

Canada: A major hydroelectric project in northern Ontario

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The first major hydroelectric project will enable the production of power for its own population in northern Ontario and will create up to 800 construction jobs.

Works on the OPG's hydroelectric project (Ontario Power Generation) started, involving already 300 people on site.

The project will add nearly 440 MW of renewable energy to the energy resources of the province. Once completed, the project will generate enough electricity annually to power more than 300,000 homes - nearly twice the population of Sudbury, the largest city in Northern Ontario.

The project will run over a period of approximately five years and over one third of the works should be carried out by citizens born in the Northern Province. As such, Moose Cree First Nation (formally known as Moose Factory Band of Indians), in partnership with OPG, will hold a share of participation in this project more than 25%.

{showhide image="plugins/content/showhidecontent/images/arrow-1-32x32-blue-down.png" changeimage="plugins/content/showhidecontent/images/arrow-1-32x32-blue-up.png"} Energy produced by hydropower plants accounted for 25% of the electricity produced in Ontario in 2009 - there are 200 hydroelectric plants in Ontario. These plants help to reduce the average cost of electricity production.

Since 2003, approximately 800 MW of electricity from new sources have been added in Ontario, representing over 20% of current capacity.

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This project is part of the province plan which aims to stimulate local economy and produce robust and reliable energy sources.

"The partnership between the Moose Cree First Nation and Ontario Power Generation, established within the "Lower Mattagami" is the future solution. The population of the province will benefit from a reliable source of electricity, green and healthy", concludes Norman Hardisty, director of Moose Cree First Nation.

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