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translation CAÏ PERRAULT

Quebec Gets Ready to Reconstruct Lac Tee Dam

The Quebec Hydro Expertise Centre (CEHQ) has confirmed that it has started the first stages of the reconstruction of the Lac Tee Dam. In a letter to the Kipawa municipality on January 23rd CEHQ asked for the municipality to furnish a certificate of compliance for the dam reconstruction. Info on the project was also included in the letter.

Mrs. Monique Savard, director-general of the Kipawa Municipality, confirmed that an answer was given to the CEHQ, testifying that the reconstruction project complies with municipal regulations, where the dam is situated (Lac Tee and du Moulin) and Coal Pit Bay.

In the letter, Mr Serge Goulet, engineer, stated that the plans and estimates of the new dam will be carried out by the Direction of maintenance and supervision of public dams and the hydrometric network (DESBPRH) and that the work will be done by a general contractor of the DESBPRH after tenders are called by the CEHQ.

The work entails the reconstruction of a new structure type « reinforced concrete » with permanent overflow. The new dam will in the same place as the old one. The old structure will be demolished and the debris will be sent to an authorized site and treated according to environmental requirements.

According to the letter this work has been classified as a priority by the Ministry of natural resources (MRNF). The work should be completed by fall 2006. The period allowed for interventions to the aquatic milieu is from June 15th to September 15th 2006.

In regards to the maintenance of the dam Mayor Philippe Barette says he's waiting for confirmation from the Director General of CEHQ, Mr. Yvon Gosselin, who was supposed to come to Temiscaming to conclude this entente. As you know Temiscaming and Kipawa are ready to pay the annu-

al costs of upkeep and inspection of the new dam.

Position of Cottagers

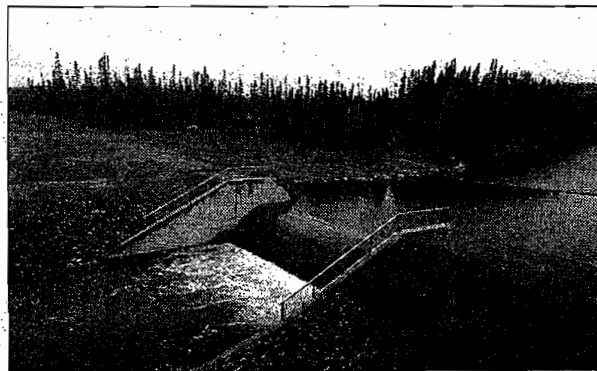
While waiting for the reconstruction, certain cottagers must suffer the consequences of the CEHQ decision to lower the water level by removing six stop-logs to decrease the pressure on the dam and diminish the risk of the dam bursting. The low level prevents some cottagers from getting water. Up to now three stop-logs have been removed and two cottagers are without waters but it's predicted that others will be affected when three more stop-logs are removed from now till the end of February.

According to Luc Blanchet, president of the Cottagers Association, who takes measurements regularly, the level of the lake has gone down three feet since July 2004 when CEHQ removed the first stop-log after a summer downpour. He

estimates that the level will go down eight feet once all the stop-logs are removed.

In January 2006 the Temiscaming Municipality authorized a fund of special monies of \$10 000 to help furnish water to the cottagers. Since then, a committee (made up of Luc Blanchet and Pierre Gingras, municipal councillor) are responsible for administering these funds. The committee has given a contract to Mr. Claude Loyer to transport lake water to the needy cottagers. The cottagers must provide him with the twenty-five gallon containers.

Mr. Blanchet believes that the \$10 000 fund will not be sufficient to provide water for the affected cottagers. « We're going to contact our deputies again, Daniel Bernard and Marc Lemay, for financial aid », said Mr. Blanchet. « We must get organized, we have no choice but to accept the situation, but we hope that the ententes will be signed and that the dam will be ready next fall ».



The new Tee dam will be a concrete-gravity type dam with a fixed spillway like the one in this photo.