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For Immediate Release

Twin Falls Generating Station, August 18, 2023, 10:50 am EST

It has been seven weeks since the partial dam breach occurred at the Twin Falls Generation Station and H2O Power would like to provide a further update on the repair situation. We want to thank the community for your continued patience and partnership as we work towards permanent repairs.

As a reminder, on Wednesday, July 5th, there was a partial dam breach of a wing wall (smaller wall attached to the main structure) at the Twin Falls hydropower generating station. H2O Power acted swiftly in response and successfully reduced the leakage by a substantial amount. Throughout this breach and partial repair period, the risk to the town and surrounding community has remained low.

The initial leakage was substantially reduced within twenty-four hours of the breach. Subsequently, several other methods were employed in our efforts to reduce the leakage to 0% but unfortunately, none of these methods were successful in cutting off 100% of the flow.

The repairs can be categorized into temporary and permanent measures.

The temporary repairs were successful in stopping the majority of the leakage and helping to minimize erosion and sedimentation issues. These measures included blocking the partial breach with sandbags and other materials and directing continued leakage into a conduit and concrete flume terminating behind a silt curtain downstream of the powerhouse. Implementing these measures began immediately after the breach and have continued around the clock throughout the last seven weeks and H2O now considers the temporary repairs complete.

The permanent repairs are in progress to install a cap on the breach on both the upstream and downstream sides of the wing wall. With water continuing to leak through the breach, putting divers close to the wall for conventional underwater concrete repair methods was deemed unsafe. Employee, contractor, and public safety have remained at the forefront of our response to this event.

At the same time, work continues to return the earthen embankment to its original condition. These permanent repairs have required diligent engineering review, consultation, and permitting time. We are anticipating that all the permanent repairs will be completed prior to the onset of winter.

Water flows have returned toward normal summer condition. We continue to recommend caution while navigating the upstream waterways of the Abitibi River, Lake Abitibi and its tributaries. H2O Power is actively monitoring the situation to ensure continued safety.

H2O continues to provide the public with daily updates of water levels and flows through our website. Please visit <https://www.h2opower.com/water-management/> for further information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. You can contact me directly at 416-505-8374 or email me at Stephen.Somerville@h2opower.com.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Somerville". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Stephen Somerville, Vice President, Regulatory and Stakeholder Relations, Canada – H2O Power