

DECEMBER 16, 2010

## **Staying clear of hydroelectric stations and dams is the recipe for staying safe** ***Thin ice and winter recreation are a dangerous mix***

Winter weather and the coming holidays mean people will be outdoors enjoying snowmobiling, cross country skiing, and other winter activities. Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is warning people to stay clear of the areas near generating stations and dams.

The waterways near hydroelectric dams and stations are not safe places for recreation at any time of the year. In winter, ice forming near a dam or hydroelectric station can be thinner and less consistent than ice in other locations because of changing water flows beneath it. Thin ice and winter activities don't mix.

"Our message is a simple one – stay clear, stay safe." said OPG Executive Vice President, John Murphy.

Murphy noted that many areas of the province had experienced high levels of snow and rain which can affect water levels and ice conditions.

The areas near OPG dams and hydroelectric stations have warning signs, buoys, fences, booms and barriers to warn people of the dangers of coming too close.

OPG offers the public a number of educational materials on water safety around dams and hydroelectric stations including a brochure and videos.

You can view the video or request free educational materials by visiting [www.opg.com](http://www.opg.com).

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