

Welcome to the June 2009 e-newsletter from Langford & Associates, providing you with product updates and the latest news from Ontario's electricity sector.

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What's On

The ION PowerLogic Annual User's Conference for 2009 will be held on October 23, 2009 at the Toronto Congress Centre. For more information and registration see www.langford-assoc.com

Ontario News

Compliance Bulletin Follow - As a follow-up to the Sub-Metering Compliance Bulletin issued in March, the OEB has commenced a proceeding to determine whether, and if so under what conditions, certain distributors that have not otherwise been authorized to conduct discretionary metering activities should be authorized to do so by an order or orders of the Board. The process seeks to address the contradicting rules that currently exist and potentially formalize a practice that has already been in place for many years. For full details see www.oeb.gov.on.ca

Atomic Restructuring - The Government of Canada is moving forward with restructuring AECL to take full advantage of the revitalized global nuclear industry following an exhaustive review. The Review was launched in November 2007 as part of the Government's due diligence and commitment to good governance and responsible management. It studied several factors: the need to control costs, to maximize Canadian taxpayers' return on their investment and to optimize opportunities for the Canadian nuclear industry. The Government agrees with the conclusions of the Review, which found that AECL's current mandate and structure limit the corporation's success and development, and that restructuring would help to maximize benefits for Canada. The review highlighted AECL's strong industry credentials and its valued intellectual property and world-class labour force plus found significant private sector interest in AECL's commercial operations, offering the Government of Canada the potential to leverage its investment in AECL and expand opportunities for Canada's nuclear industry. For full press release see www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca

Passing Green - On May 14, Ontario's Legislature passed the Green Energy Act, intended to attract new investment, create new green economy jobs and better protect the environment. The legislation will now be sent to the province's Lieutenant Governor for Royal Assent. For full press release www.mei.gov.on.ca For a table of amendments that were proposed after a consultative process see www.gowlings.com

Régie de l'Énergie - The federal government has re-introduced legislation to replace the Nuclear Liability Act. Bill C-20, An Act respecting civil liability and compensation for damage in case of a nuclear incident, was given first reading in the House of Commons on March 24, 2009. The proposed legislation is substantially the same as its two predecessors: Bill C-5 and Bill C-63.. Bill C-5 was nearing the end of third reading debate when Parliament was prorogued for the federal election in October, 2008. For full details see www.gowlings.com

Declining Demand - The IESO latest 18-Month Outlook report indicates that nearly 3,800 MW of new and refurbished supply is scheduled to come into service over the next 18 months. Ontario's import capability will also increase with completion of the first stage of the new interconnection between Ontario and Quebec, scheduled to be in service in the summer of 2009. Between the economic downturn, conservation measures and embedded generation electricity demand in Ontario is expected to decline by 3.9 per cent in 2009 and 0.3 per cent in 2010. For full report see www.ieso.ca

Biggest Retrofit in N.A. - Ontario is investing approximately \$100 million to retrofit the recently acquired building at 222 Jarvis Street in Toronto, formerly the head office building of Sears Canada. The retrofit is the first project in the Toronto Accommodation Plan, a major government economic endeavour to green and retrofit a number of Ontario government buildings in Toronto. The plan will be led by the Ontario Realty Corporation on behalf of the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure. For full press release see www.mei.gov.on.ca

Pilot Time-Of-Use - Hydro One and Nipissing First Nation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to partner in a pilot project which will help Nipissing First Nation and Hydro One to learn about how to support First Nations in managing their electricity use under time-of-use rates. Starting in July, approximately 600 Nipissing First Nation residential and small business consumers will be provided with a monthly statement comparing their electricity use under their current rate structure as well as under the future time-of-use rate structure. Members of the community will also be provided with a special monitor or "in-home device" to track their energy use in realtime. For full press release see www.hydroone.com

Time-Of-Use - Ten thousand homes in Toronto will move to the new time-of-use electricity rates starting this June. By next summer, one million Ontario households will be on time-of-use rates. Under the rates, off-peak times occur on evenings and weekends. Currently, evening off peak hours start at 10 pm. Beginning Nov. 1, off-peak times will move to 9 pm. As of May 1, the three rates for electricity per kilowatt hour are: On-peak: 9.1 cents, Mid-peak: 7.6 cents, Off-peak: 4.2 cents. For full press release see www.mei.gov.on.ca

Lake Nipigon - OPG has launched an Environmental Assessment on a proposed 100 megawatt hydroelectric development on the Little Jackfish River north of Lake Nipigon. As part of the EA process, OPG and the Lake Nipigon First Nations will be working co-operatively to assess the environmental, cultural and socio-economic impacts of the project. If the EA is successful, the project could be in service as early as 2014. For full press release see www.opg.com

Turning the Ship - After a week of long and heated arguments, the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed by a vote of 33 to 25 the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, a 946-page bill that would set up a cap-and-trade program and a federal renewable energy standard. The bill seeks, among its key provisions, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 17% from 2005 levels by 2020, and 83% by 2050. It sets up an elaborate cap-and-trade program to reach these goals, conferring onto greenhouse gas-emitting entities the right to emit one metric ton of carbon dioxide. In 2016, the first full year of the cap-and-trade program, the Environmental Protection Agency would distribute 5.48 billion permits. By 2020, the EPA would distribute 5.06 billion permits to enforce the greenhouse gas target for that year. See www.powermag.com

Product Spotlight... ... Transformer Analysis/Dry-Out System

The latest edition to the Langford & Associates product line is the Trojan Portable Online Transformer Analysis / Dry-Out System. The Trojan system operates unattended whilst analyzing, degassing and removing water from energized transformers. Unique features of the Trojan system include filters that are automatically regenerated (redried) at pre-set intervals and sophisticated communications capabilities. Since the system can be safely connected to the transformer main tank while it remains energized, they provide a solution for gradual unattended water in cellulose reduction. Utilities currently using the Trojans throughout Australia and New Zealand and increasingly in North America have found them extremely efficient in their ability to remove water from the transformer insulation, and cost effective in comparison to other water removal methods. The Trojan analyzes and reduces the water levels in transformers deemed to be at risk but also reduces the risk in the longer term of other transformers by continual use across the entire transformer fleet in a preventative manner. It is able to be used on transformers with mineral oil or FR3 oil. For further information see www.dryoutsystems.com

Schneider Electric - Approval and MV90 security

Measurement Canada has approved firmware version 352 for the ION 7550/7650. This firmware includes all the latest available features of the 75/7650 platforms. For full details visit www.global.powerlogic.com

Feature Question: In the MV90 Master file export feature in ION Setup can a Read Only user export a Full Access password?

If a user selects to export the MV-90 file and the meter has advanced security enabled, they have to select the User ID that they wish to include (last drop down on the screen below). For the example if USER01 is selected and is defined as full system access the Setup then queries for the USER password. If the user enters a different USER ID and Password from the one specified in the masterfile export (such as USER04 that is defined as time-synch and read only) an error message stated they must use the USER ID and password of the USER ID specified in the masterfile export. This does not eliminate a full access user from accidentally exporting full access rights, but it will keep a limited access user from being able to by-pass security and get the full access password.

Disturbance Detection

Both the ION7550 and the ION7650 meters have disturbance direction detection capabilities to determine the location of a disturbance more quickly and accurately. When a disturbance occurs, it triggers the Disturbance Direction Detection module that analyzes the disturbance information to determine the direction of the disturbance relative to the meter. The results of this analysis are provided in the event log, along with a timestamp and confidence level indicating the meter's level of certainty that the disturbance is in the determined direction. For further info see www.global.powerlogic.com

Basler - BE1-1 Family

The BE1-11 family of Numerical Protection Systems has had several updates over the past few months with both the BE1-11i (inertie) and BE1-

11g (generator) having been released. In addition, the entire BE1-11 family has had a communication upgrade. All 11 relays to date (i, g, f) now support Copper or Fiber Ethernet and can also do DNP, Modbus and BESTnet simultaneously over Ethernet. For full details on BE1 family see www.basler.com

Did you know...

Carbon Capture - In mid-May Saskatchewan and Montana officials announced they would partner on the development of one of the largest international carbon capture and storage demonstration projects in the world. Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall and Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to collaborate on the construction of a "technology neutral CO2 plant at an existing coal-fired power plant in Saskatchewan that would have the flexibility to test a range of post-combustion carbon capture technologies." CO2 would then be stored in a new storage facility in eastern Montana. Construction of this facility would involve injection infrastructure with the option of using CO2 for enhanced oil recovery. The MOU also calls for construction of pipeline infrastructure for the transportation of CO2 from the reference plant in Saskatchewan to the storage facility in Montana and development of a North American training facility to meet the needs of a growing CCS industry and regulators, based primarily at the University of Regina and Montana State University.

Both U.S. and Canadian federal governments are pushing CCS as a key solution in future international efforts to address climate change. The project would help Saskatchewan to meet the federal government's target to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 20% below 2006 levels by 2020," Wall said. "CO2 is a global concern and it is time to work together to address this pressing issue," Schweitzer said. "Montana has 30 per cent of the coal in America and in order to use our coal we need a solution to CO2. I am honored to be a part of this important project." Total cost of the project is estimated to be approximately \$150 million to design and build the CO2 reference plant, related CO2 pipeline infrastructure, and a North American training facility for CCS technicians. Montana did not publish a cost estimate.

With financial support, design and construction of the plant could begin as early as September 2009 and the plant could be operational as early as the summer of 2011. The goal for the reference plant is to test a range of technologies for capturing up to one million tonnes of CO2 over a four-year period.

For full article see powermag.com

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