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### **Natural Resources Canada**

**2007/20****March 15, 2007**

## Port Hope Project Moving Forward

**PORT HOPE** - Canada's New Government has concluded, following an environmental assessment, that the project to clean up contaminated soil in the Municipality of Port Hope may now proceed to the next step.

The Long-Term Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Project would clean up wastes and contaminated soil in the municipality resulting from industrial processes dating back to the early 1930s. In addition, it would involve the construction of a facility to manage the wastes over the long term.

"I'm really pleased that the project can move ahead to the next step of this process," said Rick Norlock, M.P. for Northumberland-Quinte West, on behalf of the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources. "Canada's New Government is committed to delivering clean air, land, water and energy to ensure a clean, healthy environment for Canadians."

The project was initiated through an agreement signed in March 2001 between the Government of Canada and the former municipalities of Port Hope, Hope Township and Clarington. The Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Office (LLRWMO), acting as an agent of the Government, manages the project.

The environmental assessment conducted by the Government under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* included broad consultation with the community as well as with technical experts from the provincial and federal governments at each stage. Based on this assessment, the Government has decided that the proposed project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, provided the appropriate mitigation measures are implemented.

The LLRWMO can now seek the required regulatory approvals that will enable the proposed project to proceed.

Copies of the Government's environmental assessment report are available on the public registry for the Port Hope Project and from the following addresses:

Joanne Smith  
Uranium and Radioactive Waste  
Division  
Natural Resources Canada  
580 Booth Street, 17th Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0E4  
Tel: (613) 996-8719

LLRWMO Project Information  
Exchange Office  
196 Toronto Road  
Port Hope ON L1A 3V5  
Tel: (905) 885-0291  
Toll Free: 1-866-255-2755  
E-mail: [info@llrwmo.org](mailto:info@llrwmo.org)

E-mail: [phai.irph@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:phai.irph@nrcan.gc.ca)

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**FOR BROADCAST USE:**

The Government of Canada has concluded that the project to clean up contaminated soil in the Municipality of Port Hope may now proceed to the next step. This follows an environmental assessment of the project to clean up wastes and contaminated soil resulting from industrial processes dating back to the early 1930s, and to build a facility to manage the wastes over the long term.

For more information, media may contact:

Ghyslain Charron  
Media Relations  
Natural Resources Canada  
Ottawa  
613-992-4447

Kathleen Olson  
Acting Director of Communications  
Office of the Minister  
Natural Resources Canada  
Ottawa  
613-996-2007

And general public may contact:

Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30 EDT  
Telephone: 613-995-0947  
TTY: 613-996-4397  
(teletype for the hearing-  
impaired)  
E-mail: [questions@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:questions@nrcan.gc.ca)

**The following media backgrounder is available at  
[www.nrcan.gc.ca/media](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/media):**

- a. [The Environmental Assessment of The Port Hope Long-Term Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Project](#)

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[www.nrcan.gc.ca/media](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/media).**

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