



October 08, 2014 - Corner Brook, NL - The Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band (QMFNB) is pleased to announce the finalization of a Socio-Economic Agreement for the Maritime Link Project. This agreement builds on the positive relationship that has developed with Emera Newfoundland and Labrador over the past two years.

The agreement includes provisions to follow through on commitments made during the federal Environmental Assessment process to consider current use of land and resources for traditional purposes and monitoring of potential interactions, as well as promote training, employment and business opportunities for members of Newfoundland's Qalipu Mi'kmaq.

“Our agreement with Emera Newfoundland and Labrador is a significant milestone for the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nations Band and demonstrates the relationship we have fostered,” said Chief Brendan Sheppard, “Through the development of the Maritime Link Project and the local opportunities that arise from it, we can now strengthen the Qalipu Strategic Plan under Economic Development and Community Economic Development plans.”

Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nations Band is encouraging all members to update their profiles in the GINU database, to ensure access to opportunities associated with the Maritime Link.

“We are proud to say that this agreement is built on our company's guiding principles of mutual respect, early engagement, openness, and building long term relationships.” said Rick Janega, CEO and President, Emera Newfoundland & Labrador. “This project provides significant regional economic benefit and this agreement helps support the project being on time and on budget through increased access to local resource capacity.”

Emera Newfoundland & Labrador is designing, constructing and will own the 500 MW +/- 200kV Maritime Link Project. This is a high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission electric project that will connect the island of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia for the first time. The project includes two 170 kilometre subsea cables and approximately 400 kilometres of overhead transmission line.