

2009-11-16 Press Release NY2 strange format

It does not meet the criteria to be considered "green energy" by the Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) in the US nor does it comply with guidelines for certification as "green energy" under Environment Canada's EcoLogo program. The impacts of hydropower on ecosystems are complex and according to the World Commission on Dams, most are negative.

The footprint of these mega projects is huge. Reservoirs emit Co2 and methane - greenhouse gases that affect climate change. Rotting vegetation in the reservoirs produce methyl mercury, a lethal toxin that affects fish and bio-accumulates up the food chain. If humans ingest too much of it, it can cause brain damage (see Minamata disease).

Converting a free-flowing river into a series of reservoirs has enormous ecological consequences, extending hundreds of miles downstream.

By the provincial governments (Newfoundland and Labrador) own estimates it will cost 6-9 billion dollars to build the dams and another 3 billion to transmit the power to market. The dollar value of the ecosystem services currently provided by the river and its watershed has not been taken into account. The proponents have yet to identify a market for the power; how it will be transmitted, and maybe more importantly how it will be financed. It should also be noted that this project has not yet been approved by Environmental Assessment Agencies.

This is a project conceived for export only, leaving no power for Labrador, a boom-bust economy and an environmental nightmare for time immemorial.

30

Media contacts:

Roberta Frampton Benefiel
Grand Riverkeeper Labrador
Tel. #: 709-536-1164
e-mail: || HYPERSLINK "mailto:refbnfl@||"

Clarice Blake Rudkowski
Grand Riverkeeper Labrador
Tel. #: 709-536-530
e-mail: cblake_rudkowski@||" || HYPERSLINK

"http://www.grandriverkeeperlabrador.org" || www.grandriverkeeperlabrador.org
|| HYPERSLINK "http://www.grandriverkeeperlabrador.org"
|| www.grandriverkeeperlabrador.org

:; = x ž Ÿ y { ú
H Å Ä å è é ê ù û ? @ u v w _ ~ ¨ ¤ Ú Û Ü Ý
| ¢ ¤ ø ò ó ô õ ö ç ¸ ¹ º » ¼ ½ ¾
¸ - ¸hN8+ 5¤CJ¶ U¤ ¸¤·Ljß -¤ ¸hN8+ 5¤CJ¶ U¤ ¸hN8+ 0J¸ 5¤CJ¶ ¸¤·Lj -¤ ¸hN8+
5¤CJ¶ U¤ ¸Lj ¸hN8+ 5¤CJ¶ U¤ -¸hN8+ ¸hN8+ 5¤CJ¶ H* ¸hN8+ 5¤CJ¶ aJ
¸hN8+ CJ¶ ¸hN8+ 5¤CJ¶ aJ