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PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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FOR SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE IN OTTAWA AND WASHINGTON 12 NOON EST THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1953.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Governments of the United States of America and of Canada have concluded an agreement for the establishment of the St. Lawrence River Joint Board of Engineers.

The purpose of this four-man Board is to review, coordinate and approve the detailed plans and specifications of the power works and the programme for their construction in the International Rapids section of the St. Lawrence River. The Board is also to ensure that the construction of the power project is in accordance with the requirements already approved by both Governments and the International Joint Commission.

The Agreement, which is now in force, is contained in an Exchange of Notes signed at Washington today by General Bedell Smith, Under-Secretary of State, and by the Canadian Ambassador, Mr. A. D. P. Heeney.

In anticipation of this Exchange of Notes, the Canadian Government appointed on November 10 the Honourable Lionel Chevrier, Minister of Transport, and Mr. R. A. C. Henry, Consulting Engineer, to be the representatives of Canada on this Board. On November 4, 1953, President Eisenhower appointed the United States Secretary of the Army and the Chairman of the Federal Power Commission to represent the United States. Members of the Board may be represented by alternates.