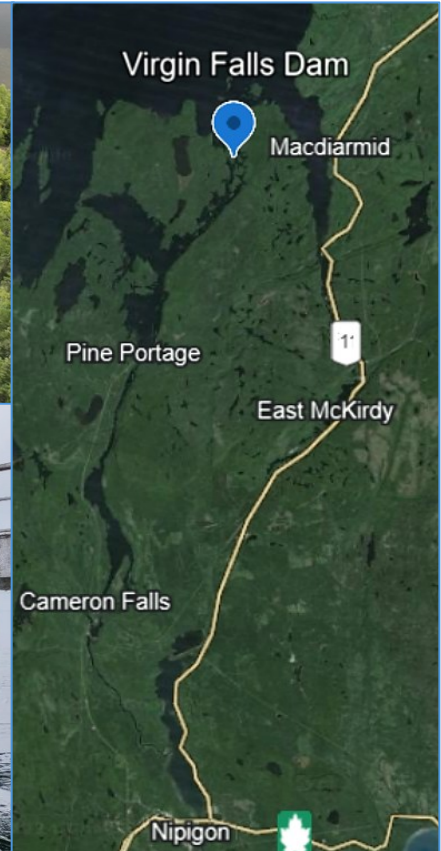




Virgin Falls Dam



Options Analysis Study



Options Study

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is currently undertaking an options analysis assessment for the future of the Virgin Falls Dam. OPG intends to create a long-term plan for this site. This planning will be done through a collaborative approach that will be inclusive and respectful to local Indigenous interests, perspectives, and traditional knowledge.

History

The Virgin Falls Dam was constructed in 1926 to facilitate the construction of the downstream hydropower developments along the Nipigon River, support flow to the Cameron Falls Generating Station, and manage water levels in Lake Nipigon. The dam is a concrete structure that originally consisted of nine (9) sluiceways within the main channel and three (3) sluiceways within the diversion channel. At an unknown point between 1944 and 1954, piers 4 and 5 within the main channel were removed to facilitate log driving. After this occurrence, all the stop logs were removed from all sluices. With these changes, the transition of managing water levels on Lake Nipigon was transferred to Pine Portage Generating Station when it came into operations in 1950; rendering the Virgin Falls Dam obsolete.

Future Options for Virgin Falls Dam

To gain a better understanding of potential concerns and constraints associated with the Dam, OPG engaged TBT Engineering Limited (TBTE) to complete scientific/engineering investigations and gather feedback from community engagement to inform future decision making during the generation of the long-term options.

Currently, the long-term options being examined include the following:

- **Option #1** – Monitor the dam structure
- **Option #2** – Remove the dam structure

These options have been developed based on the information collected through the scientific/engineering investigations and reports, as well as through engagement with community representatives associated with this options analysis project.

Comments

We would love to hear from you! If you wish to provide comments, share stories, or have questions about the Virgin Falls Dam or the options being examined, please contact one of the following team members listed below:

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