

News Release

2012/2
January 13, 2012

Government of Canada Announces Funding for Implementation Phase of the Port Hope Area Initiative

PORT HOPE, ONTARIO — The Honourable Joe Oliver, Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources, announced today that the Government of Canada is investing \$1.28 billion over 10 years to clean up low-level radioactive waste in the Port Hope area.

The Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI) is an agreement between the Government of Canada and local communities to develop and implement a safe, long-term management solution for the historic low-level radioactive waste within the municipalities of Port Hope and Clarington. The initiative is addressing historic waste resulting from radium and uranium refining operations of the former Crown Corporation Eldorado Nuclear and its private sector predecessors beginning in the 1930s.

“This investment underscores the Government’s long-standing commitment to clean up historic low-level radioactive waste in the Port Hope area,” said Minister Oliver. “We will continue to work closely with the communities to resolve the waste issue and create new opportunities for development and economic growth in this region.”

The PHAI is composed of two major projects, the Port Hope Project and the Port Granby Project. Each project involves the construction of a new long-term waste management facility and supporting infrastructure, the cleanup and restoration of contaminated sites, and monitoring and maintaining the facilities for the long term.

“We expect the work of the Port Hope Area Initiative to create hundreds of direct and indirect jobs in a wide range of fields, including engineering, construction, trucking and support services,” said Rick Norlock, Member of Parliament for Northumberland–Quinte West. “It will also involve necessary infrastructure developments and improvements that will benefit the region for many years to come.”

The PHAI is being undertaken as a joint initiative of Natural Resources Canada, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and Public Works and Government Services Canada.

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