



March 19, 2002

Ref. 2002-H-8

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) will hold a one-day public hearing on the Environmental Assessment Guidelines (EA Guidelines) for the proposed modifications and additions to New Brunswick Power's Solid Radioactive Waste Management Facility (SRWMF) in Point Lepreau, New Brunswick.

One-Day Hearing: May 22, 2002

Location: CNSC Public Hearing Room, 14th Floor, 280 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario

Public hearings begin at 8:30 am and follow the agenda published prior to the hearing date.

New Brunswick Power (NB Power) has notified the CNSC of its intent to apply for authorization to modify and construct additional waste storage structures at the SRWMF. Under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, the CNSC must complete an environmental assessment of the project before making a decision on NB Power's application. Based on the results of the environmental assessment, the CNSC must determine if the project is likely to cause significant environmental effects, taking into account the application of appropriate impact mitigation measures. Because this project also requires registration under the *Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation* of the *New Brunswick Clean Environment Act*, federal and provincial environmental assessment processes are being carried out in a harmonized and co-operative manner.

Draft EA Guidelines were issued for public comment on February 8, 2002. The public comment period closed on March 8, 2002. The revised EA Guidelines, taking public comments into account, will be made available to the public on April 8, 2002. The revised EA Guidelines will then be presented to the Commission for approval at the one-day public hearing on May 22, 2002.

The public is invited to comment on the revised EA Guidelines either by oral presentation or written submission. Requests to participate and text of oral presentations or written submissions must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission by May 8, 2002.

c/o Ms. Carmen Ellyson

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The Commission will hold a public hearing on the licence application at a later date in accordance with the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* and CNSC Rules of Procedure. The Commission will also consider the results of the environmental assessment during that hearing.

Information on the environmental assessment and copies of the draft EA Guidelines are available on the CNSC website at: www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment and to respect Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.