

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
**SEGUIN RIVER SIMPLIFIED WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Introduction:**

The Seguin River Simplified Water Management Plan (*WMP*) dated 2010 has been prepared by Parry Sound PowerGen as required by Regulation of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Parry Sound PowerGen merged with Bracebridge Generation Ltd (BGL) in July of 2014. The *WMP* describes the operating strategy for the individual dams and the single generating station (Cascade Street Generating Station) on the Seguin River. The *WMP* attempts to balance environmental, social and economic interests on the river system through the management of water flows and levels.

Although not required by Regulation, BGL has voluntarily opted to strike a Standing Advisory Committee composed of a broad representation of watershed interests in order to provide needed input into the implementation of the *WMP*.

**Mandate:**

The *Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)* will provide a mechanism for the public to participate in the *WMP* process, to follow the progress of the Plan's implementation and to contribute to the decisions on issues or proposed changes to the plan.

The formation of such a committee will not only enhance the ability of facility operators to deliver the management responsibilities outlined in the *WMP*, but also to provide a communications link with the public to foster and maintain good relationships. The members of the *SAC* will represent many and various interests and uses of the watershed. The *SAC* will report directly to senior management of BGL.

**Committee Functions**

The *SAC* will conduct the following activities:

- Review and advise on matters relating to the implementation of the *WMP* including:
  - Reviewing and recording all issues raised relating to the implementation of the *WMP*,
  - Advising BGL, and relevant agencies on potential solutions to specific water-related issues in the watershed,
  - Assisting BGL on prioritizing information needs identified in the *WMP*,
  - Reviewing all data collected during the monitoring of the plan,
  - Advising on all proposed administrative and minor amendments to the plan,

- Advising on all proposed major amendments including:
  - The need for an amendment
  - Amendment timing (immediate or at the next public review of the *WMP*), and
  - The need for and form of public consultation required.

The Standing Advisory Committee will also:

- Facilitate the partnership of groups, government agencies, other organizations, clubs or individuals with BGL to assist in implementing the *WMP*
- Monitor the implementation of the plan and, produce an annual evaluation report in September of each year to be distributed to the public and stakeholders.
- Review as part of its roles and responsibilities, sources of information related to the implementation of the *WMP* including a log of communications with the public, effectiveness monitoring reports etc.
- Assist BGL in implementing communications and consultation by:
  - Seeking to ensure the participation of all interested parties in any consultation process;
  - Jointly hosting formal public consultation sessions as/if required;
  - Reviewing written requests from the public for changes to the *WMP* and advising whether any such requests warrant public review.

**Composition and Selection Criteria:**

The SAC shall be composed of 5 to 8 members including a person from BGL, municipalities in the Seguin Watershed (1-3 members), the Wasauksing First Nation (1, voluntary), the Shawanaga First Nation (1, voluntary), watershed cottagers' associations (1-3) and the MNRF (1, voluntary).

Inclusion of members will be made by BGL based on:

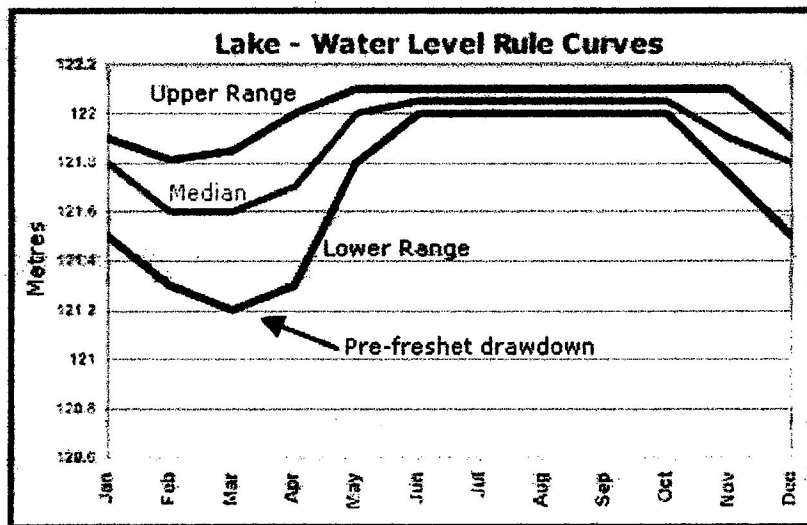
- a) The contribution each can provide based on individual knowledge and experience in the watershed, rather than representing a specific constituency or personal interest;
- b) Ensuring that the SAC members represent diversity of perspectives and interests, rather than a specific constituency or personal interest. Such interests may include but may not be limited to fishing, recreation, cottagers, boating, tourism, conservation, protection, business, and municipal government;
- c) Ensuring that citizen representation covers the entire watershed as reasonably as possible and, that members have knowledge of the entire Seguin River basin;
- d) The majority of the members living, working or having a comprehensive interest in the Seguin River basin geographic area;
- e) Demonstrated ability to work with other groups or organizations to form effective partnerships;

• **Defined rule curves were not available for most of the water control structures.**

A rule curve (as illustrated in Figure 3-1) specifies a target reservoir water level elevation throughout the year.

Rule curves are a diagrammatic representation of intended water levels throughout the year. They reflect a range of target water levels established to balance competing interests for water. The rule curve process starts by establishing the top and bottom of the curves (highest tolerable level, lowest tolerable level) to avoid severe flooding or severe low flow conditions associated with drought. Within that range, consideration is given to other water uses (e.g., navigation, water supply, recreation, etc.).

Target water levels can also be applied for the maintenance, management and preservation of critical habitats. As examples, water levels can be set to inundate fish spawning areas during spring and fall ensuring or promoting recruitment of various species. Wetland conditions can also be maintained through establishment of critical water levels. In some instances wetlands can be managed and enhanced through strategic drawdowns although such as measure falls outside the standard rule curve definition.



**Figure 3-1**  
**Sample Rule Curve**

Rule curve development is both a quantitative and qualitative process incorporating reviews of existing operational and water level data and discussions with other water users in the system. Only one of the subject water control structures has an approved and documented operating plan, namely;

Hurdville Dam

Established in the Resolution of the Public Utilities Commission of the Town of Parry Sound No. 87.83 (dated August 10, 1987), namely:

\* o The water level in Lake Manitouwabing should be held around the 6" (0.15m) below the benchmark and less than 12" (0.3m) down from the benchmark during the months of June, July, August, September and October, subject to any conditions beyond our control.

o The Commission should endeavour to maintain the water levels not less than 24" (0.6m) down from the benchmark during the months of November, December, January and February.

o The water level should be held not less than 32" (0.8m) down from the benchmark during the months of March and April prior to spring runoff to prevent flooding.

The Commission should be informed of any necessity to lower the levels in the previous items prior to any pulling of logs. The benchmark at Hartville Dam has elevation 240.30m (788.38ft).

It should be noted that the resolution does not specify an operating water level for the month of May. For the purposes of plan development, it has been assumed that the operating water level for May should be consistent with the water level specified for June, July, August, September and October.

As noted previously, an objective of this first phase of the SRSWMP, operating plans for compliance and enforcement purposes will be prepared for the following structures only: Cascade Street Dam, Hurdville Dam, Mill Lake Dam, Lorimer Lake Dam.

"Preliminary" and "not enforceable" operating plans describing "best management practices" will be prepared for the remaining structures based upon local datum as a component of this first phase of the SRSWMP, to be completed by the spring 2009:

Horn Lake Dam	Martin Lake Dam	CPR Trestle Dam
Fry's Lake Dam	Harris Lake Dam	
Whitefish Lake Dam	Haines Lake Dam	

Operating plans for compliance and enforcement purposes will be developed for the "Preliminary Operating Plans" as described above for the seven dams as a component of the second phase of the SRSWMP, to be completed five (5) years from the date of Plan Approval. This second phase of the SRSWMP will allow time for the collection of data to fill identified gaps and finalization of 11 enforceable operating plans for the complete system. At the end of the five year period, the SRSWMP would be subject to a plan review under the water management planning process set out in the "*Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower*" at which time the "preliminary" operating plans will be replaced by approved and enforceable operating plans.

With approval of the SRSWMP in 2009, the plan review will take place five (5) years from the date of Plan Approval