



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Transfer of land and facility are milestones for Port Granby Project

Port Hope, Ontario (March 30, 2012) – The Port Hope Area Initiative Management Office (PHAI MO) has achieved a milestone for the Port Granby Project with the assumption of responsibility for the operation of the existing Port Granby Waste Management Facility (WMF).

In November 2011, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission approved Atomic Energy of Canada Limited's licence application for the Port Granby Project – providing approval for the relocation and safe, long-term management of historic low-level radioactive waste currently located on the shore of Lake Ontario in Southeast Clarington. The licence decision also enabled the Government of Canada to acquire 275-hectares (680 acres) of land from Cameco Corporation, which includes the existing WMF, and for the PHAI MO to assume responsibility for the facility's operation from Cameco.

"The PHAI MO is committed to the safe operation of the Port Granby WMF," said Dave Smith, Port Granby Project director. "We have a highly qualified and dedicated staff in place to work collaboratively with Cameco to ensure the transfer of responsibility takes place seamlessly and efficiently."

The Port Granby Project includes the construction of an engineered aboveground mound to isolate the waste from the environment using a multi-layered baseliner and cover system. This new facility will require approximately 95 hectares (235 acres) of land and is located about 700 metres north of the current site – away from the lake. The remaining lands will be held by the federal government until the Port Granby Project is completed.

Supporting infrastructure will be built over the next two years, including roadway improvements and a new water treatment plant. The construction of the new mound and transfer of low-level radioactive waste from the existing location to the new site is scheduled to begin in 2014 and take approximately six years.

"Assuming responsibility for the Port Granby WMF is a first step, allowing us to move forward in cleaning up the environment, while providing a solution for the community and future generations," said Smith. "Throughout the Project, we will continue to work closely with the residents and the Municipality of Clarington to minimize community impacts."

ABOUT THE PHAI

The PHAI was established in 2001 through a legal agreement between the Government of Canada and the municipalities of Port Hope and Clarington, to develop and implement a safe, long-term solution for the management of historic low-level radioactive waste within the two communities. The Port Hope Area Initiative Management Office (PHAI MO) is responsible to carry out these projects. The PHAI MO is a partnership of Natural Resources Canada, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and Public Works and Government Services Canada.

ABOUT THE PORT GRANBY PROJECT

The Port Granby Project involves the relocation of approximately 450,000 cubic metres of historic low-level radioactive waste, located at an existing site on the shoreline of Lake Ontario, to a new, engineered aboveground mound. The historic waste resulted from radium and uranium refining operations of the former Crown Corporation Eldorado Nuclear, which, with its private sector predecessors, operated from the 1930s to 1988.

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