

PROJECT OVERVIEW

September 2016



Maritime Link

Clean, renewable and reliable electricity from Newfoundland and Labrador to Nova Scotia

NSP Maritime Link Inc.

NSP Maritime Link Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Emera Newfoundland & Labrador Holdings Inc. and an affiliate of Nova Scotia Power that is responsible for the design, engineering, construction and commissioning of the Maritime Link Project.

The Maritime Link involves the construction and operation of a new 500 megawatt (MW) (+/- 200 kilovolt) HVdc (high-voltage direct current) line, as well as a 230 kV HVac (high-voltage alternating current) transmission line and associated infrastructure, between Granite Canal, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Woodbine, Nova Scotia. HVdc is the most efficient way to transmit electricity over long distances. The Project will also include two 170 kilometre (km) subsea cables across the Cabot Strait, approximately 50 km of overland transmission in Nova Scotia and 300 km of overland transmission on the island of Newfoundland.

A New Source of Clean, Renewable and Reliable Energy

The Maritime Link will connect the island of Newfoundland to Nova Scotia and to the North American transmission grid for the very first time. It is part of a comprehensive, long-term and sustainable electrical power management strategy to address the growing demand for more renewable energy.

For Nova Scotia, the Maritime Link will create a more diversified portfolio of energy options, reduce dependency on existing commercial-scale carbon-based generation facilities and help meet new government regulations that require 40% renewable energy by 2020.

For the island of Newfoundland, it will mean that, for the first time in its history, it is connected to the North American transmission system.

This alternative electrical transmission route will make the abundance of energy in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador more accessible and provide a reliable way to add more renewable energy sources, such as wind.

Emera and Nalcor Agreements

On November 18, 2010, Emera and Nalcor Energy (Nalcor), with the endorsement of the governments of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador, signed a Term Sheet agreement under which Emera agreed to design, engineer, construct and commission the Maritime Link Transmission Project.

As part of this agreement, Emera Newfoundland & Labrador will pay for and manage the Maritime Link. In exchange, Nova Scotia will receive 20% of the power originating from Muskrat Falls at a fixed rate for 35 years.

On July 31, 2012, Emera and Nalcor, along with the Governments of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador, executed 13 agreements pertaining to the development and transmission of hydroelectric power from Muskrat Falls, on the Churchill River in Labrador, to the island of Newfoundland, the Province of Nova Scotia and through to New England.

In December 2012, Emera announced the sanction of the Maritime Link, preserving the benefits of the Federal Loan Guarantee for Nova Scotians while upholding the role of the regulator in Nova Scotia. The Sanction Agreement enables Emera and Nalcor to move forward with the Project on terms that are consistent with the Federal Loan Guarantee announced on November 30, 2012.

Maritime Link Route

The proposed route, including subsea cable, will run between Granite Canal, NL and Woodbine, NS. The Maritime Link Project is divided into three distinct geographical regions:

Island of Newfoundland: The portion of the Project located on the island of Newfoundland includes a transmission line from Granite Canal to Cape Ray, of which approximately 35 km will be new transmission corridor. At Granite Canal, a switching station will be constructed to accommodate termination and interconnection of the Granite Canal - Bottom Brook line into the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (NLH) system. The switching station will be constructed adjacent to the existing Granite Canal hydro development.

At Bottom Brook, a new converter station will be constructed and interconnected into the NLH system by expanding the existing sub-station. From this new converter station, the transmission line will follow the existing transmission corridor to the Cape Ray transition compound. A grounding line will originate at the converter station in Bottom Brook and be routed to a grounding facility in the St. George's Bay area, near Indian Head. From the Cape Ray transition compound, the overhead lines will transition into underground cables to the shoreline landfall site at Cape Ray.

Cabot Strait: Two +/- 200 kV subsea HVdc power cables will span approximately 170 km across the Cabot Strait from Cape Ray on the island of Newfoundland to an area near the Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) Point Aconi Generating Station in Cape Breton.

Nova Scotia: The NS portion of the Project includes a subsea cable landfall which will be located on the west side of the Point Aconi Generating Station. From the landfall location the cables will extend underground to the transition compound and will then run parallel to an existing transmission corridor, terminating at the converter station at Woodbine. The HVdc lines will connect to the existing Woodbine converter station via an underground connection. A transition compound, located approximately 600 m north of the substation, will transition the overhead lines to underground cables, within a buried conduit. From the Woodbine converter station, a grounding line will run to a grounding facility location in northeast Cape Breton County, near Big Lorraine.

MARITIME LINK PROJECT TIMELINE

MI'KMAQ AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

2011-2017



ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

2011-2014



SURVEYING, PRE-ENGINEERING AND DESIGN WORK

2011-2015



FILE THE EA REPORT

JANUARY 2013



EA APPROVAL

JUNE 2013



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PLAN APPROVAL

JANUARY 2014



CONSTRUCTION

2014-2017



ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS MONITORING

2014-2017



COMMISSIONING AND FIRST POWER

2017

Project Components and Associated Infrastructure

- ● Subsea cables
- ● Shore-based grounding facilities
- ● Two converter stations and adjoining substations
- ● Transmission corridors (HVdc transmission, HVac transmission, grounding system transmission lines)
- ● Two transition compounds (for transitioning underground subsea cables to overhead transmission conductors)
- ● Other potential infrastructure, as required

Environmental Assessment Release

The Maritime Link Project received Ministerial approval and was released, with conditions, on June 21, 2013. This is a major milestone in the federal and provincial Environmental Assessment (EA) processes for the Project. Through this thorough and rigorous process, it has been shown that the Maritime Link Project is not likely to result in significant adverse environmental effects, with implementation of the proposed design features, mitigation measures and monitoring and follow-up programs.

Ongoing Stakeholder Consultation

Emera Newfoundland & Labrador is committed to ongoing consultation with stakeholders and the public. We believe it is important to maintain and develop relationships with landowners, residents, and elected officials along the Maritime Link route. Committees have also been formed, such as Community Liaison Committees and Fisheries Liaison Committees (FLC), to help better understand local and commercial interests during construction and operations of the Maritime Link.

First Nations

Emera Newfoundland & Labrador (Emera NL) is committed to building respectful and cooperative relationships with Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador. Early in the Project, Emera NL signed Socio-Economic Agreements with both the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs and the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nations in Newfoundland and Labrador. These agreements build upon a positive relationship that has developed between Emera and the Mi'kmaq over the years and is founded on Emera NL's principles of mutual respect, early engagement, openness, and building long term relationships.



Finalizing installation of steel gantry towers at Bottom Brook site, NL for the Maritime Link Project.

Diversity and Inclusion Commitment

Emera NL is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive work environment. Through the Maritime Link Benefits Agreement and Diversity Plan, guidelines and goals have been established to ensure a diverse, inclusive and respectful work place. Since 2011, Emera NL has worked closely with its contractors to ensure a clear understanding of diversity and inclusion goals and to identify ways to work together to achieve success. This includes providing equal opportunity on the Project for women, Aboriginal Peoples, individuals with disabilities and visible minorities who have been traditionally under-represented in the workplace.



Two apprentice carpenters work at Woodbine site, NS for the Maritime Link Project



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