For immediate release

Waterpower Continues to Grow

2013 Long-Term Energy Plan Expands Hydroelectric Target

(December 2, 2013 - Toronto) The new Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) released today by the Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy, expands the province's target for hydroelectricity – Ontario's primary source of renewable energy – to 9300MW. The previous target, outlined in the 2010 LTEP, was 9000MW.

"This plan provides improved investment certainty for our industry," said Paul Norris, Ontario Waterpower Association (OWA) President. "I am particularly pleased to see the continued emphasis on addressing the challenges of remote diesel dependency."

The 2013 LTEP also recognizes the potential role for pumped storage hydro, notes that the Ministry is reviewing both large and small waterpower sites in Northern Ontario and makes specific note of opportunities at existing dams.

"We look forward to continuing to work with the Ministry and key regulatory agencies to achieve our targets," added Norris. "I am confident that our collaborative efforts to analyze and assess waterpower potential in the Far North will yield even more opportunities in the future."

In September of this year the Ministries of Energy, Natural Resources and the Ontario Power Authority launched a joint project with the OWA to review the waterpower potential in the Far North, with emphasis on remote communities and the Ring of Fire. The final report is expected to be released by the end of the year.

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*The **Ontario Waterpower Association (OWA)** was founded in 2001 to represent the common and collective interests of the province's original renewable energy sector—waterpower. http://www.owa.ca.*

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