

NB Power Beechwood Hydro Generating Station Equipment Replacement

CLIENT

NB Power Corporation

LOCATION

Beechwood, New Brunswick

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

NB Power is the largest electric utility in Atlantic Canada and is responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity throughout New Brunswick. Its 2,500 employees are dedicated to providing customer value to its 400,000 direct and indirect customers. The Government of New Brunswick is the sole shareholder of NB Power.

Beechwood is a hydroelectric power station on the Saint John River between Bath and Pert-Andover, 160 km north of Fredericton. One of the smaller hydro plants in the province, Beechwood was constructed by NB Power and began operating in 1957. It features a run-of-the-river design, often used at sites where limited water storage is available. In this case the dam's normal upstream reservoir level is roughly 18 metres above the river's surface downstream. The station operates with three turbines and has a generating capacity of 112 MW. When NB Power needed to replace a key transformer it called on Black & McDonald (B&M) to do the job.

B&M SCOPE OF WORK

B&M was selected to coordinate, plan, and execute the replacement of a 40 MW transformer located in the Beechwood Hydroelectric Station. The project included the removal and installation of all electrical and communications for the new transformer and the suppression system. Transport rails also had to be replaced and reinforced for the new transformer as the weight of the new transformer was 52 tons when empty.

BENEFITS TO CLIENT

NB Power needed a professional, capable construction team and B&M stepped up. We installed and reinforced the new transformer and completed the project on time with no hassles.