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## **Ontario Power Generation Moves to Cleaner Energy Future *Thunder Bay Station Burns Last Piece of Coal***

Toronto - Ontario Power Generation (OPG) has burned the last piece of coal at its Thunder Bay Generating Station, which will now prepare to run on advanced biomass.

OPG has been executing Ontario's strategy to move to cleaner electricity sources over the past several years. Thunder Bay was the final power plant OPG operated using coal fuel.

"OPG's cleaner energy mix will play a key role in powering the province's economic future and protecting the environment," said Tom Mitchell, OPG's President and CEO. "Close to 100 per cent of the electricity we produce will come from our nuclear and hydroelectric facilities that are virtually free of climate change or smog causing emissions."

Starting in 2015, the Thunder Bay station will provide dispatchable electricity from advanced biomass fuel. OPG is currently seeking suppliers for the advanced biomass fuel and negotiating a power purchase agreement with the Ontario Power Authority.

"This is a new beginning for the Thunder Bay station that puts OPG at the forefront of an exciting new area of the electricity industry. Our biomass conversions will also allow us to develop expertise than can be exported world-wide," Mitchell added.

Northwestern Ontario's Atikokan Generating Station will soon become North America's largest 100 per cent biomass-fuelled power plant using a more traditional biomass fuel.

In addition to the biomass conversions, the company is expanding its clean energy facilities on the Lower Mattagami River, investing in the continued operations of six units at the Pickering nuclear station and preparing for the refurbishment of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station. Last year OPG brought the new Niagara tunnel into service. It has also invested heavily in its existing hydroelectric facilities.

See Backgrounder on Clean Energy Supply

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