



# PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON (E.S.T.) TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1948.

NO. 86

November 9, 1948.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Governments of the United States and Canada had agreed to refer certain matters in connection with the Passamaquoddy Tidal Power Project to the International Joint Commission, United States - Canada. (A copy — of the terms of reference is attached.)

The Passamaquoddy Tidal Power Project, as it was originally proposed in the 1920's, would involve damming Passamaquoddy Bay, on the Maine-New Brunswick border, and Cobscook Bay, which lies wholly within the State of Maine, and -- by means of a controlled flow between the two basins thus formed -- utilizing the great tidal range in the Bay of Fundy for the generation of hydro-electric power.

Under the terms of reference which have now been transmitted to the United States and Canadian sections of the International Joint Commission, by the U.S. State Department and the Canadian Department of External Affairs respectively, the Commission is asked to review existing plans for the project, to report how large and expensive an investigation would be required to determine whether any of these or other plans would be practicable, and to recommend a division of the expenses of such an investigation between the two countries. The reference does not ask the Commission to undertake the investigation, and both Governments have made it clear that they are not committed, by the present reference, to any later reference to the Commission for full investigation of the project itself.