



## Mississippi RiverWatchers (MRW) Status Update June 2014

### ***Cavanagh's Proposed Enerdu Power Station Project***

Here is our understanding of the current status of the Enerdu project.

Four conditions were imposed by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) following public input to the Environmental Report submitted by Enerdu on December 17, 2012:

- 1) Hydraulic flood modeling required (not done)
- 2) Further noise impact assessment required (not done)
- 3) A cultural and heritage impact assessment required (in progress – see below)
- 4) Adhering to future changes to the Mississippi River Water Management Plan is required

A presentation of the Enerdu draft Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was made by Enerdu's consultant to the town's Heritage Committee on May 27, 2014. This presentation was open for the public to attend; and they did attend - in droves! The public was asked to send their concerns/comments to the consultant by June 18, 2014. Document link: <http://www.wesa.ca/en/waterpower-project-updates/enerdu-generating-station-expansion-and-redevelopment-project-mississippi-river.html>

Once all four conditions are met, Enerdu will then be eligible to make a project application under the Class EA (Environmental Assessment).

Other issues pertaining to the Enerdu project:

- Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has a permitting process for "in-river" work. To the best of our knowledge, no permits have been issued to date.
- Enerdu requires MNR to grant the Quit Claims required for land ownership on which they intend to build the new power plant and the new weir – Enerdu does not own the riverbed.
- The current Permit to Take Water issued by MOE sets daily water taking limits and must be revised to make the new power plant viable. The current permit is up August 18, 2015 and will be open to public input. See link: <http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MjUwNDk=&statusId=NTUwNDk=>
- 'Amendments' to the Mississippi River Water Management Plan for Reach 18 are in the works and being "stalled" by MNR. These 'amendments' may impose new operating limits on Enerdu.
- Enerdu's proposed operations may infringe existing riparian rights of numerous adjacent land owners and these matters have in no way been addressed.

**We feel that public pressure should focus on the MNR and their (lack of) responsibility. Check <http://riverwatchers.ca/> for contact information.**

### ***Other MRW Activities***

- The MRW have proposed a water level monitoring facility at Appleton, recording the fluctuations by the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and to be made available to the public online. This is actively being pursued.
- The MRW submitted their response to the draft HIA report in June.
- On June 21<sup>st</sup> the MRW hosted the "Great Canadian River Cleanup" on the Appleton to Almonte stretch of the river.
- On June 28, many RiverWatchers and their friends participated in the citizen organized "River Celebration" outside the Almonte Old Town Hall. An estimated 400+ people attended, complete with a 200 strong "politicians dropped the ball" beach ball toss off the bridge, marches around the river, petition to the Premier scroll signing, and BBQ.