

Green Power Producer Triples Output in Three Years

Canadian Hydro Developers, Inc. Leads Canada in Development of Green Industry

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Calgary, Canada—Canadian Hydro Developers, Inc., a leading green power producer, plans to significantly increase its average growth rate in 2004 and 2005. Historically, the company has grown at a rate of eight megawatts per year over the past 13 years (WHICH MEANS WHAT TO THE AVERAGE NEWSPAPER READER). This growth rate has increased by 75 per cent to 14 megawatts per year since 2000 and is accelerating to 30 megawatts per year for 2004 and 2005, which is an aggregate increase of 275% since 2000.

Projects under construction for completion in 2004 and 2005 include run-of-river hydro projects in British Columbia, a small wind plant in southern Alberta and a biomass facility in northern Alberta that utilizes forestry woodwaste. Additional projects located in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario are now under consideration.

“Our strong growth is due to our portfolio approach in developing renewable energy,” says Chief Executive Officer John Keating. “While most companies tend to focus on wind as the answer to future growth, we are one of the few companies in Canada that have a full portfolio of wind, hydro and biomass.”

Utilizing a variety of resources and geographical locations is key to developing the industry, Keating says. “We tap into renewable resources all over Canada—lumber mills in northern Alberta provide wood waste for biomass plants, windy locations in southern Alberta and Ontario are ideal for wind farms and British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario all have potential run-of-river hydro plant sites.”

Keating says the portfolio approach not only allows for greater growth, it also helps protect investors. “Diversity of resources and geographic regions helps balance our portfolio. A drought in Alberta may affect output of run-of-river plants but wind, biomass and other hydro plants in Alberta, B.C. and Ontario stabilize production and allow us to move forward.”

Government support is important for development of all viable renewable resources, says Keating. “The government has taken an important first step by providing incentives for wind energy and this has led to a strong industry—we would like to see the same incentives extended to biomass and low-impact run-of-river hydro.”

All of Canadian Hydro’s operations meet the Environment Canada criteria for low-impact renewable energy. These include limiting air pollutants, greenhouse gases and emissions of hazardous or solid wastes, maintaining water quality and watershed integrity, mitigating impacts on plants and animals, ensuring sustainability of feedstock and fuel and minimal water consumption and consulting with the public.

Canadian Hydro Developers, Inc. is Canada’s premier independent developer of EcoLogo^M certified low-impact renewable energy. Publicly listed since 1990, the company owns and operates thirteen green power facilities. Wind-generated electricity accounts for three sites and hydroelectric power ten sites. Canadian Hydro’s first biomass plant is now under construction. Canadian Hydro supports a portfolio approach that embraces all forms of renewable energy, including biomass, wind and run-of-river hydro.

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