

June 28, 2010

## **Pickering Units Return Ahead of Schedule- Just in time for first heat wave** ***Success of Vacuum Building Outage demonstrates OPG's project management skills***

Durham Region – Power from the Pickering Nuclear station was fed into the grid ahead of schedule and just in time to help meet high provincial demand for electricity during the first heat wave of the year.

“We said it and we did it,” said Wayne Robbins, Chief Nuclear Officer, commenting on the successful project.

“The successful completion of this project ahead of schedule didn’t just happen by chance. It was the result of two years of careful planning combined with skilled implementation by our staff and a number of outside contractors. It’s a perfect example of how OPG’s approach to project management ends with positive results,” he added.

All six units at the Pickering station were taken off line in April to conduct an inspection of the station’s vacuum building. Four units returned to service ahead of schedule in late May. The other two are in the latter stages of planned maintenance outages.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) requires that the vacuum building at Pickering be inspected every 10 years. This requires the shutdown of all the nuclear units linked to the vacuum building.

During the shut down more than 1,900 additional staff were on site to assist the 2,730 regular station personnel. They performed 30,000 tasks related to the vacuum building inspection and maintenance.

To prepare for the outage, crews rehearsed the more complicated tasks on mock ups of the work area. This detailed approach to planning and implementation is a major part of OPG’s project management. It was a key stage in the successful completion of last year’s vacuum building outage at the Darlington Nuclear station and will be factored in to the Darlington refurbishment planning.

Units 4, 5, 6 and 7 are back in service. Units 1 and 8 are on scheduled maintenance outages.

- 30 -

For more information, contact OPG Media Relations at 416-592-4008 or 1-877-592-4008