

NEWS RELEASE

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PHASE 2 FUNDING MOVES PHAI FORWARD

Port Hope, Ont. - The Port Hope Area Initiative Management Office (PHAI MO) today received confirmation of funding from the Government of Canada, which will allow the clean-up project to move forward into Phase 2.

The Honourable Joe Oliver, Minister of Natural Resources, announced the \$1.28 billion federal commitment at a media briefing at the PHAI MO, joined by Rick Norlock, M.P. for Northumberland-Quinte West, and the mayors of Port Hope and Clarington. The announcement formalizes the 10-year funding commitment for the cleanup of historic low-level radioactive waste.

“This funding announcement marks our official move into Phase 2 and allows us to move forward with the Port Hope and Port Granby projects,” said Christine Fahey, PHAI project director. “This investment reinforces the Government of Canada’s commitment to the Port Hope Area Initiative and to the future of these communities.”

The PHAI MO will continue to work closely with the two municipalities throughout Phase 2, ensuring that community residents and other stakeholders are aware of plans and progress.

"Today’s funding announcement confirms the federal government’s ongoing commitment to the Port Hope Area Initiative," said Mayor Linda Thompson. "It is good news for the project and good news for Port Hope."

“The Municipality of Clarington is pleased with the Government of Canada’s continuing commitment to the successful completion of the Port Granby Project,” said Clarington Mayor Adrian Foster. “These funds will ensure that the Project can be constructed and implemented safely and with minimal impact on our residents, while enhancing environmental protection along the lakeshore.”

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 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.

ABOUT THE PHAI MO

The Port Hope Area Initiative Management Office (PHAI MO) is responsible to carry out the safe cleanup, transportation and long-term management of historic low-level radioactive waste in the municipalities of Port Hope and Clarington. 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 HOPE PROJECT

The Port Hope Project involves the construction of an engineered aboveground mound and supporting infrastructure at the site of the existing Welcome waste management site. The cleanup of approximately 1.2 million cubic metres of historic low-level radioactive waste at various sites within Port Hope is expected to begin around 2014 after the infrastructure is in place. The waste will be transported along three designated routes to the new facility, where it will be safely managed for hundreds of years.

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 waste will be managed at the new site about 700 metres north of the current site – away from the lake – for hundreds of years.

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