



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NPCC Region Projects Adequate 2007 Summer Electricity Supplies

New York, NY -- 5/03/07 -- The Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. today released the results of comprehensive reliability assessments projecting that New England, New York, Ontario, Québec and the Canadian Maritime Provinces will have sufficient supplies of electricity for both typical and extreme summer weather conditions with the availability of existing and planned facilities.

Only with the unlikely combination of extreme weather conditions and the severe reduction of both transmission and resource capabilities would the implementation of operating procedures and programs be required in New York and New England to keep electricity supplies and demand in balance.

The addition of new transmission and generation capacity over the past year has strengthened the ability of the grid in New York and New England to meet electricity demand during extreme summer weather conditions.

NPCC Inc.'s President and CEO, Mr. Edward A. Schwerdt stated, "The commercial operation of several major transmission projects this summer, notably the HVDC cable from New Jersey to Long Island, NY and the Boston NSTAR Transmission Reliability Project, will strengthen the overall reliability of the NPCC system."

With the addition of Phase 1 of the Southwest Connecticut Reliability Project in October 2006 the area has additional transmission capacity to import electricity. Added, Schwerdt, "Along with other resources, this new transmission capacity reduces the summertime reliability problems that southwestern Connecticut has repeatedly experienced over the past several years."

New York City and New York State, as a whole, forecast an adequate supply of electricity. Since the summer of 2006, 726 MWs of additional generating resources have been added to the New York system. Demand-response programs and operating procedures are in place and sufficient to respond to and mitigate a range of potential reliability impacts.

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Ontario is also projected to have a sufficient supply of electricity this summer. Ontario has seen a steady growth in the availability of demand response programs since the summer of 2004.

Delays to the scheduled start of new generation in Ontario are not expected to significantly impact the province's capacity outlook for the summer of 2007. The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) monitors the situation and can take responsive actions if and where necessary to maintain the electricity supply and demand balance.

Québec and the Canadian Maritime Provinces forecast more than an adequate supply of electricity during the summer period. Both of these areas are winter peaking. Normal hydro conditions for the 2007 summer period are forecast.

During fall 2006 Hydro-Québec Production commissioned the 480 MW Eastmain-1 Generating Station and upgraded Outardes-3 and Outardes-4 hydro generating stations for a total of 89 MWs, and will be commissioning the 32 MW Mercier G.S. during spring 2007. In all, about 1,237 MWs of new generation have come on line since last summer.

NPCC Inc., oversees international electric power grid reliability for Northeastern North America, like its predecessor NPCC, annually performs comprehensive seasonal assessments of electricity supply and demand reliability for eastern Canada, New England and the City and State of New York. These assessments require months of detailed preparation and are performed with the participation of regional electricity power grid operators and planners.

Schwerdt said, "The assessments consider a wide range of scenarios through the application of probabilistic methods. The scenarios include weather conditions derived from over 40 years of data, unexpected generating plant outages, transmission constraints between and within regions, and delays in expected in-service dates of planned generation and transmission projects, as well as shifts in consumer electricity usage. The approach is both comprehensive and methodical."

A Summary 2007 Summer Assessment report is available at www.npcc.org.

About NPCC's Restructuring

Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) was originally formed as a voluntary, non-profit regional electric reliability organization in January 1966, shortly following the Northeast Blackout of November 9, 1965. In response to U.S. energy legislation and in preparation for the certification of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation as an Electric Reliability Organization (ERO), NPCC began restructuring in 2006. The Membership interests in NPCC were transferred to a regional reliability assurance not-for-profit corporation, the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. (NPCC Inc.), and a separate and independent, affiliated, not-for-profit corporation was created, the Northeast Power Coordinating Council: Cross-Border Regional Entity, Inc. (NPCC CBRE) to provide compliance enforcement and standards development functions and services.

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NPCC Inc. provides its members with regional reliability assurance services and acts as the vehicle through which States and Provinces can fulfill their political mandates with respect to resource adequacy, as well as overseeing the Northeastern North American electric infrastructure through development, assessment and enforcement of regionally-specific reliability criteria, the coordination of system planning, design and operations, and assessment of reliability.

NPCC CBRE's purpose is to enhance the reliability of the international, interconnected Bulk Power System in Northeastern North America through the development of regional reliability standards and compliance assessment and enforcement of continent-wide and regional reliability standards pursuant to the execution and implementation of a Regional Delegation Agreement with the ERO and Canadian Provincial Memoranda of Understanding that are backstopped through the ERO by the FERC and through Canadian Provincial regulatory and/or governmental authorities.

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