

September 22, 2009

WATER LEVELS ON SOUTH RIVER NEAR POWASSAN LOWERED

North Bay – Ontario Power Generation (OPG) crews will be gradually lowering water levels over the next few days on the South River near Powassan to make scheduled repairs to the Bingham Chute Dam. The work is part of OPG's ongoing dam safety and maintenance program.

Water levels upstream from the dam on Highway 534 will be lowered gradually to avoid any impacts downstream, and to allow fish to swim away from the area. The reservoir should be back to normal levels by October 30, 2009.

Work crews will conduct inspections and maintenance to the concrete structures at the station and replace logs that are used to control water levels. Residents and other water users on the South River have been notified and OPG has the approval of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Ministry of Environment and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Bingham Chute Generating Station was built in 1923 and is operated remotely from OPG's Central Hydro Plant Group control center in North Bay. The plant produces a maximum of 1MW – the amount required to power between 800-1,000 homes.

Bingham Chute Generating Station is one of three OPG hydroelectric stations on the South River. All three are Eco Logo™ certified. EcoLogo™ is North America's largest, most respected environmental standard and certification mark. EcoLogo™ provides customers – public, corporate and consumer – with assurance that the products and services bearing the logo meet stringent standards of environmental leadership.

ABOUT OPG

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is celebrating its 10th year of serving the province. Building on a proud history, OPG provides the people and industry of Ontario with clean, safe and reliable electricity - just as it's always done.