

In 1937 the Ontario authorities initiated action on the Long Lake Diversion project. A dam on the Kenogami river to control the levels of Long lake was placed under construction by the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario and in July a contract was awarded for the construction of diversion works between Long lake and the water course flowing into Lake Superior.

Application was made to the Federal Department of Public Works for the approval of the diversion dam structures under the Navigable Waters Protection Act. At the date of preparing this brief, this approval had not been issued.

According to press reports appearing in the Ottawa papers of December 18, 1937, Dr. T.H.Hogg, Chairman of the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission, announced that the Commission had suspended plans for the two Northwestern Ontario water diversion projects until an agreement respecting the use of additional water for power generation at Niagara Falls is reached.

"We are going ahead with the dam on the diversion channel with the idea that pulpwood can be passed down to Lake Superior by it" said Dr. Hogg. "No development will be made for power purposes until it is legalized by international agreement." The quotation is as it appeared in the Ottawa Journal.

It would appear that the Ontario Authorities fully appreciate the necessity of securing international approval to the use of the diverted water for power purposes in the international waters. It should also be pointed out with respect to the diversion of this water into lake Superior that the United States Government could at any time refer the matter to the International Joint Commission for investigation and report under Article IX of the Boundary Waters Treaty.

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