

System upgrades to increase reliability in coastal communities

February 4, 2010 – If you live in Tuktoyaktuk, Paulatuk, and Sachs Harbour then expect NTPC to come knocking. That's right. The Power Corporation will be knocking on your door to shut your power off, but only for an hour or two.

Over the years, service connections at residences in most coastal communities have corroded due to salt exposure.

"It's not something you'd experience in most of Canada, but we're not alone. Corrosion happens in communities on Canada's other two coasts wherever aspects of the system are exposed to salt air," says Gary Keith, NTPC's Transmission and Distribution Manager.

The new connections will improve power quality and reliability and help protect service connections from salt degradation.

Tuktoyaktuk customers will be the first to receive the improvements.

Service upgrades will take place on weekdays. NTPC representatives will knock on each resident's door before power is disconnected. If no one answers it's assumed no one is home and work will proceed as planned.

The Corporation is issuing advance notices to community offices and posters around each town to ensure that customers who have special needs, such as home medical equipment, have the opportunity to make alternate arrangements.

Around 125 residences will receive service improvements between now and April. This project, and a number of others, will continue through the summer.

-30-

For more information contact:
Mike Bradshaw
Director, Corporate Communications
Tel: 867-669-3390
Cell: 867-445-3391
mbradshaw@ntpc.com