

SPRING 2017

# From THE Point

STATION NEWS  
FOR THE COMMUNITY

## Engaging with our Communities

The PLNGS Community Relations Liaison Committee

## Maintaining our Asset

Equipment Reliability Outage 2017



Énergie NB Power

# ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES: THE PLNGS COMMUNITY RELATIONS LIAISON COMMITTEE

The people who live and work near the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS) are as important to its success as the people who work at the plant.

Kathleen Duguay, Manager of Community Affairs and Nuclear Regulatory Protocol, helped to establish the PLNGS Community Relations Liaison Committee 18 years ago, as a vehicle to share information with the communities around the Station.

“Making sure our neighbours know what is happening at the Station is one of our most important jobs,” says Kathleen. “The relationships we have built with our Committee are based on trust, respect and transparency. Members know that they can count on us for honest and timely updates on the things that matter to them. Through this Committee, we’re able to demonstrate our personal accountability to community engagement.”

The Committee is comprised of ten members of the communities surrounding the Station. Current members have served between one and 18 years on the Committee. NB Power values the contributions of members who have served on the Committee, both past and present.

Leaders from communities, organizations and industries near the Station were selected to serve on the Committee to facilitate meaningful dialogue with staff at PLNGS. Members participate by bringing forward questions or potential concerns from their neighbours and co-workers, and by bringing back valuable information about Station operations.

The Committee meets with Senior Management Team members and other subject matter representatives from the Station, typically on a quarterly or as-needed basis. At each meeting, an operational update is provided, which includes topics of general interest, with emphasis on matters related to health, safety, environment, and emergency preparedness.

Kathleen says that her role as Co-Chair has been one of the most rewarding parts of her career.

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**Kathleen Duguay – Manager of Community Affairs and Nuclear Regulatory Protocol, and Wayne Pollock – Musquash Fire Department Chief, serve as the Committee’s Co-Chairs.**

“This Committee provides us with an opportunity to not only share information about how we are focused on safe and reliable operation, but to learn about our host communities,” said Kathleen.

“It’s through initiatives like this that we have earned a social licence to operate. It’s up to us to maintain the support of New Brunswickers as we work to operate the plant for another 25 to 30 years.”

## MEMBERS

Kathleen Duguay (Co-Chair)	NB Power
Wayne Pollock (Co-Chair)	Musquash Fire Department
Sylvia Dell’Olio	Fundy Shores School
Heather Chase	Local Development Representative
John Weir	PLNGS Warden Service - Chief Warden
Jeff Abbott	Commercial Fishermen Representative
Dave Rogers	Chairman Local Service District
Philip Melanson	Musquash Fire Department Deputy Chief
Linda Robichaud	Recreation Centre Representative
Deanna Bent	Community Recording Secretary

Wayne Pollock, Chief of the Musquash Fire Department, has served as Co-Chair for about 18 years.

“I appreciate the opportunity to participate on this Committee and to serve as a Co-Chair,” said Wayne. “This is an excellent forum to get the right information so that we can share it with our communities. Also, the strong relationship our fire department has been able to develop with the plant is second-to-none. The partnership has been recognized by the nuclear industry as an example of how plants should work with local emergency responders. Through my Committee involvement, I’m able to better understand how operations may impact us, and how we can help the Station.”

Each member says that they have gained a whole new level of appreciation for the Station and its staff.

“Being part of the Committee gives me confidence that the people at Point Lepreau work really hard to protect the environment,” says Jeff Abbott, the Commercial Fishermen Representative on the Committee. “As someone who makes their living on the water, that’s incredibly important to me. We always have a good, two-way dialogue during our Committee meetings. It’s clear from our talks that safety and environment issues are a top priority at the Station.”

“Being part of this Committee helps increase my understanding of nuclear power and the important role it plays both in our local community and the province of New Brunswick,” says Heather Chase, the Local Development Representative. “It allows me to engage with the Senior Management Team at the Station in an open and transparent way which creates a healthy environment to bring forward any potential issues or concerns.”



# MAINTAINING OUR ASSET:

## EQUIPMENT RELIABILITY OUTAGE 2017



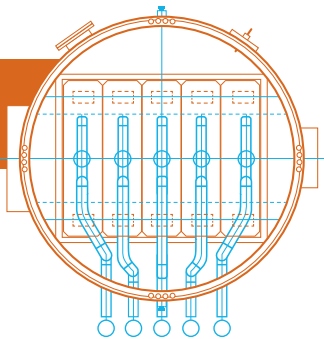
Last year, adjustments were made to the Station's multi-year planned maintenance strategy, with a concentrated focus on improving equipment reliability. This approach is consistent with a broader industry practice of addressing deficiencies in as timely a manner as possible and employing more aggressive preventive maintenance strategies to achieve better equipment reliability performance.

This approach included the addition of a planned maintenance outage that began April 7, 2017, which is currently projected to take four to five weeks to execute. This outage has been named the Equipment Reliability Outage 2017, as the jobs we'll be undertaking will directly improve our reliability.

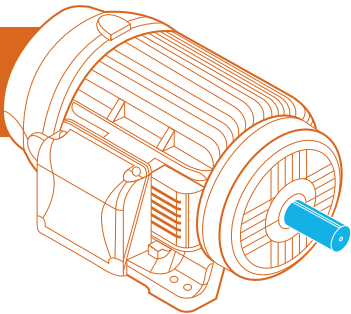
As a base load plant for the province, PLNGS plays a central role in providing safe, reliable, and emission-free electricity to our customers.

"Our scheduled maintenance outages are a key investment in ensuring the long-term ability to dependably meet the energy needs of New Brunswickers," said Wayne Woodworth, Outage Manager. "We're planning to perform more than 5,000 activities with help from about 600 contractors and tradespeople who will work alongside our employees. We'll be focused on completing every task with safety and quality."

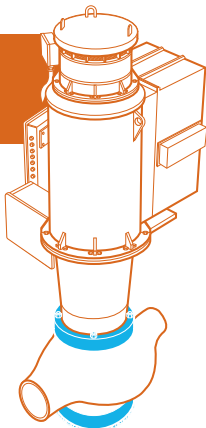
Reheater  
Bundle  
Replacements



Local Air  
Cooler Motor  
Replacements



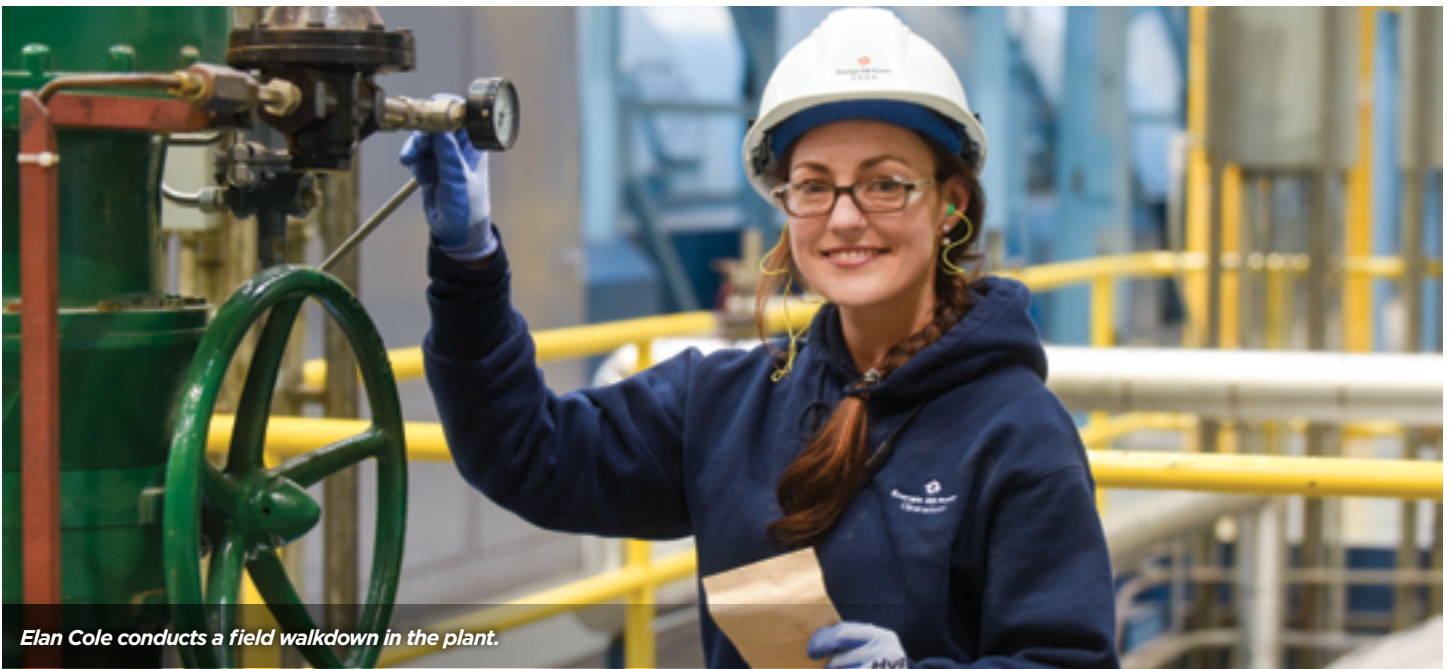
Moderator  
Pump  
Maintenance



*Lee Morell checks calibration on the turbine generator equipment.*



*Jeff Foote and Jared Wilson perform maintenance.*



*Elan Cole conducts a field walkdown in the plant.*

Outages are timed to coincide with seasonal increases in water flows in the hydro system and with lower seasonal electricity demand to help offset the temporary loss of our Station's contribution to provincial energy needs.

The work to be completed this outage is diverse, with jobs on equipment and systems on both the nuclear and conventional parts of the Station.

Major maintenance to be performed includes replacement of a dozen Local Air Cooler motors, bundle replacements on a reheater, and replacement of components on one of the moderator pumps. We'll also be doing many routine inspections and preventive maintenance activities throughout the plant.

"Our team strives to continue to improve plant performance and reliability with the goal of becoming one of the top performing nuclear plants in Canada," says Wayne. "Completing safe and well-executed outages are a key part of our continuous improvement efforts."

# Public Information Sessions

NB Power has hosted three Point Lepreau Public Information Sessions over the past few months to encourage public engagement in the licence renewal process that is currently underway.

Members of the public and interested stakeholders participated in the following events:

- November 29, 2016 at the Dipper Harbour Fire Hall
- January 17, 2017 at the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre
- February 27, 2017 at Magaguadavic Place in St. George

These public events, and other engagement activities, provide New Brunswickers with an opportunity to learn about the programs in place to ensure safe, reliable operation of the Station.

Station and NB Power corporate staff were joined by partners from New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization (NB-EMO), local emergency responders and union representatives. Covering a range of topics, from the environment to equipment reliability, and how nuclear works

to community engagement, they participated in a wide variety of conversations with members of the public.

Brett Plummer, Site Vice President, participated in the three sessions, and says that they provided the team with valuable insight from the local communities.

“By connecting with our customers, stakeholders, and rights holders, we’re able to have meaningful conversations about the things that matter most to them,” said Brett. “It helps us better understand their perspectives and allows us to explain how we do business at Point Lepreau.”

Paul Thompson, Senior Strategic Advisor, was one of the session representatives who explained how nuclear power is made. He said the conversations he had were positive and represented learning opportunities for both himself and the public.

“At our Saint John session, a couple of young boys came with their father and were particularly interested in how fuel bundles are made and how they function in the process to produce electricity,” said Paul. “It was inspiring to hear the very intelligent questions these boys had at their young age, and especially gratifying to see their faces light up with excitement as they learned lots of new information and posed for a photo with a fuel bundle prop.”

Halley Mawhinney, PLNGS Fire Chief for the Emergency Response Team, said the sessions provide a unique opportunity for staff to share what they do at the Station.

“It’s been interesting to explain the roles my team fulfill at the Station,” said Halley. “At the St. George event, Rick Doucet, Minister of Energy and Resource Development, spoke to me about how our team practices and prepares for different types of events. I was proud to be able to give him some examples of how the Emergency Response Team is continuously improving and striving for Excellence.”



Saint John area youth were excited to learn about nuclear power at the Saint John Public Information Session.

*Kenneth McIntyre (left) and Carson McIntyre.*



*Hal Mersereau of St. George, speaks to Austin Paul of NB Power's First Nations Affairs Team about the engagement process.*

**“**By connecting with our customers, stakeholders, and rights holders, we're able to have meaningful conversations about the things that matter most to them.**”**



*Heather Chase, member of the PLNGS Community Relations Liaison Committee, learns about the fuelling process with Jodie Smith of Work Management.*

# LICENCE RENEWAL UPDATE

In June 2016, NB Power applied for a five-year Power Reactor Operating Licence (PROL) for the continued operation of the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS). The current PROL, issued by the independent federal nuclear regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), expires in June 2017.

## PART 1

In early 2017, Station staff participated in the first part of the public licence renewal hearing for PLNGS.

Part 1 of the hearing occurred January 26, in Ottawa, ON. The hearing involved presentations from NB Power and CNSC staff to the CNSC Commission. Commission Members questioned both parties about the information that was submitted and presented. Portions of the hearing webcast can be viewed on the CNSC's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cnsccsn>

“At Part 1 of the public hearing, our team demonstrated that we are fully qualified to continue to operate PLNGS safely and reliably for the next five-year licencing period,” said Brett Plummer, Site Vice President. “We presented information illustrating that we currently meet or exceed all regulatory standards with a focus on safety in all aspects of our operation.”

At this hearing, PLNGS also provided an update on the most recent Probabilistic Safety Assessment completed in 2016. The results demonstrated that the plant is safe and sufficiently strong and robust to withstand even very rare and large earthquakes.

## PART 2

The hearing process will continue May 10-11, 2017, at the Delta Hotel in Saint John, NB. During Part 2, registered intervenors will have an opportunity to make presentations to the CNSC Commission, and NB Power and CNSC staff will participate and address questions from the Commission.

The hearing will be open to the public and webcast live via the CNSC website: <https://www.cnscccsn.gc.ca/eng/>



**Brett Plummer, Site Vice President, speaking at the Part 1 Hearing in Ottawa.**

Highlights from NB Power's Hearing Presentation:

- Safety is the top priority at PLNGS, with a Shared Commitment by NB Power and the IBEW Local 37. Station staff have worked more than 5.5 million person-hours without a lost time accident.
- While we currently meet or exceed all regulatory standards, we are focused on continuously improving our performance.
- The Station's Environmental Monitoring Program results demonstrate that there are no negative health impacts to the public or negative environmental impacts as a result of Station operations. These results are validated by the CNSC's Independent Environmental Monitoring Program.
- We are committed to providing New Brunswick with safe, reliable, and emission-free electricity for an additional 25 to 30 years.



# CONTACT US

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