



Original Matabitchuan GS site prior to demolition.

Construction update – Spring 2026

The Matabitchuan Generating Station (GS) Redevelopment Project kicked off in Spring 2025 with the replacement of the Matabitchuan Bailey Bridge in late May. This new bridge allows heavy construction equipment and materials to safely access the site and enabled large-scale mobilization to start in June 2025.

Initial site preparation activities were completed in the Summer of 2025 along with the demolition of the old powerhouse and switchyard, and installation of the cofferdam to keep water out of the work area.

Construction activities from Fall 2025 through March 2026

focused on stabilizing excavation walls, water treatment system installation, first phase excavation and structural tieback installation. All of these efforts secure the work area and prepare the site for the new powerhouse.

This spring, the redevelopment project has focused on ground improvement for the new powerhouse foundation to ensure structural stability. In June 2026, the concrete tailrace apron slab will be poured, marking a major milestone. Afterward, work will begin on the concrete substructure, aiming for completion in November 2026. Construction of the powerhouse superstructure will follow into early 2027.

Project background

The Matabitchuan GS Redevelopment Project consists of constructing a new powerhouse with two new generating units, and installing modern, electrical and mechanical systems, while maintaining high standards of dam and public safety. The project will boost the station's capacity from 7.5 megawatts to about 12 megawatts, helping to power the province for approximately 90 years. The project scope also includes extensive ground improvement work, bridge replacement, and construction of a coffer dam.



Bird's-eye view of Matabitchuan GS project site in Feb. 2026.



OPG's project team locates and preserves the Larocque rhubarb patch.



Robert Larocque displaying his grandfather's curling trophies.

Building for the future, preserving the past

Although a new generating station will soon be constructed on the Matabitchuan River, OPG acknowledges the storied history of the Matabitchuan GS. The Larocque Family, who worked

at the station and lived at the town site, have vivid memories of time spent on site. Robert (Rocky) Larocque's grandfather worked at Matabitchuan GS in 1909, followed by his maternal

grandfather, Wes Rice, from 1935-1965, who worked as the head mechanic and plant superintendent. Robert also recalled with fondness his grandmother's rhubarb patch, which the project team managed to locate and preserve, given it's local historical significance. During a community meeting last summer, Robert was gifted some curling trophies won by Rice, who also helped to build the arena on the town site.

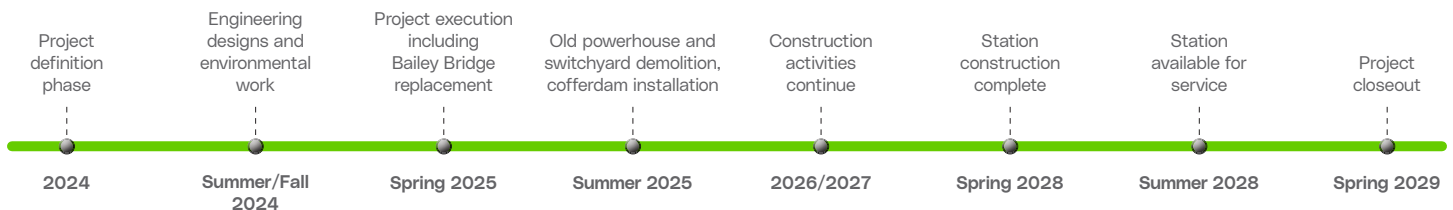
Stay clear, stay safe this summer

With the arrival of summer (finally!), OPG's operations staff continue to manage water levels and flows following a strong spring freshet across the province. During the summer months, rain events can still have an impact on water levels

and flows. While enjoying the Northern Ontario summer, be aware of changing water levels and flows around generating stations and dams, and stay clear, stay safe.



Bobbi the Buoy says "Stay Clear, Stay Safe"!



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