with water and sewage treatment facilities, dormitories, dining hall, and indoor/outdoor recreation facilities, and excavating approximately 1,200,000 cubic metres of rock and soil from the station site. In addition, construction yards and the stage one upstream and downstream cofferdams were also completed.
- The Wuskwatim Power Limited Partnership involves Manitoba Hydro and the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (NCN), marking the first time a First Nation and Manitoba Hydro have entered into a formal partnership arrangement to develop a hydroelectric project. Manitoba Hydro is providing construction and management services to the partnership in accordance with the Project Development Agreement signed in June 2006. Construction of the access road and much of the camp infrastructure was performed by a NCN joint venture company and subcontractors, ensuring economic and employment benefits created by the project were shared with the community.
- The Wuskwatim project, including all generation and transmission components, is scheduled for completion in 2011, at a total cost of \$1.6 billion.

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