

# KEYYASK PROJECT: TEMPORARY WORKFORCE REDUCTION

NOVEMBER 5, 2020

Manitoba Hydro is moving forward with a planned temporary workforce reduction at Keeyask that will protect workers and neighbouring communities and allow for the safe continuance of critical work on the project. This includes isolating nearly 130 workers, offering workers already at site a stipend to extend their shifts and stopping all travel to the site with the exception of a small number of workers needed to continue critical work. The workforce reduction is in addition to COVID-19 measures already implemented in accordance with recommendations from public health authorities and best practice.

The following is a summary of the Keeyask Project's approach to the temporary workforce reduction that has been underway since November 1, requiring real-time adaptation and prioritization of critical work areas based on the changing COVID-19 situation, available resources and current pandemic measures.

## Objectives of temporary workforce reduction

- **Create space to allow the Keeyask Project to:**
  - further understand the extent of the outbreak;
  - implement additional measures to contain the spread and protect workers, their families, and neighbouring communities;
  - take steps to minimize chance of workers coming to site with COVID-19.
- **Enable critical work to continue on the Keeyask Generating Station.**

## Current situation

- **The COVID-19 outbreak at site has reduced the workforce from 770 workers to 575 workers.**
  - This reduction in the workforce includes workers who are isolating and those who returned home at the end of their regular rotation.
  - The workforce is expected to decrease by another 50-80 depending on whether or not workers decide to stay for longer rotations.
- **Work is being prioritized each day based on the available workforce but there are severe shortages in many areas due to the number of people in isolation or who have left site.**
  - No new workers have been brought to site since October 30.
  - This shortage of workers means the right mix of skills is not available to match with the priority work that needs to move forward.

## Go Forward Plan

- **Bring 50 critical workers to the Keeyask site as soon as practical.**
  - These workers began isolating on November 2 and will require a “clear” screening test result before travelling to site.
  - Once at site, they will be required to continue self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19, as will all other workers on the site, and report to the Nurse Practitioner for an additional COVID-19 screening test should any symptoms appear.
  - The workers will remain in cohorts as per public health guidelines and maintain two metres of separation wherever possible.
- **Begin return to regular rotations and rebuild of Keeyask workforce in mid-November.**
  - All workers coming to site will be required to self-isolate for 14 days.
  - A 14-day isolation period is the current requirement with the elevation of Winnipeg Metropolitan area to code red – critical.
  - All incoming workers will be required to take a COVID-19 PCR screening test and receive a “clear” designation prior to travelling to site. Anyone receiving a “not clear” result prior to travel will not be allowed to go to site, will be isolated and required to undergo a second test processed by the Cadham Provincial Lab.
  - This start of the return to regular rotations will begin as early as November 15 to relieve individuals who voluntarily extended or completed their rotations.

## Critical work that can move forward during temporary workforce reduction

- Necessary work to enable the commissioning of Unit 1 generator.
- Continue the balance of plant and electrical activities related to connecting Unit 1 to Manitoba Hydro’s transmission system.
- Electrical, mechanical and balance of plant work that will support commissioning of additional units.
- Modifications to the powerhouse roof.
- Winterization of construction infrastructure (wash trailers, batch plant, offices, lunchroom trailers, washroom trailers).
- High voltage testing in spillway.

## Work delayed during temporary workforce reduction

- Completion of spillway concrete.
- Some balance of plant work is delayed due to lack of scaffolders.
- Turbine and generator builds.