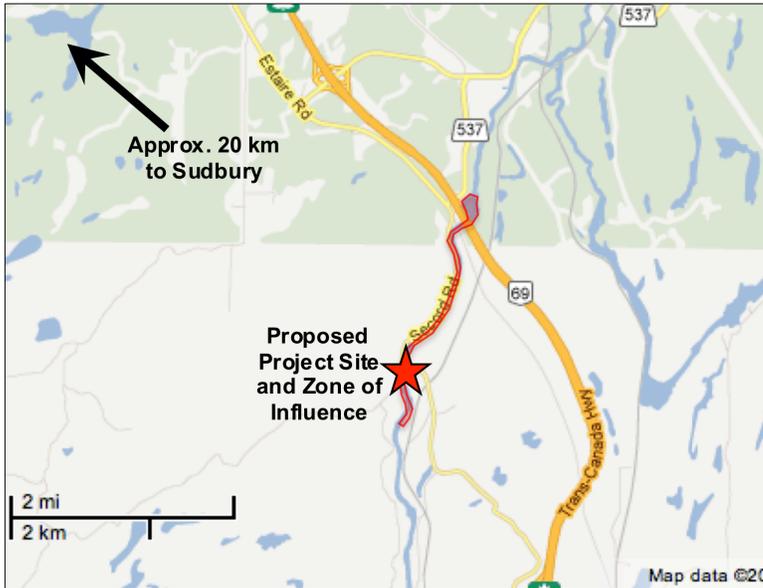


Notice of Commencement under the Class EA for Waterpower Projects

Secord Rapids Waterpower Project – August 24, 2012

Water Power Group Limited Partnership is planning to undertake an environmental evaluation and assessment for the proposed Secord Rapids Small Hydro Project located in the District of Sudbury, approximately 20 km southeast of the City of Greater Sudbury, on the Wanapitei River, west of Highway 69. The expected zone of influence might be up to 1,000 m upstream to 500 m downstream of the proposed project site. If approved and constructed, this waterpower project would have installed capacity of approximately 750 kW and produce about 4 GWh of renewable energy annually. Project components may include a water intake with control structure, penstock, powerhouse, tailrace, power line and short access road.

This project is subject to the provisions of the Ontario Waterpower Association's "Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Waterpower Projects" (2010). Pursuant to the Class EA, this project is considered to be a new project on a managed waterway.



The Class EA process requires the Water Power Group Limited Partnership to undertake an evaluation of the project to determine its potential effects to the environment (positive and negative) and prepare a detailed Environmental Report. The project is also expected to require review and approvals, including, but not limited to, the *Environmental Protection Act*, the *Fisheries Act*, the *Public Lands Act*, the *Navigable Waters Act*, the *Endangered Species Act*, the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*, and the *Ontario Water Resources Act*. This notice and the public consultation process for the project under the Class EA is intended to coordinate and meet the notification requirements relevant to the planning stage of the project under these statutes.

The Class EA process is anticipated to take approximately 1 year to complete, with construction commencing after its completion, and is estimated to require approximately 9 months to complete, contingent on the receipt of required permits and approvals.

The evaluation and environmental report will assess the potential effects of the proposed waterpower project on the environment during its construction and operation. Water Power Group LP has identified areas that are expected to be the focus of the proposed project. Public consultation and aboriginal engagement will be important parts of the project. You are invited to provide comments on the issues to be addressed, and/or ask to be placed on the project's mailing list. For any further information regarding the proposed project, to raise any issues or concerns, or to be placed on the project's mailing list, please contact:

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Notices announcing public open houses will be published at a later date.

Under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Environmental Assessment Act*, unless otherwise stated in the submission, and personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in the submission will become part of the public record files for this matter and will be released, if requested, to any person.