

Sept. 9, 2014

## HEAVY RAIN FORECAST IN NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO *“Stay Clear, Stay Safe” of Hydroelectric Facilities*

**Timmins** – With heavy rain expected this week, in northeastern Ontario, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is urging people to exercise extreme care around Ontario, particularly on rivers and lakes near hydroelectric stations and dams.

Due to a wet August, water levels and flows on northeastern river systems, including those where OPG facilities operate, are already higher than normal for this time of year. If there is heavy rain, water levels could rise on reservoirs and downstream of OPG facilities.

Most hydroelectric facilities are remotely controlled by operators located many kilometres away. Dams can be opened or stations can be started throughout the day. This causes frequent and rapid changes to water flows and levels. These changing conditions create strong undertows, turbulence and sudden, powerful gushes of water moving downstream in what was previously calm-looking surface water.

When near hydroelectric facilities, please remember to obey all warning signs and buoys, and do not cross fences, booms, and barriers. Stay Clear, Stay Safe.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

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