

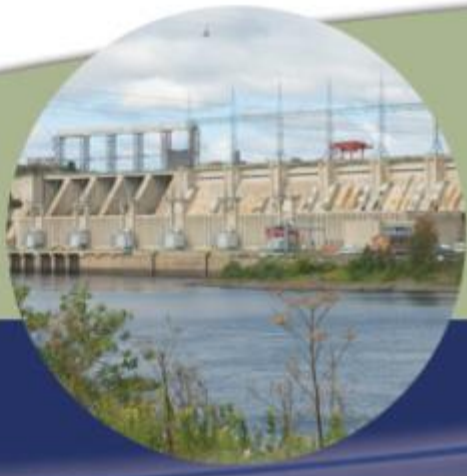


Énergie NB Power

CONNECTED
to **conservation**

Canadian Environmental Assessment Act: NB Power Perspective

**C. Hickman, Director Environment and Emergency
Planning**



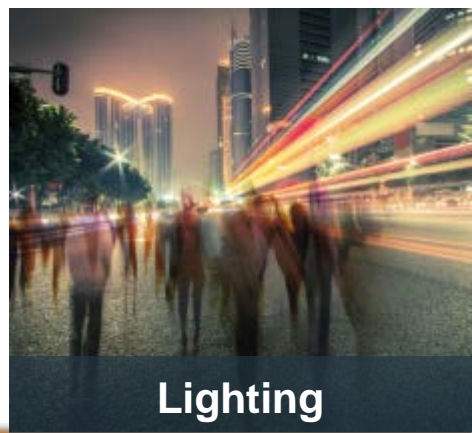
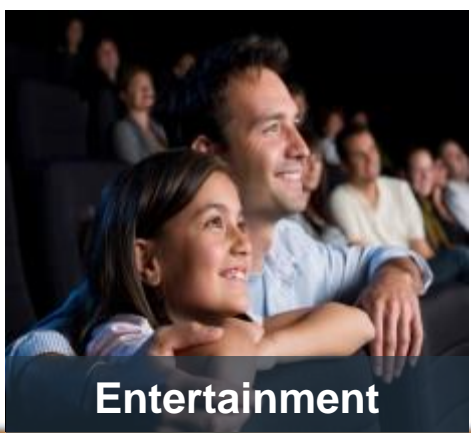
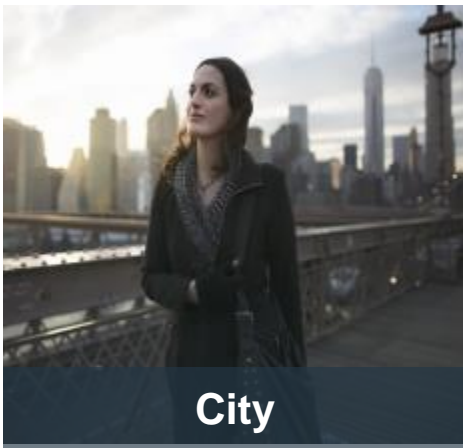
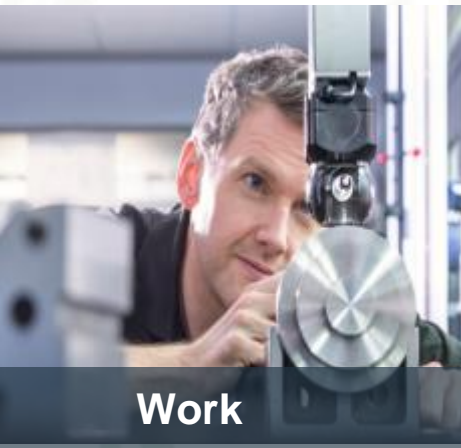
Electricity

The Power Grid is the most critical infrastructure we have

- **Largest machine in the province**
- **Part of the north American backbone**
- **Complexity is unmatched**



Increasingly Dependent on Electricity



2016-10-12

NB Capacity



**Point Lepreau – 700MW
nuclear**



Belledune – 457MW coal



NB Power Experience

- NB Power has been proponent for many projects that have required some level of environmental assessment



EA Objectives

- Process needs to be:
 - predictable
 - meaningful
 - trusted
 - scalable.
- Outcomes need to:
 - permit development in the public interest
 - mitigate / prevent significant adverse impacts



Going forward ...

- Use existing Act, Regulations and guidance as a starting point
 - lots of experience
- Opportunity:
 - Enhance the existing Act, regulations and guidance
 - Enhance related Acts, regulations and guidance

Thresholds

- Maintain existing focus on larger, more potentially significant projects
 - Maintain current thresholds in regulation
- Opportunity:
 - Enhance relationship between federal and provincial agencies to address smaller projects

Scope of assessment

- Maintain focus on project, project impacts
 - Proponent driven EAs are not well suited to policy, strategic discussions
- Opportunity
 - Encourage / support regional planning (eg. watershed based plans)
 - Already an option, needs expansion...

CEAA Section 67

- Assessment required by Federal Authorities on federal lands
 - Lack of clarity, inconsistent application
- Opportunity:
 - Additional policy or regulatory guidance on requirements

Regulatory Efficiency

- Predictable, timely reviews
 - One project, one review
 - When an EA has been completed, should not be “re-assessed” under Fisheries Act or Species at Risk Act
- Opportunity:
 - develop mechanism to ensure EA conditions are reflected in subsequent approvals (FA, SARA)
 - maintain Agency as the lead.



Summary

- CEAA is working, does what it was designed to do.
- There are opportunities for improvement, to keep the legislation and related guidance world-class.



Questions

