

# Record of Proceedings, Including Reasons for Decision

In the Matter of

Applicant      Hydro-Québec

Subject        Application to Amend the Gentilly-2 Radioactive  
Waste Facility Operating Licence

Hearing Date      March 7, 2007

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Applicant: Hydro-Québec

Address: 75 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, Montreal, Quebec, H2Z 1A4

Purpose: Application to Amend the Gentilly-2 Radioactive Waste Facility Operating Licence

Application received: December 4, 2006

Date of hearing: March 7, 2007

Location: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) Public Hearing Room, 280 Slater St., 14th Floor, Ottawa, Ontario

Members present: L.J. Keen, Chair  
A. Harvey  
J.-G. Paquet

Secretary: M. Leblanc  
Recording Secretary: S. Gingras

<b>Applicant Represented By</b>	<b>Document Number</b>
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<b>Intervenors</b>	
None	

**Licence:** Amended

**Date of Decision:** March 7, 2007

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## Introduction

1. Hydro-Québec has applied to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC<sup>1</sup>) for an amendment to its waste facility operating licence for the Gentilly-2 Nuclear Generating Station located in Bécancour, Québec, to permit the construction and operation of temporary storage facilities. The current licence expires on December 31, 2009.
2. The project involves increasing the storage capacity of the Used Fuel Dry Storage Facility (UFDSF) to meet requirements until 2035, and building and operating a new radioactive waste storage area, called the Solid Radioactive Waste Management Facility (SRWMF).
3. CNSC staff had determined, pursuant to paragraph 5(1)(d) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*<sup>2</sup> (CEAA), that an environmental assessment would have to be carried out before the Commission could consider the application by Hydro-Québec to build and operate the SRWMF. The environmental assessment has been completed and a screening report was presented on November 7 and 8, 2006, in Bécancour, Quebec. In the record of the proceedings of that hearing, published on December 21, 2006, the Commission concluded that the project to refurbish the station and construct the SRWMF, taking into account appropriate mitigation measures, was not likely to cause significant environmental effects.
4. This *Record of Proceedings* describes the Commission's consideration of the information and written submissions provided by the applicant and CNSC staff, leading to its decision on this licence amendment application. This *Record of Proceedings* also summarizes the information that CNSC staff provided in the context of the mid-term report on this licence and the Commission's conclusions regarding this report.

## Issues

5. In its consideration of the application, the Commission was required to decide:
  - a) whether Hydro-Québec is qualified to carry on the activity that the amended licence would authorize, pursuant to subsection 24(4) of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*<sup>3</sup> (NSCA);
  - b) whether, in carrying on that activity, Hydro-Québec would make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed, pursuant to subsection 24(4) of the NSCA.

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<sup>1</sup> In this *Record of Proceedings*, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission is referred to as the "CNSC" when referring to the organization and its staff in general, and as the "Commission" when referring to the tribunal component.

<sup>2</sup> S.C. 1992, c. 37.

<sup>3</sup> S.C. 1997, c. 9.

### Hearing

6. In making its decision, the Commission considered information presented for a one-day public hearing held on March 7, 2007, in Ottawa, Ontario. The hearing was conducted in accordance with the *Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Rules of Procedure*.<sup>4</sup> The Commission received written submissions and heard oral presentations from Hydro-Québec (CMD 07-H7.1 and CMD 07-H7.1A) and CNSC staff (CMD 07-H7, CMD 07-H7.A, CMD 07-H7.B and CMD 07-H7.C). No interventions were filed.

### **Decision**

7. Based on its consideration of the matter, as described in more detail in this *Record of Proceedings*, the Commission concludes that Hydro-Québec is qualified to carry on the activity that the amended licence would authorize and that, in carrying on that activity, it will make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

Therefore, the Commission, pursuant to section 24 of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, amends licence PIED-W4-319.00/2009, issued to Hydro-Québec for its waste management facility at its Gentilly-2 site, in Bécancour, Quebec.

8. The Commission includes in the amended licence the conditions proposed by CNSC staff in CMD 07-H7.C, with the following modifications:

Licence condition 2.3 is replaced by the following text:

- 2.3 [Translation] A safety analysis report, revised to incorporate aspects related to the equipment described in the documents in Appendix C, must be submitted and approved by the Commission before the start of the activities described in condition 2.2 of this licence.

Paragraph 1 of Appendix B is replaced by the following text:

1. [Translation] Hydro-Québec, "Operating policies and principles for the solid radioactive waste and used fuel storage facilities of Hydro-Québec," February 2007 (Revision 12).

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<sup>4</sup> S.O.R./2000-211.

### **Issues and Commission Findings**

9. In making its decision pursuant to section 24 of the NSCA, the Commission considered whether the amendments would have any impact on the qualifications of the licensee to carry out the activities authorized under the current licence and the adequacy of the measures in place for protecting the environment, the health and safety of persons, national security and international obligations to which Canada has agreed.
10. In its *Record of Proceedings* concerning the renewal of the operating licence for the waste management facility, the Commission requested a mid-term report on the licensee's performance and the condition of the facility. This report was submitted by CNSC staff in CMD 07-H7.B. The report covers the period between January 2004 and December 2006 and updates key points related to the operation of the waste management facility.
11. The conclusions of the Commission, based on its consideration of the information provided in the documents submitted and at the public hearing, are summarized in the following sections.

### **Licence Amendment Requested**

12. The Commission considered the information provided by CNSC staff concerning Hydro-Québec's application for a licence amendment. This information and the Commission's conclusions are summarized in the following text.

#### *Radiation Protection*

13. To determine whether the measures intended to protect the health and safety of persons are adequate, the Commission studied Hydro-Québec's previous performance and plans in the area of radiation protection.
14. CNSC staff noted that it was intended that any dose received by a worker during the construction work would be significantly below current limits. CNSC staff also indicated that Hydro-Québec maintains a policy requiring that doses must be kept as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA), and that this policy will apply during the construction work.
15. According to CNSC staff, radionuclides emissions have remained significantly below the levels specified in the licence and have made only a small contribution to the total emissions of the Gentilly-2 site. Also according to CNSC staff, no action level established pursuant to the *Radiation Protection Regulations*<sup>5</sup> has been exceeded.

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<sup>5</sup> S.O.R./2000-203.

16. On the basis of the information received, the Commission considers that Hydro-Québec has made, and will continue to make adequate provisions to protect workers and the public from radiation.

#### *Environmental Protection*

17. Hydro-Québec reported that implementation of the environmental surveillance and monitoring program will begin in 2007; the aim of the program is to verify the accuracy of predictions contained in the screening report and to determine the effectiveness of proposed measures. Hydro-Québec also indicated that it had prepared an environmental protection plan to be implemented during construction of Phase 1 of the SRWMF. The purpose of the plan is to ensure that potential environmental effects are identified and appropriate mitigation measures implemented and respected for the duration of the work. CNSC staff has evaluated the plan and concluded that it is adequate.
18. Hydro-Québec also submitted a document describing how the various aspects of an environmental monitoring program for the SRWMF would be implemented. CNSC staff reported that, having evaluated the content of the document, it is satisfied that it is adequate. CNSC staff considers that implementation of an environmental protection program for all subsequent phases of the project is a prerequisite for the start of construction work; a condition (3.5) to this effect is therefore included in the proposed licence.
19. On the basis of the information received, the Commission considers that Hydro-Québec has made, and will continue to make adequate provisions to protect the environment during the proposed construction activities.

#### *Operations*

20. In its submission and its oral presentation, Hydro-Québec provided a detailed description of the planned SRWMF. Hydro-Québec also noted that the proposed location is on a backfilled, industrial site. In response to a request from the Commission for additional information on the backfill used on the site, which is apparently flooded for part of the year, Hydro-Québec explained that the backfilling was completed after the abandonment of the Laprade heavy water plant. The plan is to remove the backfill and construct the SRWMF on the bedrock. Hydro-Québec stated that the elevation of the site will be well above the potential flood level.
21. According to Hydro-Québec, the proposed location reduces the waste transfer distance, avoids the loss of a forested area that is a potential wildlife habitat and requires no deforestation. The location is part of the protected area of the station, and a dike would provide it with a barrier against flooding. When the Commission asked for additional information on the dike, Hydro-Québec responded that the height and strength of the dike would protect against the worst flooding and dam failure on the Saint-Maurice in the historical record.

22. Hydro-Québec explained that work would be completed in four phases, with the final three subject to Hydro-Québec's decision regarding the refurbishment of the station. Hydro-Québec also indicated that the design documents required to obtain the licence to proceed with construction of the structures of the four SRWMF phases had already been forwarded to CNSC staff, who examined them and found them to be acceptable.
23. CNSC staff indicated that a condition (3.5) was included in the proposed licence, allowing a phase of the construction to begin after implementation of a project implementation plan, an environmental protection plan and a construction verification plan for the phase. CNSC staff also plans to carry out compliance inspections during construction work.
24. CNSC staff noted that, according to the conditions of the current licence, acceptance by the Commission is required before operations can begin at a newly constructed phase. Condition 2.2 provides guidance for the startup of each phase of the SRWMF, stipulating that a commissioning report must first be submitted by Hydro-Québec and accepted by the Commission. CNSC staff recommends that the Commission delegate the approval of the commissioning report for each phase.
25. CNSC staff indicated that Hydro-Québec had submitted a revised version of the policies and principles, which, after examination, was deemed acceptable. CNSC staff therefore recommends that condition 2.3 of the current licence be amended to delete the reference to the policies and principles, and that reference to this document in Appendix B of the licence also be amended.
26. The Commission requested additional information concerning the possibility of an increase in surveillance staff for the new facilities. Hydro-Québec responded that, although an increase in staff is planned for the refurbishment of the station, it did not foresee a need for additional staff for routine operations.
27. In response to a question from the Commission concerning a change in the activity level or the nature of the waste stored in the new storage modules from that in the previous modules, Hydro-Québec explained that the waste stored at the new site may differ from that stored in the previous facility. Hydro-Québec added that the activity level of the waste, rather than its nature, would be the determining factor in terms of its handling and storage.
28. The Commission requested additional information concerning the differences between the federal and provincial building codes. CNSC staff responded that it had asked Hydro-Québec to comply with the *National Building Code of Canada*,<sup>6</sup> 2005, despite the fact that the *Quebec Building Code*<sup>7</sup> still refers to the *National Building Code of Canada*, 1995. Some of the structures of the SRWMF were designed according to the *National Building Code of Canada*, 1995, although the 2005 version includes changes in the standards relating to the seismic response of structures. CNSC staff therefore asked Hydro-Québec to conduct a gap analysis to

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<sup>6</sup> Issued by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes, National Research Council of Canada, dated 1995, as amended from time to time.

<sup>7</sup> R.Q. c. S-3, r.2.



demonstrate compliance of the structures with the 2005 version. CNSC staff stated that Hydro-Québec had undertaken to carry out this analysis and, where significant differences existed between the two versions of the *National Building Code of Canada*, to make any changes to the structures of Phase 1 and to the design of the structures of Phase II necessary in order to achieve compliance with the *National Building Code of Canada*, 2005.

29. The Commission asked what the chances were that the work would be finished in time to ensure that the operation of the station would not be jeopardized by the lack of space to store waste. Hydro-Québec responded that work is scheduled to be completed in December 2007 and that it expects to have sufficient leeway to complete the construction of the facilities in time to prevent disruption of the operation of the station.

#### Safety Report

30. CNSC staff reported that Hydro-Québec had made changes in the safety report to include aspects related to the SRWMF. Version 7 of the report was submitted to, and is currently being evaluated by CNSC staff. CNSC staff suggested a condition (2.3) for the proposed licence requiring completion of a safety report for the new facilities that is acceptable to the Commission.

#### Human Factors

31. CNSC staff stated that in support of its application, Hydro-Québec had submitted documents describing how human factors would be addressed during the design of the SRWMF. These documents were assessed and found to be acceptable by CNSC staff.

#### Conclusion on Operations

32. Based on the information received, the Commission is satisfied that all measures are in place to enable Hydro-Québec to carry out the construction work in an appropriate manner.

#### *Quality Assurance*

33. CNSC staff stated that Hydro-Québec had submitted a quality assurance plan for the project that would set out the coaching requirements for activities associated with the project. CNSC staff evaluated the plan and considers the format to be part of the quality management system of the operations. Hydro-Québec accepted the comments made by CNSC staff following review of the document. CNSC staff noted that a final version of the quality assurance plan would be available before the start of construction work and that a condition to this effect (3.4) was included in the proposed licence.

34. CNSC staff reported that the Construction Verification Plan (CVP) would be developed by Hydro-Québec and submitted to CNSC staff before work was carried out at the site. The proposed construction verification framework is considered acceptable by and meets the expectations of CNSC staff. CNSC staff also considers that implementation of a CVP is a prerequisite for the start of construction work; a related condition (3.5) is included in the licence.
35. Based on the information received, the Commission concludes that Hydro-Québec has taken, and will continue to take adequate steps to comply with all CNSC quality assurance requirements during the activities that the amended licence would authorize.

*Decommissioning Project and Financial Guarantee*

36. CNSC staff stated that clauses 6.1 and 6.3 of the current licence require Hydro-Québec to examine and revise preliminary decommissioning plans for the station, which includes the waste storage facility.
37. CNSC staff also reported that, as required by the current licence, on June 30, 2006, Hydro-Québec submitted a written report confirming the validity of the financial guarantee for the entire Gentilly-2 site, including the waste management facility. The submission was reviewed by CNSC staff.
38. The Commission is satisfied that the requirements related to the decommissioning project and the financial guarantee have been met by Hydro-Québec.

*Public Information*

39. CNSC staff explained that Hydro-Québec manages a public information program for the station, including the radioactive waste storage facility. Hydro-Québec is currently conducting a broad-based public communication campaign on the station refurbishment project and the modifications to the radioactive waste storage facilities. CNSC staff also reported that Hydro-Québec considers that the community shows no marked opposition to the project and that the public is interested in continuing to receive information. Hydro-Québec also submitted a stakeholder communication and consultation plan. CNSC staff reviewed the public information activities of Hydro-Québec and concluded that they meet CNSC requirements.
40. Based on the information received, the Commission is satisfied that Hydro-Québec's public information program is adequate.

*Nuclear Non-proliferation and Safeguards*

41. CNSC staff reported that provisions relating to nuclear safeguards for the additional CANSTOR (CANDU Storage) modules will be similar to those already in place for existing modules. Representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) conduct periodic inspections of the seals and replace them as necessary. CNSC staff added that the operating licence does not allow the import or export of prescribed nuclear substances or equipment, and that the proposed amendment to the operating licence does not affect Canada's capacity to meet its international obligations.
42. CNSC staff is satisfied that, in relation to the Gentilly-2 radioactive waste management facilities, Canada is in compliance with its international obligations with respect to IAEA safeguards.
43. Based on the information received, the Commission is satisfied that Hydro-Québec has made, and will continue to make adequate provisions in the areas of safeguards and non-proliferation at its radioactive waste management facility to maintain the national security and the international agreements to which Canada has agreed.

*Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*

44. Before making a licensing decision, the Commission must be satisfied that all applicable requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) have been fulfilled.
45. CNSC staff noted that a screening report was submitted to the Commission at the hearings of November 7 and 8, 2006, and that the Commission concluded that the project is unlikely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, taking into account the implementation of mitigation measures.
46. CNSC staff included in Appendix C of the proposed licence a letter from Hydro-Québec indicating its commitment to implement an environmental assessment follow-up program for the four phases of the project. Hydro-Québec will present the results of the environmental assessment follow-up program to CNSC staff for verification.
47. Based on the information received, the Commission concludes that all the requirements related to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) have been fulfilled.

*Conclusions on the Licence Amendment Application*

48. The Commission notes that CNSC staff has asked for and Hydro-Québec has apparently agreed to conduct a gap analysis to verify the differences between the 1995 and 2005 versions of the *National Building Code of Canada*, and to make the necessary changes to the Phase I structures and to the design of the structures of Phase II in order to achieve conformance with the *National Building Code of Canada*, 2005. The Commission expects Hydro-Québec to

complete this analysis and to make the necessary changes to ensure that the waste management facility is in compliance with the *National Building Code of Canada*, 2005.

49. The Commission considers that all the requirements of the CEEA have been met with respect to the application by Hydro-Québec to amend its licence to operate a radioactive waste management facility located in Bécancour.
50. The Commission approves conditions 2.2 and 2.3 of the licence, as well as the modification to condition 3.5.
51. The Commission delegates to the Director General, Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation, the authority to approve the documents necessary to allow construction of the various phases of the project, as detailed in CMD 07-H7.C.
52. Based on the information summarized in this section, the Commission is satisfied that Hydro-Québec is qualified to carry out the activity that the amended licence will authorize and in carrying out that activity, will make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

### **Mid-term Report**

#### *Radiation Protection*

53. CNSC staff noted that radiation doses to personnel are included in the doses in the station operating report. CNSC staff also indicated that since the licence was issued, minor points for improvement have continued to be observed in the radiation protection program at the Gentilly-2 site. CNSC staff therefore considers that, although these points do not represent a significant deviation from the requirements, they are indicators of a potential for improvement.

#### *Environmental Protection*

54. CNSC staff noted that, when the operating licence for the waste management facility was renewed in 2003, it considered that the radiological environmental monitoring program was below requirements. Since that time, Hydro-Québec has submitted an environmental monitoring plan that was evaluated by CNSC staff. According to the latter, the radiological monitoring program now meets requirements. Moreover, according to CNSC staff, the results of radiological monitoring in 2005 around the RWMF and the UFDSF reveal no anomalies that could lead to an unacceptable risk for the environment or members of the public.
55. CNSC staff reported that, after the renewal of the current licence, it continued drafting the toxicological and ecotoxicological risk assessment report. An addendum to the report was submitted, and CNSC staff closed the related action notice.

### Environmental Events

56. CNSC staff reported that, on November 9, 2004, a spill of potentially contaminated rainwater occurred in the storm sewer. As a result of this incident, Hydro-Québec developed a procedure for transferring rainwater in order to prevent the occurrence of a similar event. CNSC staff noted that it is satisfied with the corrective and preventive actions taken by Hydro-Québec in response to the event.
57. CNSC staff explained that higher than background levels of tritium are found in precipitation, surface water and groundwater in the vicinity of the station (within approximately 1 km). The main source of tritium is the stack effluent; the RWMF is another source. CNSC staff also noted that, in the *Record of Proceedings* in the matter of the most recent licence renewal for the waste management facility in 2003,<sup>8</sup> the Commission specified that the mid-term report should include information on tritium in groundwater sampling around the SRWMF.
58. CNSC staff noted that Hydro-Québec had initiated a program in 1998 to study the origin and the evolution of the tritium plume in deeper soil layers south of the RWMF. Hydro-Québec has submitted regular reports on the results of this program. Staff also noted that it had studied these reports and agrees with Hydro-Québec's conclusions: the plume is the result of incineration carried out in the 1970s, concentrations are steadily decreasing over time because of the radioactive decay of the tritium and the plume is almost stagnant. CNSC staff added that the tritium situation around the RWMF seems to be under control and well understood.
59. Hydro-Québec requested a relaxation of the expanded environmental monitoring program related to this situation; CNSC staff agreed to the request in June 2005.

### *Operations*

60. CNSC staff noted that it conducted six compliance inspections subsequent to the issuance of the waste management licence in 2003. CNSC staff is satisfied that, although directives were issued based on these inspections, the security of the facilities was not affected, and Hydro-Québec promptly took appropriate corrective action.
61. CNSC staff noted that in 2004, Hydro-Québec submitted an application for authorization to build a concrete base and two new CANSTOR modules. CNSC staff granted the authorization after reviewing the application. The construction work is deemed to have been carried out safely and was completed on December 31, 2004.
62. CNSC staff indicated that it had been notified by Hydro-Québec that after the end of 2006, the company intended to use part of the space set aside for the RWMF to meet storage requirements for low- and intermediate-level operational waste produced in 2007. CNSC staff added that Hydro-Québec expects to have sufficient space available to meet operational needs until the end of 2007.

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<sup>8</sup> *Record of Proceedings, Including Reasons for Decision – Hydro-Québec – Application for the Renewal of the Operating Licence for the Gentilly-2 Waste Management Facility*, December 23, 2003.

63. Details of an incident at the RWMF were described by CNSC staff. On April 15, 2005, a filter fell to the bottom of the pit at the RWMF during a transfer, contaminating workers, equipment and the ground. Hydro-Québec modified the attachment mechanism and the procedure was changed. CNSC staff stated that the maximum dose received by a worker was well below the prescribed limits and that several samples collected around the RWMF confirmed that the impact on the environment was negligible. CNSC staff is satisfied with the actions taken by Hydro-Québec in response to this event.

#### Training

64. CNSC staff reported that the entire training program for the site was assessed and found to be below requirements, but that no deficiencies were observed with respect to the waste management site.
65. In response to the request from the Commission for additional information, CNSC staff explained that deficiencies in the training program for the Gentilly-2 site had been observed at the time of the renewal of the station's operating licence, but that compliance inspections conducted at the waste management facility revealed no shortcomings with respect to the qualifications of the staff assigned to the facility. Hydro-Québec added that the deficiencies in the training program were related to the control room staff, and that an action plan in this regard had been submitted to CNSC staff.

#### *Quality Assurance*

66. CNSC staff confirmed that, as required, Hydro-Québec has a quality assurance program and that several inspections had revealed no deficiencies in the operation of the radioactive waste storage facility.

#### *Emergency Preparedness*

67. CNSC staff noted that the results of assessments of emergency measures planning continue to exceed CNSC requirements in terms of the emergency measures program and management. Moreover, any weaknesses raised during assessments are rapidly corrected. CNSC staff also noted that no event had had any significant consequences in terms of emergency measures planning at Gentilly-2 and that only minor performance deviations were observed.

#### *Decommissioning Project and Financial Guarantee*

68. CNSC staff noted that Hydro-Québec had submitted a revised preliminary decommissioning plan in accordance with the conditions of the licence. CNSC staff added that the evaluation of the revised version of the preliminary decommissioning plan, as well as the analysis of the costs and the financial guarantee agreement, have been completed and that the submission was found to be acceptable.

69. CNSC staff indicated that Hydro-Québec had submitted a written report confirming the validity of the financial guarantee. This submission is being reviewed by CNSC staff.

#### *Public Information*

70. CNSC staff indicated that Hydro-Québec manages a public information program for the station, including the radioactive waste storage facility. Hydro-Québec also submitted a stakeholder communication and consultation plan to CNSC staff.
71. CNSC staff reviewed the public information activities and concluded that they meet CNSC requirements.

#### *Nuclear Non-proliferation and Safeguards*

72. CNSC staff reported that it had evaluated the safeguards programs and concluded that the safeguards programs and their implementation meet requirements. CNSC staff added that all the reports and files related to safeguards were submitted by Hydro-Québec within the required timeframe.
73. CNSC staff is satisfied that, in relation to the Gentilly-2 radioactive waste storage facility, Canada is in compliance with its international obligations with respect to IAEA safeguards.

#### *Conclusions on the Mid-term Report*

74. After examining the information submitted concerning the mid-term report on the waste management facility, the Commission is of the opinion that Hydro-Québec's performance has been acceptable in respect of its compliance with the regulatory requirements and the conditions of the licence during the first half of the licence period.

#### **Conclusion**

75. The Commission has considered the information and submission of the CNSC staff as presented in the material available for reference on the record.
76. The Commission is satisfied that Hydro-Québec is qualified to carry out the activity that the amended licence would authorize and, in carrying out that activity, will make adequate provision for the protection of the environment, the health and safety of persons and the maintenance of national security and measures required to implement international obligations to which Canada has agreed.

77. The Commission therefore amends Hydro-Québec licence PIED-W4-319.00/2009 for its waste management facility located in Bécancour, Quebec, pursuant to section 24 of the NSCA.
78. The Commission includes in the licence the conditions recommended by CNSC staff, as set out in the draft licence attached to CMD 07-H7.C.
79. The Commission delegates to the Director General, Directorate of Nuclear Cycle and Facilities Regulation, the authority to approve progress on the project, as described in detail in CMD 07-H7.C.
80. With respect to the mid-term report on the waste management facility, the Commission is of the opinion that Hydro-Québec's performance in terms of compliance with regulatory requirements and licence conditions during the first half of the licence period has been acceptable.

Linda J. Keen  
Chair  
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

**Date of decision:** March 7, 2007

**Date of release of Reasons for Decision:** April 25, 2007