



**CANADIAN
NIAGARA POWER INC.**

CNPI_PC_APPL_20070126

**CANADIAN NIAGARA POWER INC. ("CNPI")
PORT COLBORNE
2007 INCENTIVE RATE MECHANISM ADJUSTMENT
APPENDIX C
APPLICATION FOR RECOVERY OF Z FACTOR AMOUNTS**

SUBMITTED: JANUARY 24, 2007

APPENDIX C: Z-FACTOR

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ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Canadian Niagara Power Inc. (Port Colborne) for an Order or Orders granting final approval of its 2007 Z-Factor Amounts and approval of Rate Riders to recover those amounts, beginning on May 1, 2007

APPLICATION

1. The Applicant is Canadian Niagara Power Inc. (“CNPI”) a wholly-owned subsidiary of FortisOntario Inc. The Applicant, an Ontario corporation with its head office in Fort Erie, carries on the business of owning and operating distribution facilities within Ontario. CNPI is the licensed distributor for the municipality of Port Colborne. This Application is in respect of the Port Colborne service area of CNPI.
2. CNPI hereby applies to the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”), pursuant to section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, for an Order or Orders approving its 2007 Z-Factor amounts incurred in connection with a natural disaster that occurred in October 2006, and its proposed Rate Riders for the recovery of those balances beginning on May 1, 2007.
3. The Applicant’s proposed Rate Riders are contained in Schedule D, which forms a part of this Application. The Rate Riders also appear in the Tariff of Rates and Charges, which forms part of the Manager’s Summary in respect of the 2007 Incentive Rate Mechanism Adjustment Model.
4. The written evidence contained in Schedule A through E of this Application, as filed with the Board, may be amended from time to time prior to the Board’s final decision on the Application. Further, the Applicant may seek meetings with Board staff and intervenors in an attempt to identify and reach agreements to settle issues arising out of this Application.
5. The persons affected by this Application are the ratepayers of CNPI Port Colborne. It is impractical to set out their names and addresses because they are too numerous.

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1 6. CNPI requests that a copy of all documents filed with the Board by each party to this
2 Application be served on the Applicant and the Applicant's counsel as follows:

3 (a) The Applicant:
4 Mr. Douglas R. Bradbury
5 Director – Regulatory Affairs
6 Canadian Niagara Power Inc.

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8 P. O. Box 1218
9 Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 5Y2

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16 (b) The Applicant's counsel:
17 Mr. R. Scott Hawkes
18 Vice President, Corporate Services and General Counsel
19 Canadian Niagara Power Inc.

20 Address for personal service: 1130 Bertie Street
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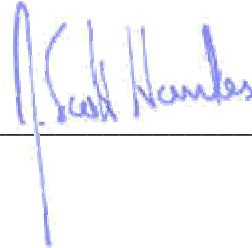
28 Electronic access: scott.hawkes@fortisontario.com

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1 DATED at Fort Erie, Ontario this 24th day of January, 2007.

2 CANADIAN NIAGARA POWER INC.

3 By its counsel,



4 _____

5 R. Scott Hawkes

EXHIBIT LIST

1			
2			
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1 **SUMMARY OF APPLICATION**

2 **PURPOSE OF SUBMISSION**

3 The Applicant, Canadian Niagara Power Inc. (CNPI) (Port Colborne) is requesting authority to
4 recover an amount of \$253,094, which represents the amount of the Applicant's Z-Factor costs
5 for Port Colborne incurred in connection with a natural disaster which occurred in October 2006.
6 Assuming that the Z-Factor costs for CNPI (Port Colborne) were recovered over a one year
7 period, it would represent a rate increase of less than five percent to the average residential
8 customer in Port Colborne. Accordingly, CNPI requests that such costs be recovered over a
9 one year period.

10 In addition, CNPI has filed an application for electricity distribution rates pursuant to the 2007
11 Incentive Rate Mechanism Adjustment Model for customers in the Fort Erie, Port Colborne and
12 Gananoque service territories. CNPI has filed applications for Z-Factor cost recovery for
13 customers in Fort Erie and Port Colborne, as they were the only territories affected by the
14 natural disaster.

15 **SCHEDULES**

16 The following schedules have been included in the evidence supporting CNPI's application:

17 Schedule A

18 A one-page summary of the Z-Factor amounts to be recovered in connection with the October
19 2006 natural disaster.

20 Schedule B

21 A discussion and management's representations with respect to the following: the occurrence of
22 the natural disaster, the impact of the natural disaster on CNPI and its customers, the disaster
23 response taken by CNPI, the amounts incurred to respond to the natural disaster, analysis of
24 the amounts to show that they satisfy all three tests set out under Z-Factor amount eligibility
25 criteria established by the Board, and the testimonials regarding CNPI's disaster recovery
26 response efforts.

1
2 Schedule C
3 A discussion of the proposed disposition of the Z-Factor amounts, the allocation of such
4 amounts, and the time period over which the amounts will be recovered.

5 Schedule D
6 A one-page summary of the rate riders required for the recovery of the Z-Factor amounts.

7 Schedule E
8 Supplemental information from various sources supporting management's representations in
9 connection with the Application.

10 **Z-FACTOR AMOUNTS CLAIM**

11 The Z-Factor amounts which the Applicant wishes to recover are set out in Schedule A of this
12 Application.

13 Explanations for the balances are provided either in the Management's Representations or the
14 Supplemental Information.

15 To summarize, the amount of \$1,965,825 in costs were incurred and are being claimed as Z-
16 Factor amounts in connection with a natural disaster that occurred in Fort Erie and Port
17 Colborne in October 2006. Pursuant to the allocation discussed in the Application, the amount
18 of \$253,094 in costs has been allocated to Port Colborne. CNPI's brief overview of the natural
19 disaster and subsequent recovery effort is set out below:

20 On October 12, 2006, Fort Erie and Port Colborne were hit with a historic snow storm with over
21 thirty (30) centimetres of wet heavy lake effect snow falling on fully leaved trees. This was not a
22 normal event, nor was it a winter storm as it did not occur during winter. A state of emergency
23 was declared in both Fort Erie and Port Colborne. The isolated storm was a natural disaster
24 and the most severe October storm on record dating back to the 1870s. CNPI has not
25 experienced a disaster of this nature during the autumn season. Approximately one hundred

1 (100) broken utility poles and three (3) kilometres of power lines needed replacing. CNPI
2 carried out a major restoration effort pursuant to disaster recovery plans, restoring power to the
3 majority of its customers within five (5) days. The Company marshaled support from several
4 Ontario utilities, deploying close to one hundred and thirty (130) additional line crew and forestry
5 workers. Approximately 85% of the Z-Factor amounts being claimed in respect of the natural
6 disaster recovery effort are attributable to the billings for these line crews. The remaining
7 balance is comprised primarily of the cost of materials and overtime costs by CNPI staff. CNPI
8 received high praise from its customers and community leaders in response to the massive
9 restoration effort.

10 The natural disaster was unpredictable, and the amounts being claimed are directly related to
11 the event and clearly outside the base upon which rates are derived. Further, the amounts are
12 material and exceed the materiality threshold of 0.2% of total distribution expenses of CNPI, and
13 the amounts were prudently incurred as they represented the most cost-effective option for
14 ratepayers.

15 **PROPOSED DISPOSITION OF Z-FACTOR AMOUNTS, ALLOCATION AND RATE RIDERS**

16 The Z-Factor amounts have been directly allocated to the affected service territories using time
17 records. The amounts have been allocated to the customer classes on the basis of customer
18 counts as recorded in the 2006 EDR. Furthermore, this allocation is similar in nature to the
19 allocation of account 1572 (Extraordinary Event Losses) in the Final Recovery of Regulatory
20 Assets in the 2006 EDR process. It is proposed that amounts claimed in respect of Port
21 Colborne be recovered over a one year period, which would result in an increase in rates of less
22 than five percent for an average residential customer in Port Colborne. The rate riders to
23 recover the proposed Z-Factor amounts are set out in Schedule D to this Application.

1

Z-Factors Amounts To Be Recovered

2

Canadian Niagara Power Inc.

2006 OCTOBER DISASTER COSTS	
<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>\$</u>
Internal Labour (1)	535,714
Materials (2)	268,544
Local Distribution Companies and Outside Contractors (3)	1,682,234
Meals, Accommodations and Other (4)	115,267
TOTAL COSTS	2,601,759
<u>ADJUSTMENTS</u>	
LESS: Non-incremental internal labour (1)	(242,884)
LESS: Insurance proceeds (5)	(500,000)
LESS: Transmission work (6)	(4,500)
PLUS: Projected interest costs (7)	111,450
2006 OCTOBER DISASTER Z-FACTOR AMOUNTS TO BE RECOVERED	1,965,825
<u>ALLOCATED</u>	
Fort Erie	1,712,731
Port Colborne	253,094
	1,965,825

1 Notes to Schedule A2 Canadian Niagara Power Inc.3 ⁽¹⁾ **Internal Labour Summary**

4 These amounts represent the internal labour costs associated with the restoration efforts.

5 The amounts have been segregated between unionized hourly employees and management
6 employees. The allocation between Fort Erie and Port Colborne is based on timesheets.7 Internal labour costs for regular hours are deemed non-incremental labour and thus have
8 been excluded from the Z-Factor amount.

	<u>OVERTIME HOURS</u>	<u>OVERTIME \$</u>	<u>REGULAR HOURS</u>	<u>REGULAR \$</u>	<u>TOTAL HOURS</u>	<u>TOTAL \$</u>
<u>FORT ERIE</u>						
Hourly	2,760	219,872	2,475	138,668	5,235	358,540
Management	-	22,410	1,094	70,114	1,094	92,524
TOTAL	2,760	242,282	3,569	208,782	6,329	451,064
<u>PORT COLBORNE</u>						
Hourly	548	45,958	529	31,146	1,077	77,104
Management	-	4,590	48	2,956	48	7,546
TOTAL	548	50,548	577	34,102	1,125	84,650
GRAND TOTAL	3,308	292,830	4,146	242,884	7,454	535,714
Total Hourly	3,308	265,830	3,004	169,814	6,312	435,644
Total Management	-	27,000	1,142	73,070	1,142	100,070
GRAND TOTAL	3,308	292,830	4,146	242,884	7,454	535,714
<u>NON-INCREMENTAL LABOUR</u>						
Total Management	-	-	1,142	73,070	1,142	73,070
Total Hourly Regular Time	-	-	3,004	169,814	3,004	169,814
	-	-	4,146	242,884	4,146	242,884

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1 (2) **Materials**

2 These amounts represent the materials used in the restoration efforts, including the
 3 replacement of approximately 100 broken poles and 3 kilometers of overhead distribution
 4 line.

	<u>\$</u>
Distribution Conductors and Devices Secondary OH	196,010
Distribution Poles	44,521
Distribution Conductors and Devices Primary OH	28,013
TOTAL	<u>\$ 268,544</u>

5 (3) **Local Distribution Companies and Outside Contractors**

6 These amounts represent the Local Distribution Companies and third-party contractors that
 7 were engaged to assist with the restoration efforts.

<u>LDCs</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS</u>	<u>\$</u>
Hydro One	274,784	Ground Aerial Maintenance (GAMS)	284,561
Horizon Utilities	223,642	Pineridge Tree & Lawn	94,081
Niagara Falls Hydro	111,489	Lucas Tree Experts	75,698
Enersource Hydro Mississauga	111,009	Emburgh's Heavy Equipment Service	44,018
Cornwall Electric	80,442	Davey Tree Experts	29,025
Burlington Hydro - K-Line Contractors	61,481	City of St. Catharines	24,207
Westario Power	58,502	Cornell Feenstra	17,888
Welland Hydro	32,285	Dynamic Industrial Services	12,840
Burlington Hydro	26,266	Guelph Utility Pole	8,770
Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro Inc.	25,101	499384 Ontario Ltd. (Sam Dinsmore Trucking)	8,307
Peninsula West Utilities	22,642	Ducheron Ltd.	6,549
Haldimand County Hydro	20,436	Ebersole Excavating	5,742
TOTAL LDCs	<u>\$ 1,048,079</u>	Niagara Industrial Finishes	4,400
		Badger Daylighting	3,920
		Trenchless Utility Equipment	3,780
		Green Acres Service	3,531
		RPM Cleaning	2,208
		Zimmerman Electric	1,660
		Zanchin Truck & Trailer Inc.	1,257
		Neptune Technology	928
		James G Flake & Sons	490
		Doug Bole Hose Assembly	295
		TOTAL OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS	<u>\$ 634,155</u>

LDCs and OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS	
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,682,234</u>

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Filed: January 24, 2007
Schedule A
Tab 5
Notes to Schedule A
Page 3 of 4

1 (4) **Meals, Accommodations and Others**

2 These amounts represent the accommodations for third-party workers, meals for those
3 individuals directly involved in the restoration, and other miscellaneous categories of costs
4 as noted below.

	<u>\$</u>
Meals	43,103
Accommodations	41,085
Other (i)	<u>31,079</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 115,267</u>

(i): Other includes personal protective equipment, small tools and equipment, deliveries, miscellaneous transportation and employee recognition.

5 (5) **Insurance Proceeds**

6 Canadian Niagara Power Inc.'s property insurance policy provides coverage up to \$500,000
7 on its transmission and distribution systems. The claim is subject to a \$300,000 deductible.
8 The Company is in the process of submitting an insurance claim. The insurance proceeds
9 will reduce the amount otherwise claimed under the Z-Factor. In the event that the
10 insurance proceeds are less than \$500,000, the Company will make an adjustment to the Z-
11 Factor amounts.

12 (6) **Transmission Work**

13 During the restoration, an Outside Contractor was engaged to complete transmission work.
14 These were the only transmission related costs included in the Z-Factor amounts and have
15 been excluded from the claim.

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1 (7) **Projected Interest Costs**

2 This amount represents a pro-forma calculation of interest costs to carry this regulatory
 3 asset amount over the requested recovery period. The interest rate is based on the existing
 4 approved rate for regulatory assets.

Fort Erie - 2 Years				Port Colborne - 1 Year			
	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Recovery</u>	<u>Interest</u>		<u>Balance</u>	<u>Recovery</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Dec-06	1,611,053	-	6,162	Dec-06	243,322	-	931
Jan-07	1,611,053	-	6,162	Jan-07	243,322	-	931
Feb-07	1,611,053	-	6,162	Feb-07	243,322	-	931
Mar-07	1,611,053	-	6,162	Mar-07	243,322	-	931
Apr-07	1,611,053	-	6,162	Apr-07	243,322	-	931
May-07	1,543,925	67,127	5,906	May-07	223,046	20,277	853
Jun-07	1,476,798	67,127	5,649	Jun-07	202,769	20,277	776
Jul-07	1,409,671	67,127	5,392	Jul-07	182,492	20,277	698
Aug-07	1,342,544	67,127	5,135	Aug-07	162,215	20,277	620
Sep-07	1,275,417	67,127	4,878	Sep-07	141,938	20,277	543
Oct-07	1,208,289	67,127	4,622	Oct-07	121,661	20,277	465
Nov-07	1,141,162	67,127	4,365	Nov-07	101,384	20,277	388
Dec-07	1,074,035	67,127	4,108	Dec-07	81,107	20,277	310
Jan-08	1,006,908	67,127	3,851	Jan-08	60,831	20,277	233
Feb-08	939,781	67,127	3,595	Feb-08	40,554	20,277	155
Mar-08	872,653	67,127	3,338	Mar-08	20,277	20,277	78
Apr-08	805,526	67,127	3,081	Apr-08	-	20,277	-
May-08	738,399	67,127	2,824	Port Colborne Total Interest			<u>\$ 9,772</u>
Jun-08	671,272	67,127	2,568				
Jul-08	604,145	67,127	2,311				
Aug-08	537,018	67,127	2,054				
Sep-08	469,890	67,127	1,797				
Oct-08	402,763	67,127	1,541				
Nov-08	335,636	67,127	1,284				
Dec-08	268,509	67,127	1,027				
Jan-09	201,382	67,127	770				
Feb-09	134,254	67,127	514				
Mar-09	67,127	67,127	257				
Apr-09	0	67,127	0				
Fort Erie Total Interest			<u>\$ 101,678</u>	Monthly Interest Rate			0.3825%
Combined			<u>\$ 111,450</u>	Annual Interest Rate			4.59%

Management's Representations**Canadian Niagara Power Inc.****Occurrence of the Natural Disaster**

On October 12, 2006, Fort Erie and Port Colborne were hit with a historic snow storm (the "October Disaster") with over thirty (30) centimeters of wet heavy lake effect snow falling on fully leaved trees. Fort Erie and Port Colborne are located on the north eastern corner of Lake Erie and adjacent to Buffalo, New York.¹ This geographic region experiences unique weather systems off Lake Erie, which are not experienced by other parts of southern Ontario, including the rest of the Niagara region. The October Disaster was not a normal event, nor was it a winter storm as it did not occur during winter. According to the US naval observatory website, the 2006 winter season commenced on December 21, 2006.² The October Disaster occurred more than two months prior to the start of the winter season.

The October Disaster was not a normal storm. The normal snowfall for the month of October is less than one-half a centimeter. According to Environment Canada data, the October Disaster brought significant snowfalls of historic proportions.³ It was part of a storm system that also hit Buffalo, New York, and closed down the Peace Bridge linking Canada to the United States. The extreme parameters of this storm were noted all week by the media and weather reports. In addition to the extensive power outages in Fort Erie, and Port Colborne, the October Disaster caused outages and deaths in neighbouring Buffalo.⁴

¹ See Schedule E Supplemental Information – Maps & Photos.

² <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/EarthSeasons.html>; <http://home.earthlink.net/~ellozy/winter-start-end.html#tocref2>

³ See Environment Canada and National Climatic Data Center data in Schedule E Supplemental Information – News Releases & Weather Reports. According to Geoff Coulson, meteorologist with Environment Canada specializing in warning preparedness, since records were first kept in the 1870's there were no snowfalls over a 1 ½ day period that dumped as much snow in the area as early as October.

⁴ See Schedule E Supplemental Information - News Releases – City of Buffalo – October Surprise Timeline.

1 The October Disaster was not within management's control.⁵ It was a natural disaster in that it
2 was a destructive force not caused by human activity that caused significant damage to CNPI's
3 property and to customers' property. Further, both Fort Erie and Port Colborne declared a state
4 of emergency as a result of its occurrence.⁶ Affected areas in Western New York were declared
5 a major disaster area by President George W. Bush.⁷ These declarations represent an official
6 recognition that the October Disaster was a natural disaster with devastating impacts.

7 **Impact of Natural Disaster on Customers and CNPI**

8 The October Disaster began with lake effect rain during the morning of Thursday, October 12,
9 2006 followed with heavy wet snow building on fully leaved trees. This caused destruction to
10 lush vegetation, and the breaking and falling of heavily laden limbs and trees resulting in power
11 outages. Minor power outages were experienced by customers in the early afternoon and
12 CNPI's line crews responded. Later in the afternoon major outages occurred, and CNPI
13 contacted third party contract and utility crews to be on standby to assist in the restoration. By
14 the evening, conditions worsened and widespread outages were being reported by CNPI's
15 customers in Fort Erie and Port Colborne.

16 CNPI implemented its disaster recovery plans discussed below. As a result of the October
17 Disaster, all fifteen thousand (15,000) customers in Fort Erie were without power and three
18 thousand five hundred (3,500) customers in Port Colborne (out of a total of 9,000 customers)
19 were without power. In neighbouring Buffalo, more than two hundred thousand (200,000)
20 customers were without power. While most customers' power was restored within a few days, a
21 substantial number remained without power for more than one week. Many of the remaining

⁵ Pursuant to Report of the Board dated December 20, 2006 on Cost of Capital and 2nd Generation Incentive Regulation for Ontario's Electricity Distributors, Z-Factor events are generally not within management's control and are limited to changes in tax rules and to natural disasters.

⁶ See official declarations in Schedule E Supplemental Information - State of Emergency.

⁷ See Schedule E Supplemental Information - State of Emergency - FEMA Disaster Declaration.

1 customers still required repair to their service by electricians prior to being reconnected to
2 CNPI's system. Snow aggravated basement flooding was experienced by many customers, as
3 a result of lack of electricity for sump pumps. The deluge of water overloaded Niagara region
4 sanitary sewers, which caused sewage to spill into the Niagara River and Lake Erie. Other
5 essential services such as hospitals and nursing homes relied on temporary generators. Fuel
6 stations and grocery stores were also threatened by power outages.

7 In addition, the October Disaster caused substantial damage to CNPI's operations and
8 distribution system. Approximately one-hundred (100) poles and three (3) kilometers of
9 overhead conductor had to be replaced. The devastation to fully leaved trees required
10 extensive tree and limb clearing to restore service to customers, and to ensure the safety and
11 security of supply for re-energized lines. Cleanup and restoration efforts lasted for four weeks
12 following the October Disaster, to remove the tangle of trees and fallen branches from the
13 system, and to carry out long-term repairs to temporary fixes left behind during the initial
14 restoration effort.

15 **Disaster Response Taken By CNPI**

16 CNPI maintains Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery Plans which include strategies,
17 procedures and contact information for CNPI to continue to carry out its critical functions in the
18 event of major business interruptions. In particular, CNPI has a Storm Contingency Plan which
19 incorporates major outage restoration coordination procedures, roles and responsibilities and
20 contact information. This plan was put into place by CNPI in response to the October Disaster.

21 In addition to meeting customer demands to restore electricity promptly, CNPI was responding
22 to government officials who were also depending on CNPI to restore power quickly to minimize
23 the health and safety risks associated with lack of electricity for essential services such as

1 sewage treatment and providing meals and accommodation for socially assisted residents in the
 2 region.

3 The following table lists the restoration initiatives taken by CNPI pursuant to the Storm
 4 Contingency Plan in response to the October Disaster:

5 **TABLE 1 – CNPI’S OCTOBER DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVES**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>RESTORATION RESPONSE INITIATIVE</u>
Thursday, October 12, 2006		
Morning	Onset of Storm.	Normal work-day.
Early Afternoon	Minor Outages.	Monitoring of weather conditions. CNPI line crews respond to minor outages.
Late Afternoon	Major Snowstorm/ Major Outages.	Increase level of CNPI response. Continue to monitor weather conditions.
Early Evening	Onset of October Disaster/Wet Heavy Snow/High Winds/ Constant Thunder & Lightning.	Determination of onset of natural disaster. Call in crews from GAMS. Maintain high level of CNPI response. Alert initial support crews in Niagara region (i.e., PenWest, Niagara Falls, Horizon) to be on standby.
Late evening	October Disaster in progress/Disaster Intensifies/Frequency & Extent of Outages Increases/Falling Trees, Poles and Lines/Re-energized circuits continuously trip.	Decision to implement the Disaster Recovery – Storm Contingency Plan. Begin operating 24/7 in customer service.
Night/Early Morning	October Disaster in progress/Falling Trees, Poles and Lines/Roads Impassable.	Preliminary Damage Assessment. Estimation of extent of outage based on customer calls, SCADA information and visual inspection in field. Monitor weather/news reports from

		media. Contact first responders and key emergency contacts. Mobilize external crews (line and tree-trimming). Due to severity of system damage and public safety, decision made not to re-energize de-energized circuits.
Friday, October 13, 2006		
Morning	Disaster Resides/ Extensive Damage from Disaster/Roads Impassable/State of Emergency Declared.	Damage assessment continues. Organize and provide for 24/7 line response. Logistical support implemented for meals, and accommodations for incoming crews. Ensure integrity of transmission system and supply to major substations. Specific restoration initiatives identified as follows: energize primary distribution lines first, isolate spur lines, and then energize spur lines, and secondaries followed by individual customers. Ordering of materials (poles, conductor and accessories).
Early Afternoon	External Crews Start Arriving.	Dispatch crews with CNPI personnel to begin restoration initiatives. Damage assessment information analyzed. Decision to call in additional line crew resources (i.e., Burlington, Enersource, Hydro One) and tree-trimming crews (i.e., Lucas, Davey Tree, Hydro One, Pineridge). Customer bulletins issued and emergency contacts regularly updated.
Late Afternoon	Distribution Substations Being Restored.	Restoration initiatives continue. Feeder restoration in progress. Patrol and assessment initiated to provide safe day-ahead work plans of maps for line crews. Processed system information assigned to planning departments and line crews as applicable.

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Night	Restoration in full progress.	Crews working 24/7. Patrol and assessment in progress. Primary distribution being restored.
Saturday, October 14, 2006		
Morning	Restoration in full progress/Additional resources arrive.	Distribution substations restored. Focus on main distribution feeders. Customer calls continue to be logged. Updating of emergency contacts continues. State of Emergency lifted in Port Colborne.
Afternoon & Night	Restoration in full progress/Additional resources arrive.	Most customers restored in Port Colborne and 50% in Fort Erie.
Sunday, October 15, 2006		
24 Hours	Restoration in full progress.	Resources continue to be dispatched. 70% of customers restored in Fort Erie.
Monday, October 16, 2006		
24 Hours	Restoration in full progress.	Resources continue to be dispatched. 85% of customers restored in Fort Erie.
Tuesday/Wednesday, October 17-18, 2006		
24 Hours	Restoration in full progress.	Fewer than 1,000 customers remain without power in Fort Erie. State of Emergency lifted in Fort Erie.
Thursday, October 19, 2006		
24 Hours	Restoration in full progress.	Focus shifts from restoration of primary to secondary and individual homes and customers. Some external crews released (i.e., Hydro One, Enersource, Burlington, Hamilton, Niagara-on-the-Lake, PenWest).
Friday-Sunday, October 20-22, 2006		
All Day	Restoration of Individual Homes/Customers.	A few hundred customers in Fort Erie without power and less in Port Colborne. Night shift crews ceased.

Monday, October 23 – November 11, 2006		
All Day	Restoration continues/Isolated Outages due to tree damage.	Following major restoration effort, focus shifts to rebuilding temporary and patched repairs, damaged poles, damaged switches, reconnecting remaining customers without power (i.e., geographically isolated and seasonal customers). Tree-trimming continues for broken trees and major limbs near lines.

1 To summarize the restoration response, CNPI had a disaster recovery plan in place to respond
 2 to the October Disaster, the plan was implemented quickly and efficiently, and customers' power
 3 was restored safely and promptly. More than one hundred and thirty (130) additional line crew
 4 and forestry workers were deployed, in addition to CNPI's employees. CNPI's disaster recovery
 5 response was efficient and appropriate in the circumstances.

6 **Amounts Incurred by CNPI to Respond to the Natural Disaster**

7 Schedule A to the Application and accompanying notes provide a detailed breakdown of the Z-
 8 Factor amounts to be recovered. None of the costs being claimed for recovery in Schedule A
 9 are included elsewhere in the filings for the 2007 Incentive Rate Mechanism Model. The
 10 majority of the costs are either internal labour or external labour costs (i.e. local distribution
 11 companies' costs and contractors' costs), demonstrating the significant amount of manpower
 12 required to restore electricity to the service territories of Fort Erie and Port Colborne. All non-
 13 incremental internal labour costs have been excluded from the Z-Factor amounts. Furthermore,
 14 no corporate overhead burdens have been claimed for recovery. Also, the Z-Factor amounts do
 15 not include any additional administrative internal costs incurred by CNPI to process the claim.

1 The Z-Factor total costs have been reduced further by an amount equal to the estimated
 2 insurance proceeds that CNPI expects to receive in connection with an insurance claim for the
 3 October Disaster; however, CNPI has not received any proceeds to date. The Z-Factor
 4 amounts being claimed of \$1,965,825 represent incremental costs to CNPI that are not included
 5 in existing rates and which were incurred as a result of the October Disaster.

6 **Amounts Claimed Satisfy The Three Tests Set Out Under Z-Factor Eligibility Criteria**

7 The table below analyzes the costs being claimed in Schedule A of this Application in terms of
 8 satisfying the Z-Factor eligibility criteria set out in the Report of the Board dated December 20,
 9 2006 on Cost of Capital and 2nd Generation Incentive Regulation For Ontario's Electricity
 10 Distributors:

Table 2 – Z-Factor Amount Eligibility Criteria

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
Causation	The Z-factor amounts to be recovered of \$1,965,825 are costs directly related to the October Disaster. If the October Disaster had not taken place, these costs would not have been incurred by CNPI. These costs are clearly outside of the base upon which rates are derived because they are extraneous to the normalized costs included in the 2006 EDR upon which distribution revenue recovery has been calculated. In the case of contracted line crews and forestry worker costs, they do not include any internal CNPI labour costs. The above costs are incremental costs associated with the restoration effort in response to the October Disaster.
Materiality	The Z-Factor amounts claimed have a significant influence on the operation of CNPI. These costs meet the materiality threshold established by the Board in the 2006 EDR Handbook. The allocated costs to Port Colborne in the amount of \$253,094 claimed in Schedules A and C to this Application exceed 0.2% of total distribution expenses (Port Colborne 2006 EDR threshold was in the amount of \$8,394).

<p>Prudence</p>	<p>The Z-factor amounts to be recovered of \$1,965,825 are costs that were prudently incurred by CNPI. In response to the October Disaster CNPI took required steps to repair the distribution system as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Prudence (Cont'd)</p>	<p>These costs could not have been avoided. CNPI solicited these services from the nearest available geographic location first and then sought other available resources from within the province.</p> <p>In order to minimize costs to customers, CNPI implemented its disaster recovery plan promptly and without delay. First, all available CNPI employees were mobilized to assist in the restoration effort. Then, CNPI contacted third parties in the Niagara region, which are in close proximity to the affected service territories. This minimized travel time for line crews and forestry workers, which reduced costs to customers and minimized response time. In addition, certain third party services were provided pursuant to an arrangement negotiated with the Niagara Erie Power Alliance (“NEPA”) that provides for capped fees for emergency response services. NEPA is a cooperative venture of eleven local distribution companies in south eastern Ontario licensed by the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) with a common goal among other things to address common industry issues, share resources, increase efficiencies, and reduce operating costs to consumers. The NEPA services arrangement provides for member local distribution companies to provide each other, as required, with emergency assistance at agreed rates. In addition to providing comfort that the emergency services will be available when they are needed, it also provides for cost controls on those services when they are provided.</p> <p>Further steps undertaken by CNPI to minimize costs and maximize efficiency included feeding the crews breakfast at the Fort Erie service centre in the morning before they were dispatched, and providing box lunches directly to the crews in the field so that they did not have to breakdown work which would interrupt restoration efforts. Local lodgings were obtained so that crews could be provided with adequate</p>

<p>Prudence (Continued)</p>	<p>sleep in the service territory. Major materials ordered and received by CNPI during the October Disaster were charged to CNPI at normal rates plus additional delivery charges for unscheduled deliveries. Due diligence was exercised in the tracking and monitoring of time spent by third party line crews and forestry workers in the field to ensure that subsequent invoices were accurate. All of these efforts represent the most cost-effective and productive option to customers.</p>
---------------------------------	---

1 In summary, the costs incurred by CNPI in its restoration response to the October Disaster, as
 2 more particularly described in Schedule A to the Application, satisfy the Z-Factor eligibility
 3 criteria of causation, materiality and prudence set out by the Board.

4 **Testimonials Regarding CNPI’s Disaster Response Restoration Efforts**

5 CNPI’s restoration efforts in respect of the October Disaster were recognized as being efficient
 6 and effective. The Mayors of Fort Erie and Port Colborne, CNPI’s customers as well as local
 7 distribution companies commended CNPI and its employees for doing an exceptional job in
 8 bringing in the resources needed to restore power to customers, and for minimizing downtime
 9 considerably.⁸

10 CNPI maintained its focus on safety to its employees and to customers during the recovery
 11 effort. It reminded customers to remain clear of downed power lines and updated them on the
 12 status of restoration efforts. Line crews engaged in the restoration effort were provided with
 13 additional support and resources to ensure that a focus on safety was maintained during the
 14 restoration response.

15 Despite the challenges that the October Disaster posed to work crews involved in the
 16 restoration, safety performance was exemplary. There were zero lost-time injuries, and zero

⁸ See Schedule E Supplemental Information – Testimonials & State of Emergency. Enersource Hydro Mississauga commented on CNPI’s effort as follows: “Our staff (Enersource’s) was also very complimentary on how well your staff (CNPI’s) organized the entire process. Restoring power to your (CNPI’s) system within such a short period of time is a truly remarkable accomplishment.”

APPENDIX C: Z-FACTOR

1 medical aid injuries during the restoration. This result was achieved through planning and by
2 implementing the following initiatives: daily management meetings were held to review the
3 current status of the electrical system and update the strategy for restoring power; contractor
4 crews working in the field were provided with a designated CNPI employee referred to as a
5 "crew leader" from operations to provide knowledge of the electrical system and direction; line
6 work to be completed on right of ways, backlots or other areas considered high risk was
7 completed during daylight hours whenever possible; additional maps were made available by
8 CNPI's planning department and provided to every contractor crew to ensure they had a clear
9 understanding of the electrical system; work orders were created each night based on work
10 completed during the day, reviewed by at least two CNPI employees for accuracy and then
11 reviewed with the crew leader prior to being dispatched the following day; the status of the
12 electrical system was transferred to the operating maps immediately and confirmed by at least
13 two people; and professional line clearing crews were dispatched into areas to remove hazards
14 associated with tree growth prior to sending in line crews. These initiatives were taken by CNPI
15 as incremental steps over and above the normal safety processes and procedures, which are in
16 place during day-to-day operations.

1 Proposed Disposition of Amounts and Allocation2 Canadian Niagara Power Inc.

3 The allocation of the Z-factor amount between CNPI's Fort Erie and Port Colborne operating
 4 territories is based on a summary of time records for both internal labour and contractor
 5 invoices. All other categories of costs have been allocated using this summary allocation.

	Total	Fort Erie	Port Colborne
Percentage Allocation by Operating Territory	100%	86.9%	13.1%
Internal Labour	\$535,713	\$465,589	\$70,124
Materials	268,544	233,392	35,152
Neighbouring LDCs and Contractors	1,682,233	1,462,033	220,200
Meals, Accommodations and Other	<u>115,268</u>	<u>100,180</u>	<u>15,088</u>
Total Costs	2,601,758	2,261,194	340,564
Less Non-incremental Internal Labour	(242,883)	(211,090)	(31,793)
Less Insurance Proceeds	(500,000)	(434,551)	(65,449)
Transmission Work ¹	<u>(4,500)</u>	<u>(4,500)</u>	<u>0</u>
Subtotal	1,854,375	1,611,053	243,322
Projected Interest Expense ²	<u>111,450</u>	<u>101,678</u>	<u>9,722</u>
Z-Factor Amounts to be Recovered	<u>\$1,965,825</u>	<u>\$1,712,731</u>	<u>\$253,094</u>

¹ Transmission system repairs performed by contractors were removed from the claim allocated to directly Fort Erie.

² Interest has been calculated on a two year recovery for Fort Erie. Interest improvements begin accruing on December 1, 2006 and recovery is assumed to begin May 1, 2007 and continue through to April 30, 2009.

Interest has been calculated on a one year recovery for Port Colborne. Interest improvements begin accruing on December 1, 2006 and recovery is assumed to begin May 1, 2007 and continue through to April 30, 2008.

1

Rate Riders

2

Canadian Niagara Power Inc.

3

CNPI – Port Colborne is seeking the Board's approval for the electricity distribution

4

Rate Riders shown below:

Residential

Rate Rider 1 (Z-factor) \$/kWh 0.0036

General Service Less Than 50 kW

Rate Rider 1 (Z-factor) \$/kWh 0.0010

General 50 to 4,999 kW

Rate Rider 1 (Z-factor) \$/kW 0.0054

Unmetered Scattered Load

Rate Rider 1 (Z-factor) \$/kWh 0.0010

Standby Power – Approved on an Interim Basis

n/a n/a

Sentinel Lighting¹

Rate Rider 1 (Z-factor) \$/kW 45.4026

Street Lighting

Rate Rider 1 (Z-factor) \$/kW 0.7101

Derivation of Z-factor Rate Riders

Z Factor – One Year Recovery

\$253,094

Customer Class	No. of Customers	Allocation	Volumetric Billing Determinant	Billing Determinant	Rate Rider
Residential	8,064	222,860	62,256,160	kWh	0.0036
General Service Less Than 50 kW	962	26,586	27,405,586	kWh	0.0010
General Service 50 to 4,999 kW	72	1,990	367,101	kW	0.0054
Sentinel Lighting	23	636	14	kW	45.4026
Street Lighting	37	1,023	1,440	kW	0.7101

¹ CNPI – Port Colborne will directly mitigate the Sentinel Lighting Z-factor Rate Rider by a minimum of a factor of 10.

APPENDIX C: Z-FACTOR

**Filed: January 24, 2007
Schedule E
Tab 9
Supplemental Information
Page 1 of 1**

- 1 **Supplemental Information**
- 2 **Canadian Niagara Power Inc.**
- 3 Refer to Tabs 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 regarding Supplemental Information.



Poles shear from loading of snow, wind and trees.



Poles shear from loading of snow, wind and trees.



Large branches collapse under snow and wind load.



Poles shear from loading of snow, wind and trees.



Poles shear from loading of snow, wind and trees.

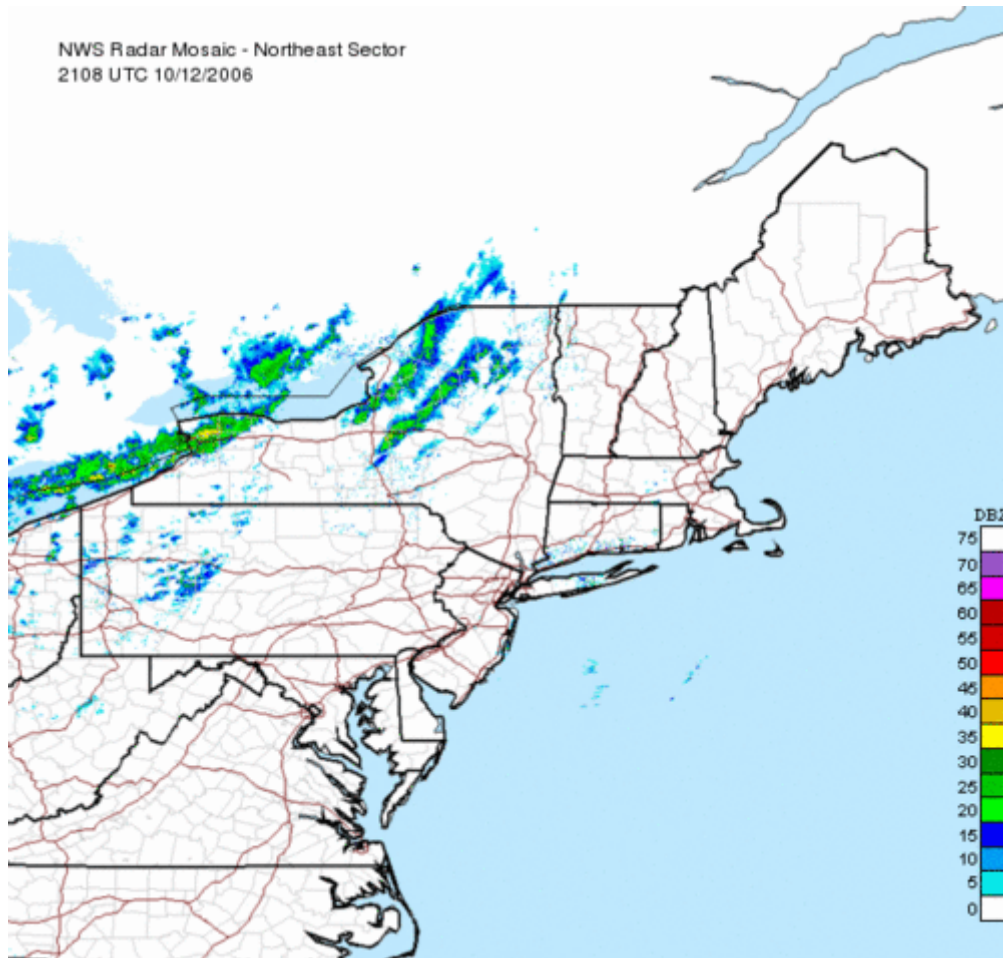


Cross arms broken from loading of snow, wind and trees.



Large branches collapse under snow and wind load.





The storm's effects were highly localized: it dumped up to 2 feet (60 cm) of snow on some areas of the Buffalo metro region

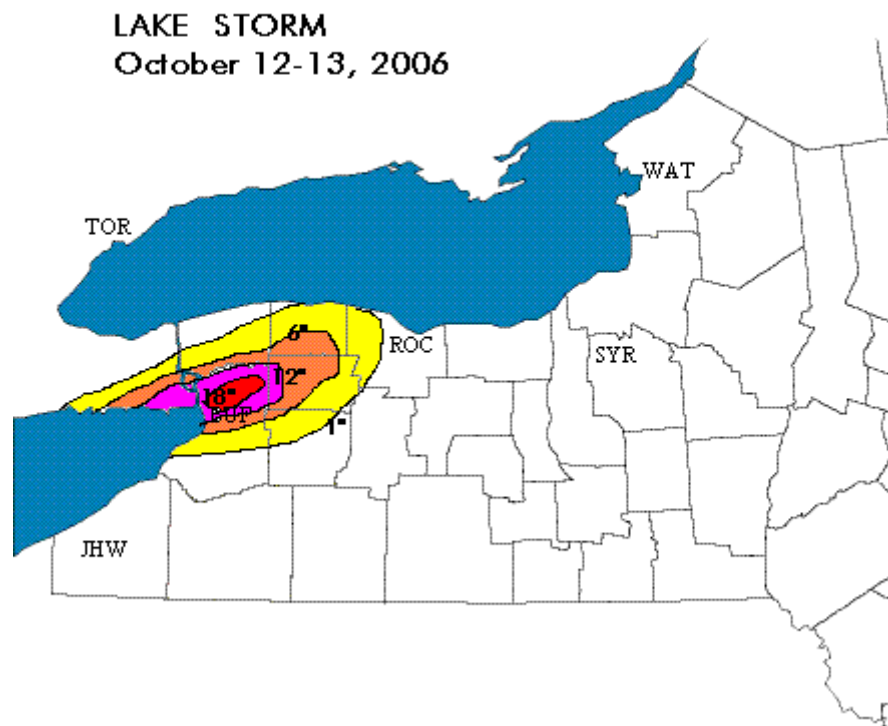
The event was described by the National Weather Service Office in Buffalo, New York as "astounding" "unbelievable" and "incredible" (ibid.) and by the Toronto Star as "one of the most devastating snow storms in US history". It was also an example of the "particularly rare meteorological phenomenon" known as thundersnow.

These were the two snowiest October days recorded in Buffalo since the National Weather Service began keeping track 137 years ago.

In affected areas, wet, heavy lake effect snow with a snow-water equivalent (SWE) ratio of between 6:1 and 12:1 (in comparison, the "powder" so prized by skiers is 25:1) and with a weight in excess of 9.8 pounds per square foot piled onto trees which were still in full leaf, leading to significant damage [to trees] on a scale usually associated with hurricanes. An estimated 400,000 people were without power on Friday the 13th, some 100,000 households remained without power for a week, and a few thousand remained without power for ten days.

Conservative initial damage estimates to clean up the estimated 6-8.6 million cubic yards of debris were at least \$130 million USD, but even ten days after the storm hit, estimates of the number of tons of debris and the final costs of clearing them were "a moving target". The storm closed the Buffalo Niagara International Airport for several hours on Thursday, October 12 and again on Friday, October 13, and closed a 100 mile (160 km) stretch of the New York State Thruway for several hours on Friday, October 13. Many if not most businesses were closed for at least a few days, and schools for at least a week. Most schools reopened on Monday, October 23 after six consecutive "snow days," but a few in the most heavily-affected areas, reopened later that week. Affected parts of Erie, Genesee, Orleans, and Niagara Counties in Western New York were declared a "major disaster" area by President George W Bush on October 24, 2006.

Although the two-foot snow cover melted by Sunday, October 15, cleanup efforts were impeded in the first days after the storm by the tangle of fallen trees, fallen branches, and downed power lines: power grid crews couldn't reach the downed power lines because of fallen trees, and tree removal crews couldn't clear debris because of the dangers of the downed power lines. Even after roads were cleared and power was restored, it was estimated that the cleanup and restoration could take "weeks" or "months".



Maximum Snowfall: Lake Erie 24" (Depew, Alden)

Duration: 16 hours +/-

Prime Feature: Dramatic crippling out of season event. Unprecedented meteorological parameters.

Words cannot do justice to the astounding event which opened the 2006-07 season. Not only was it the earliest named event by far (two weeks) of the over 120 in the 13 year record of our lake effect archive, but it was the most unique in regards to destruction of trees and power outages, directly because of its out of season factor. Almost a million residents of the Niagara Frontier lost power, some for as long as a week, and tree damage was the worst in memory, especially to the lush vegetation in the many historic parkways and parks in the Buffalo area.

The extreme parameters of the event were noted all week and even mentioned six days ahead in forecast discussions. The depth of cold air was almost unprecedented for so early in the season and Lake Erie was a mild 62 degrees, three degrees above normal for October 12. Instability levels were dramatic with 850 mb to surface delta t's of 24C or so, inversion levels were simply off the chart at 25k feet with omega and Cape values unprecedented for a lake effect event. The only question, and a big one, was whether the boundary layer could be cold enough to maintain snow with a flow off a 62 degree lake. It was initially assumed that there would just enough moderation for the bulk of this forecasted intense lake effect storm to fall as rain, with perhaps some graupel or wet snow inland, but by Thursday morning (12th) it was becoming marginal, and a Warning was issued early Thursday afternoon for 1-6" of wet snow, specifically because of the fact that most trees were still in full leaf, and the threat of serious damage and associated power outages.

The event began with lake effect rain during Thursday morning and midday, and enough cold air became entrained to change over the precipitation to wet snow in the Buffalo area by 3 pm. Still, little accumulation resulted for a few hours, but by 8-9 pm, reports of trees falling and power outages suddenly increased rapidly after 2-3" of snow, which was very wet and weighed down the trees. Conditions only worsened overnight with near constant thunder and lightning for a good 12 hours. Cloud tops reached an incredible 25-30 thousand feet, about double we have previously observed in the worst events, this was directly attributed to the phenomenal uplift over the 62 degree lake.

The heaviest snowband set up across the North Towns Thursday evening, then drifted south to the Southtowns around midnight, then lifted slightly to the city and eastern suburbs in the wee hours before lifting north across the Northtowns again around daybreak and eventually to Niagara county Friday (13th) morning where it weakened and faded to rain as the dynamic cooling process faded and allowed the boundary layer to moderate.

It was apparent that the associated uplift and dynamic cooling was so strong that it overcame any attempt of boundary layer warming from the lake. There even may have been cooling near its edge because of this dynamic cooling as evident by lowering dew points at Cleveland, Erie and Dunkirk early in the event, perhaps a sign of air advecting into the lakeband from the land.

Even though plenty of damage resulted already in the first few inches, total snowfall in this event was simply unbelievable. 5 to 8 inches fell in the first phase of the event between 3 pm and midnight, but the snow water equivalent (swe) ratio was around 6:1 or so, hence the terrific damage to trees and powerlines. The second phase featured slightly drier snow, maybe 12:1 but it piled up another foot in heaviest area, in just 4 hours or so. The 22.6 inches recorded at the Buffalo airport not only blew away any October record (6" in 1909, only 4 falls of 2" or more in 100 years in October), but was the 7th greatest snowfall ever at any time in Buffalo!

The crippling snows extended well across Genesee and Orleans counties, and pushed into extreme southern Niagara county, but there was a sharp cutoff to any damage, which ran along a line from Whitehaven Road on Grand Island to Wheatfield to Medina on the north, Leroy and Bergen on the east, and East Aurora and southern Hamburg on the south.

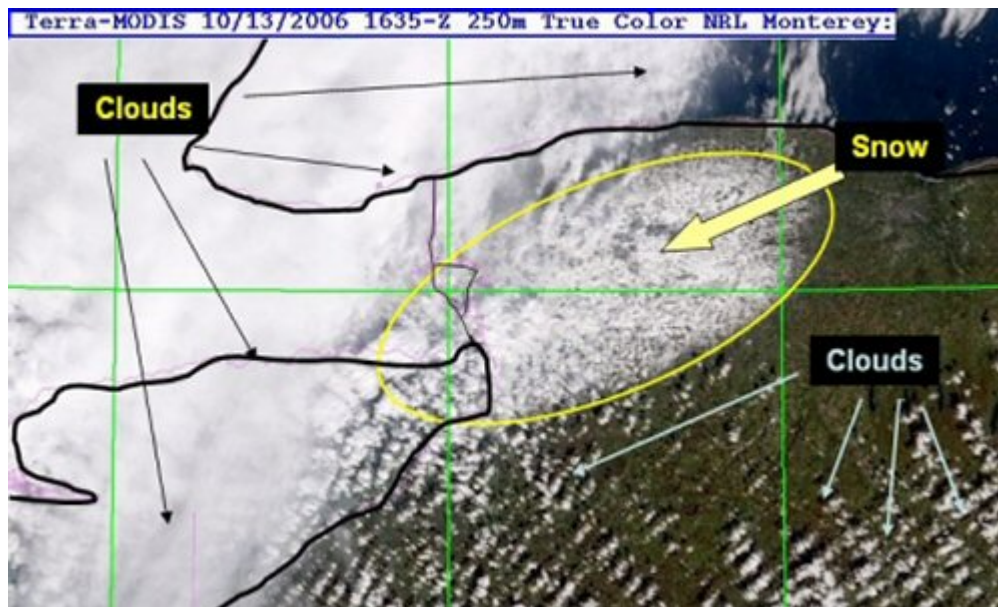
Finally, all snow melted within about 48 to 60 hours with little flooding. Here are some representative reports.

All reports off of Lake Erie...

Location	Snowfall
Depew	24 inches
Alden (Millgrove)	24 inches
Cheektowaga (NWS)	22.6 inches
Buffalo (North)	20 inches
Buffalo (Downtown)	15 inches
Buffalo (South)	10 inches
Amherst	14 to 22 inches

Clarence	16 to 22 inches
Tonawanda	12 to 18 inches
West Seneca	14 inches
North Tonawanda	6 to 12 inches
Hamburg	8 to 14 inches
Orchard Park	8 inches
Batavia	10 inches
Medina	8 inches
Lockport	6 to 8 inches
Grand Island	2 to 10 inches
Albion	5 inches
Brockport	3 inches
Niagara Falls	1 inch

The event had the most impact of any in our record. Not only the amount of snow which was among our highest, but it was way out of season and of course had the far greatest damage and power problems and affected over a million, people in a dramatic fashion for many days



Ontario Weather Review - October 2006

October may be the first full month of fall, but Old Man Winter struck hard and early. Some Ontario communities are still reeling from the one-two punch they experienced that month.

On October 12, the snow started falling in Fort Erie and didn't stop until 30 centimetres had been dumped in that one day. Not only was this a single-day record for snowfall for October for Fort Erie, it was also a monthly record there for October. The other noteworthy snowfall was in North Bay. Their snowfall season also started on October 12, but it continued for two more days, resulting in a total accumulation of 38.3 centimetres. This was the earliest a snowfall of this magnitude had ever been recorded there, but to top it off the snow continued to pummel North Bay. The last weekend of the month, another 33 centimetres was recorded. The first snowfall alone almost broke the previous monthly record amount for North Bay, but with all the additional snow the records have been rewritten a few times over. As well, during the last two days of the month, a disturbance over Northwestern Ontario dumped enough snow on Red Lake to surpass its previous snowfall record for October, set in 2001.

Rainfall also was noteworthy in October. Locations in southern and eastern Ontario received so much rain that the previous rainfall records set back in 1954, with Hurricane Hazel, and in 1955, with Hurricane Katie, were threatened. October 2006 was the second wettest October ever for Trenton, North Bay and Wiarton, the third wettest ever in London and the fourth wettest historically in Toronto.

Despite perceptions that October was a cold month, temperatures were generally near normal or slightly below normal across the province. The month felt colder due to the fact that gusty winds often accompanied the below-normal temperatures.

Severe Weather

In many locations, it felt like Mother Nature decided to skip a month and head right into November. As was mentioned above, unprecedented amounts of lake-effect snow caused major disruptions to communities along the southern tier of the Niagara Peninsula from the afternoon hours of October 12 into midday on October 13. The unseasonably cold air that moved over Lake Erie and caused the historic snowfall amounts to portions of the Niagara Peninsula was driven southward by a large low pressure system north of Lake Superior. This large low pressure system entered the province from Manitoba on October 10 and continued to spin over areas to the north of Lake Nipigon until October 14, when it finally moved off to the northeast. Snow fell fairly steadily from October 10-14 over communities to the north of Lake Nipigon in association with this low.

Another intense low pressure system moved through Southern and Central Ontario on October 28, bringing with it heavy, wet snow to locations in the Parry Sound district, portions of Algonquin Park and northward into the Sudbury and North Bay areas. Gusty west-to-northwest winds followed on the heels of this low pressure system for a good portion of October 29, causing downed trees and some power disruptions to portions of Southern Ontario. A number of locations experienced wind gusts in the 70-90 kilometres-per-hour range.

Work has also been continuing in the studies of the two major summer severe weather events in Ontario this past summer, the storms of July 17 and August 2. Further review of eyewitness accounts, damage photographs and radar imagery has led to the confirmation of a 10th tornado on August 2 in the Myers Cave area, to the east of Cloyne, in Eastern Ontario. This brings the total number of tornadoes this season in Ontario to 19. During an average season, Ontario experiences 14 tornadoes.

Unusual precipitation readings (in millimetres):

Location	Precipitation	Normal	Difference	Wettest Since
Trenton	223.3	76	147.3	1955

North Bay	200.6	97.6	103	1955
Warton	172.5	91	81.5	1954
London	152.6	77.6	75	2001
Toronto City	138.4	64.7	73.7	1954
Windsor	131.2	64.9	66.3	2001
Hamilton	136	72.5	63.5	1995
Toronto Pearson	120.6	64.1	56.5	1995
Peterborough	126	70	56	1995
Sarnia	120.5	66	54.5	2001
Petawawa	128.2	75.1	43.1	1979
Kingston	126.4	85.5	40.9	1995
Muskoka	127.5	101.3	26.2	2003
Location	Precipitation	Normal	Difference	Driest Since
Wawa	78.8	121.4	-42.6	2003
Thunder Bay	32	62.6	-30.6	1994
Dryden	34.5	60.7	-26.2	1992
Kapuskasing	55.8	81.2	-25.4	2000

Record snowfall readings (in centimetres):

Location	Snow	Normal	Difference	Previous Record
North Bay	81.9	5.5	76.4	38.6 (1962)
Red Lake	70.2	17.2	53	63.9 (2001)
Fort Erie	30	0.3	29.7	4.5 (1993)

For More Information:

Jack Saunders
Environment Canada



Snow in the early afternoon – Oct 12 2006.



Snow loading in the late afternoon – Oct 12 2006.



New poles sheared.



Newly constructed pole lines broken because of high tensile strength of ACSR.



Large trees bring down power lines located on the opposite side of right-of-way.



Large trees had to be cleared from lines.



Ground not frozen and trees fully leaved.



Supper at the CNPI Service Centre.



A grateful community.

Environment
CanadaEnvironnement
Canada

Daily Data Report for October 2006

Notes on *Data Quality*.PORT COLBORNE
ONTARIOLatitude: 42° 52' N
Climate ID: 6136606Longitude: 79° 15' W
WMO ID:Elevation: 175.30 m
TC ID:

Daily Data Report for October 2006											
Day	Max Tem °C	Min Tem °C	Mean Tem °C	Heat Deg D C	Cool Deg D C	Total Ra mm	Total Sn cm	Total Pre mm	Snow on G cm	Dir of Max C 10's Deg	Spd of Max C km/h
01†											
02	17.0	11.0	14.0	4.0	0.0	T	0.0	T	0		
03†	20.5	6.0	13.3	4.7	0.0	16.8	0.0	16.8	0		
04†	20.0	15.0	17.5	0.5	0.0	16.4	0.0	16.4	0		
05†	13.5	5.0	9.3	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
06†	15.0	5.5	10.3	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
07											
08†	19.0	6.5	12.8	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
09†	19.5	14.0	16.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
10†	18.0	11.0	14.5	3.5	0.0	9.8	0.0	9.8	0		
11†	18.5	12.0	15.3	2.7	0.0	29.6	0.0	29.6	0		
12†	7.0	1.0	4.0	14.0	0.0	9.4	13.0	22.4	0		
13†	9.5	0.0	4.8	13.2	0.0	15.2	2.0	17.2	20		
14†	10.0	4.5	7.3	10.7	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	T		
15†	10.5	3.0	6.8	11.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
16†	14.5	3.5	9.0	9.0	0.0	7.6	0.0	7.6	0		
17†	14.5	9.5	12.0	6.0	0.0	18.0	0.0	18.0	0		
18†	15.0	12.0	13.5	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
19†	15.5	13.0	14.3	3.7	0.0	16.8	0.0	16.8	0		
20†	10.0	5.0	7.5	10.5	0.0	11.0	0.0	11.0	0		
21†	12.0	5.0	8.5	9.5	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	0		
22†	11.5	8.5	10.0	8.0	0.0	26.6	0.0	26.6	0		
23†	6.5	3.0	4.8	13.2	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0		
24†	7.5	1.5	4.5	13.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
25†	9.0	3.0	6.0	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
26†	9.0	-1.0	4.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
27†	8.5	2.0	5.3	12.7	0.0	19.8	0.0	19.8	0		
28†	8.0	5.0	6.5	11.5	0.0	6.2	0.0	6.2	0		
29†	8.5	3.5	6.0	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
30†	15.0	4.0	9.5	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0		
31†	15.5	10.0	12.8	5.2	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0		
Sum				241.1*	0.0*	208.2*	15.0*	223.2*			
Avg	13.1	6.3	9.7								
Xtrm	20.5	-1.0								M	M

Legend

Navigation Options

C = Precipitation occurred, amount uncertain
L = Precipitation may or may not have occurred
F = Accumulated and estimated
N = Temperature missing but known to be > 0
Y = Temperature missing but known to be < 0
S = More than one occurrence
T = Trace
* = The value displayed is based on incomplete data
† = Data for this day has undergone only preliminary quality checking



[Important Notices](#)

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Reviewed : 2005-04-08
Url of this page : http://www.climate.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/climateData/dailydata_e.html

The Green Lane™,
Environment Canada's World Wide Web Site.

Canada

Please note this information is preliminary and subject to revision. Official and certified climatic data can be accessed at the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html>).

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CXUS51 KBUF 012301
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MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR BUFFALO...OCTOBER 2006
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BUFFALO NY
600 PM EDT WED NOV 1 2006

...A STORMY...WET AND COOL MONTH FOR THE NIAGARA FRONTIER...

THE MAIN EVENT FOR OCTOBER 2006 WAS THE HISTORIC HEAVY LAKE EFFECT

SNOW THAT FELL OFF THE EAST END OF LAKE ERIE FROM THE 12TH TO THE

13TH. THE SNOW WAS HEAVY WITH A HIGH WATER CONTENT...AND WHEN COMBINED WITH LEAVES ON MOST TREES...THE RESULT WAS MASSIVE DAMAGE.

A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF THE TREES IN BUFFALO AND THE SUBURBS FROM HAMBURG TO LOCKPORT SUFFERED LOSS OF LIMBS. OVER 500,000 PEOPLE

WERE WITHOUT POWER...AND IT WAS 9 TO 10 DAYS BEFORE IT WAS RESTORED

IN SOME AREAS. MANY ROADS WERE BLOCKED. SCHOOLS IN BUFFALO AND THE

NORTHERN SUBURBS WERE CLOSED FOR A WEEK. IN MANY AREAS DEBRIS FROM

THE TREES STILL AWAITED REMOVAL AT THE END OF THE MONTH. THE SNOW

BEGAN ON THE AFTERNOON OF THE 12TH...AND DAMAGE BEGAN EARLY WITH

ONLY ABOUT 3 INCHES BY 8 PM. THE CRACK OF BREAKING LIMBS ECHOED THROUGHOUT THE REGION IN THE EVENING AS THE TOTAL REACHED AROUND 8

INCHES BY MIDNIGHT...AND A MONTHLY RECORD TOTAL OF 22.6 INCHES WAS

MEASURED AT THE AIRPORT WHEN IT HAD ENDED THE MORNING OF FRIDAY THE

13TH. THE 8.6 INCHES ON THE 12TH AND 14.0 INCHES ON THE 13TH WERE

BOTH DAILY RECORDS. PEOPLE WAKENED TO HEAVY SNOW...CLOGGED WITH TREE

DEBRIS...AND IMPASSABLE ROADS. THE INCH OF RAIN THAT FELL BEFORE THE

SNOW AGGRAVATED BASEMENT FLOODING WHICH OCCURRED MAINLY DUE TO LACK OF ELECTRICITY FOR SUMP PUMPS.

HEFTY RAINS ALSO OCCURRED FROM THE 3RD TO THE 4TH, THE 19TH TO 20TH, ON THE 22ND AND FROM THE 27TH TO THE 28TH. THE MONTHLY TOTAL OF 8.75 INCHES WAS THE SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD...AND THE COMBINED 15.70 INCHES FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER WAS THE HIGHEST EVER RECORDED AT BUFFALO.

OVERALL THE MONTH WAS A COOL 1.7 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL. THE PERIOD BEFORE THE BIG STORM WAS MILD WITH HIGHS IN THE MID TO UPPER 60S EXCEPT FOR 2 DAYS FOLLOWING A COLD FRONT ON THE 5TH AND 6TH. COOL TEMPERATURES FOLLOWING THE BIG SNOW CREATED A GENTLE MELT WITH LITTLE FLOODING EXCEPT WHERE SOME DRAINS WERE BLOCKED. FROM THE 20TH TO THE 29TH IS WAS QUITE COOL WITH SOME RAIN...BUT SOME LAKE EFFECT SNOW WELL SOUTH OF METRO BUFFALO.

&&

BUFFALO`S OCTOBER STATISTICS FOLLOW...

TEMPERATURE DATA

AVERAGE MAXIMUM.....	56.3
AVERAGE MINIMUM.....	41.8
AVERAGE MONTHLY.....	49.0
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL.....	MINUS 1.7
HIGHEST.....	69 ON 4TH AND 9TH
LOWEST.....	30 ON 27TH

NUMBER OF DAYS

MAXIMUM 90 DEGREES OR HIGHER....	0
MAXIMUM 80 DEGREES OR HIGHER....	0
MINIMUM 70 DEGREES OR HIGHER....	0
MINIMUM 32 DEGREES OR LOWER.....	5

HEATING DEGREE DAYS...BASE 65.. 489

DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... PLUS 47
SEASON TOTAL FROM JULY 1..... 641
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... PLUS 21

COOLING DEGREE DAYS...BASE 65.. 0
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... MINUS 4
SEASON TOTAL FROM JAN 1..... 639
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... PLUS 91

PRECIPITATION DATA

TOTAL FOR THE MONTH..... 8.75 INCHES
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... PLUS 5.56 INCHES
GREATEST IN 24 HOURS..... 2.05 INCHES ON 12-13TH
TOTAL FOR THE YEAR..... 39.10INCHES
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... PLUS 6.17 INCHES

SNOWFALL DATA

TOTAL FOR THE MONTH..... 22.6 INCHES
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... PLUS 22.3 INCHES
GREATEST IN 24 HOURS..... 22.6 INCHES ON 12-13TH
TOTAL FOR THE SEASON..... 22.6 INCHES
DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL..... PLUS 22.3 INCHES

NUMBER OF DAYS

WITH 0.01 INCH PRECIPITATION OR MORE..... 17
WITH 0.10 INCH PRECIPITATION OR MORE..... 14
WITH 0.50 INCH PRECIPITATION OR MORE..... 8
WITH 1.00 INCH PRECIPITATION OR MORE..... 3

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE

HIGHEST..... 30.50 INCHES ON THE 6TH
LOWEST..... 29.15 INCHES ON THE 28TH

PERCENTAGE OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE.....38 (132.3 HOURS)

AVERAGE WIND SPEED..... 10.5 MPH
PEAK GUST..... 49 MPH FROM THE W ON THE 29TH.

&&

APB/TJP

Please note this information is preliminary and subject to revision. Official and certified climatic data can be accessed at the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html>).

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RECORD EVENT REPORT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BUFFALO NY
500AM EDT FRI OCT 13 2006

...SNOWIEST DAYS ON RECORD FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER...

THE UNPRECEDENTED LAKE EFFECT SNOW STORM THAT CONTINUED ACROSS THE NIAGARA FRONTIER THROUGH THE WEE MORNING HOURS PRODUCED SOME IMPRESSIVE SNOWFALL TOTALS.

RECORDS HAVE BEEN SET ON TWO CONSECUTIVE DAYS FOR SNOWFALL AT BUFFALO.

ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, THE BUFFALO AIRPORT RECORDED 8.3 INCHES OF SNOW, BREAKING THE ALL TIME RECORD FOR DAILY SNOWFALL IN OCTOBER, WHICH WAS 6 INCHES LAST SET ON OCTOBER 31, 1917.

THURSDAY`S RECORD DID NOT LAST LONG HOWEVER. THROUGH 5AM FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, BUFFALO RECORDED 10.9 INCHES OF SNOW, SETTING A NEW MARK FOR THE SNOWIEST DAY IN OCTOBER SINCE RECORDS BEGAN BACK IN 1870.

THE CULPRIT FOR THIS RECORD SNOW IS THE EARLIEST LAKE EFFECT SNOW STORM ON RECORD TO HIT THE CITY OF BUFFALO.

NIZIOL



National Weather Service Forecast Office

Buffalo, NY



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Local forecast by
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Historic Lake Effect Snow Storm of October 12-13, 2006

City, St

Current Hazards

Western New York
National Warnings
Day 1 Outlook
Day 2 Outlook
Day 3 Outlook
Storm Reports
Weather Hazards
Drought Monitor
Hazardous Weather
Outlook

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Observations
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Lake Temperatures
River & Lakes AHPS
Road Conditions

Radar Imagery

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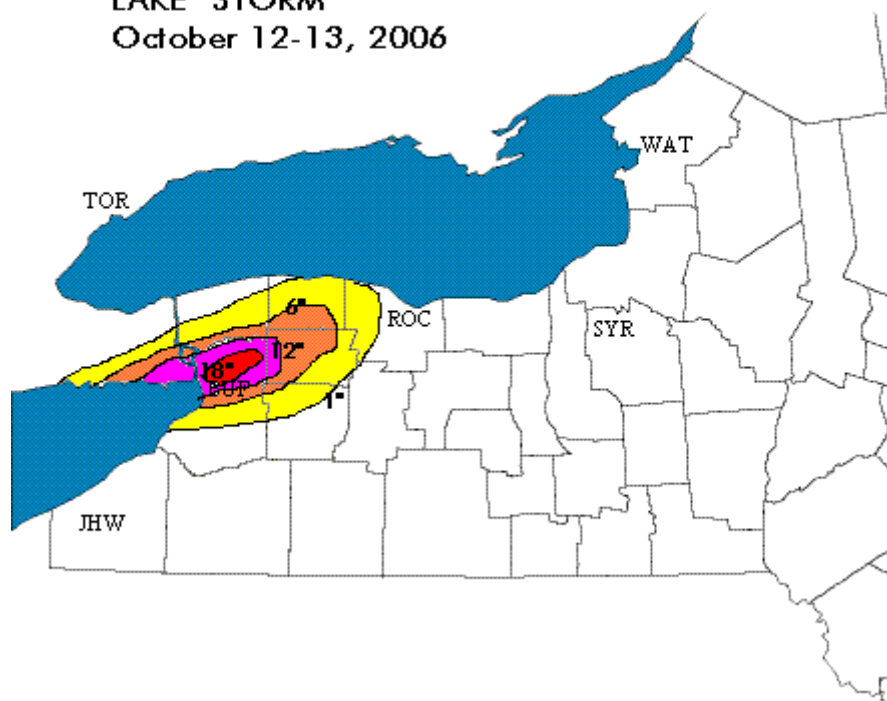
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LAKE STORM October 12-13, 2006



Maximum Snowfall: Lake Erie 24" (Depew, Alden)

Duration: 16 hours +/-

Prime Feature: Dramatic crippling out of season event. Unprecedented meteorological parameters.

Words cannot do justice to the astounding event which opened the 2006-07 season. Not only was it the earliest named event by far (two weeks) of the over 120 in the 13 year record of our lake effect archive, but it was the most unique in regards to destruction of trees and power outages, directly because of its out of season factor. Almost a million residents of the Niagara Frontier lost power, some for as long as a week, and tree damage was the worst in memory, especially to the lush vegetation in the many historic parkways and parks in the Buffalo area.

The extreme parameters of the event were noted all week and even mentioned six days ahead in forecast discussions. The depth of cold air was almost unprecedented for so early in the season and Lake Erie was a

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mild 62 degrees, three degrees above normal for October 12. Instability levels were dramatic with 850 mb to surface delta t's of 24C or so, inversion levels were simply off the chart at 25k feet with omega and Cape values unprecedented for a lake effect event. The only question, and a big one, was whether the boundary layer could be cold enough to maintain snow with a flow off a 62 degree lake. It was initially assumed that there would just enough moderation for the bulk of this forecasted intense lake effect storm to fall as rain, with perhaps some graupel or wet snow inland, but by Thursday morning (12th) it was becoming marginal, and a Warning was issued early Thursday afternoon for 1-6" of wet snow, specifically because of the fact that most trees were still in full leaf, and the threat of serious damage and associated power outages.

The event began with lake effect rain during Thursday morning and midday, and enough cold air became entrained to change over the precipitation to wet snow in the Buffalo area by 3 pm. Still, little accumulation resulted for a few hours, but by 8-9 pm, reports of trees falling and power outages suddenly increased rapidly after 2-3" of snow, which was very wet and weighed down the trees. Conditions only worsened overnight with near constant thunder and lightning for a good 12 hours. Cloud tops reached an incredible 25-30 thousand feet, about double we have previously observed in the worst events, this was directly attributed to the phenomenal uplift over the 62 degree lake.

The heaviest snowband set up across the North Towns Thursday evening, then drifted south to the Southtowns around midnight, then lifted slightly to the city and eastern suburbs in the wee hours before lifting north across the Northtowns again around daybreak and eventually to Niagara county Friday (13th) morning where it weakened and faded to rain as the dynamic cooling process faded and allowed the boundary layer to moderate.

It was apparent that the associated uplift and dynamic cooling was so strong that it overcame any attempt of boundary layer warming from the lake. There even may have been cooling near its edge because of this dynamic cooling as evident by lowering dew points at Cleveland, Erie and Dunkirk early in the event, perhaps a sign of air advecting into the lakeband from the land.

Even though plenty of damage resulted already in the first few inches, total snowfall in this event was simply unbelievable. 5 to 8 inches fell in the first phase of the event between 3 pm and midnight, but the snow water equivalent (swe) ratio was around 6:1 or so, hence the terrific damage to trees and powerlines. The second phase featured slightly drier snow, maybe 12:1 but it piled up another foot in heaviest area, in just 4 hours or so. The 22.6 inches recorded at the Buffalo airport not only blew away any October record (6" in 1909, only 4 falls of 2" or more in 100 years in October), but was the 7th greatest snowfall ever at any time in Buffalo!

The crippling snows extended well across Genesee and Orleans counties, and pushed into extreme southern Niagara county, but there was a sharp

cutoff to any damage, which ran along a line from Whitehaven Road on Grand Island to Wheatfield to Medina on the north, Leroy and Bergen on the east, and East Aurora and southern Hamburg on the south.

Finally, all snow melted within about 48 to 60 hours with little flooding. Here are some representative reports.

All reports off of Lake Erie...

Location	Snowfall
Depew	24 inches
Alden (Millgrove)	24 inches
Cheektowaga (NWS)	22.6 inches
Buffalo (North)	20 inches
Buffalo (Downtown)	15 inches
Buffalo (South)	10 inches
Amherst	14 to 22 inches
Clarence	16 to 22 inches
Tonawanda	12 to 18 inches
West Seneca	14 inches
North Tonawanda	6 to 12 inches
Hamburg	8 to 14 inches
Orchard Park	8 inches
Batavia	10 inches
Medina	8 inches
Lockport	6 to 8 inches
Grand Island	2 to 10 inches
Albion	5 inches
Brockport	3 inches
Niagara Falls	1 inch

The event had the most impact of any in our record. Not only the amount of snow which was among our highest, but it was way out of season and of course had the far greatest damage and power problems and affected over a million, people in a dramatic fashion for many days. It therefore earns...

Five *** Stars (plus!)**

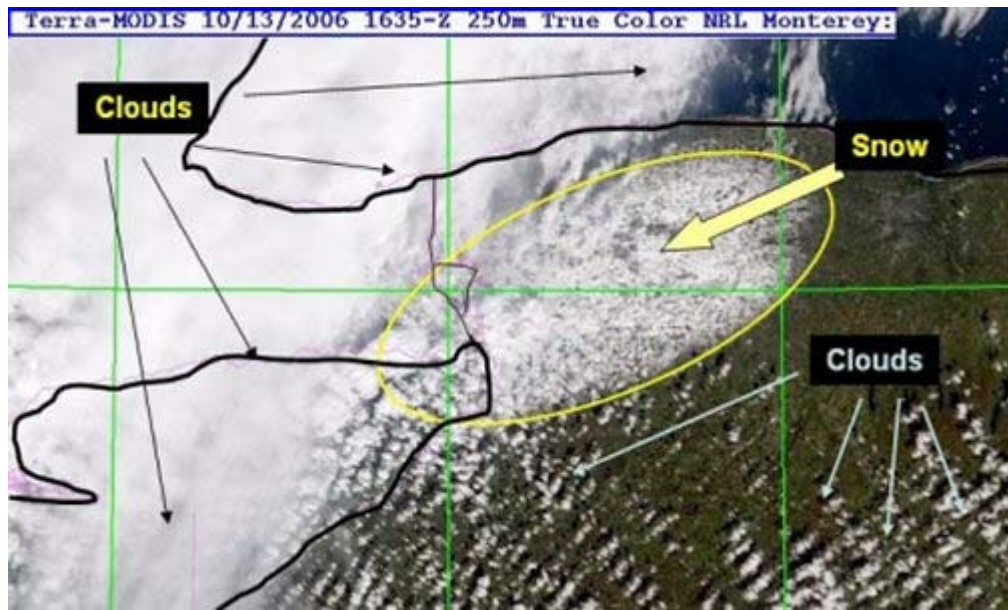


Image taken from a polar orbiter satellite on October 13 showing the extent of snow cover.
Photo courtesy of the Naval Research Laboratory web site's [National Polar Orbiting Environmental Satellite System \(NPOESS\)](#).

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Weather Forecast Office Buffalo
587 Aero Drive
Buffalo, N.Y. 14225-1405
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Canadian Climate Normals 1971-2000

The minimum number of years used to calculate these Normals is indicated by a [code](#) for each element. A "+" beside an extreme date indicates that this date is the first occurrence of the extreme value. Values and dates in bold indicate all-time extremes for the location.

NOTE!! Data used in the calculation of these Normals may be subject to further quality assurance checks. This may result in minor changes to some values presented here.

PORT COLBORNE * ONTARIO

Latitude: 42° 52' N

Longitude: 79° 15' W

Elevation: 175.30 m

Climate ID: 6136606

WMO ID:

TC ID:

* This station meets [WMO standards](#) for temperature and precipitation.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	Co
Temperature:														
Daily Average (°C)	-4.2	-3.8	0.7	6.3	12.9	18.3	21.6	21.1	17	10.9	5	-0.8	8.8	/
Standard Deviation	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.5	1.7	1.4	1	1.1	0.9	1.6	1.4	2.5	1	/
Daily Maximum (°C)	-0.9	-0.2	4.6	10.7	17.5	22.6	25.5	25	20.9	14.6	8.2	2.4	12.6	/
Daily Minimum (°C)	-7.5	-7.3	-3.4	1.9	8.3	14.1	17.6	17.1	13.1	7.1	1.8	-4	4.9	/
Extreme Maximum (°C)	13.3	16	24	32.5	30	33.5	33	33	31	27.2	20	18		
Date (yyyy/dd)	1967/24	1981/22	1990/15+	1990/28	1978/27+	1995/20	1979/13+	1988/02	2000/01	1971/03	1977/03+	2001/05		
Extreme Minimum (°C)	-26	-25	-24	-11.5	-3.5	2.2	6	5	-0.5	-6.1	-11.5	-26		
Date (yyyy/dd)	1981/04	1979/18	1980/01	1982/07	1978/01	1972/11	2001/02	1982/28	1993/30	1965/29	1987/21	1980/25		
Precipitation:														
Rainfall (mm)	32.4	28.7	55.9	73.5	80.4	85.4	75	82.3	101.1	82.9	89.8	57.8	845.1	/
Snowfall (cm)	46.2	36.3	19	4.8	0.5	0	0	0	0	0.2	11.7	39.5	158.1	/
Precipitation (mm)	78.6	65	74.8	78.3	80.9	85.4	75	82.3	101.1	83	101.6	97.2	1003.2	/
Extreme Daily Rainfall (mm)	46.5	29.5	34.8	39	38.4	108.7	69.4	65	90.8	72.6	78.2	38.6		
Date (yyyy/dd)	1998/07	1976/21	1991/27	1996/12	1986/19	1968/25	1987/25	1991/10	1979/13	1995/05	1985/04	1986/02		
Extreme Daily Snowfall (cm)	40.6	33.5	25.1	16.8	10.2	0	0	0	0	4.5	39.1	30.5		
Date (yyyy/dd)	1966/22	1972/19	1968/12	1975/04	1989/06	1965/01+	1964/01+	1964/01+	1964/01+	1993/31	1969/19	2001/24		
Extreme Daily Precipitation (mm)	46.5	33.5	34.8	39	38.4	108.7	69.4	65	90.8	72.6	78.2	38.6		
Date (yyyy/dd)	1998/07	1972/19	1991/27	1996/12	1986/19	1968/25	1987/25	1991/10	1979/13	1995/05	1985/04	1986/02		
Extreme Snow Depth (cm)	35	12	32	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15		
Date (yyyy/dd)	1996/03	2002/27	1998/23	1994/07	1983/01+	1983/01+	1983/01+	1983/01+	1983/01+	1983/01+	1991/01+	1995/20		
Days with Maximum Temperature:														
<= 0 °C	16.6	14.6	6.5	0.53	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.5	9.3	49	/
> 0 °C	14.4	13.7	24.5	29.5	31	30	31	31	30	31	28.6	21.7	316.3	/
> 10 °C	0.48	0.5	5.3	14.4	28.7	30	31	31	30	25.2	10	1.7	208.3	/
> 20 °C	0	0	0.24	1.8	9.5	21.5	30.2	29.3	17.2	3.3	0	0	113	/
> 30 °C	0	0	0	0.03	0	0.43	0.7	0.57	0.07	0	0	0	1.8	/
> 35 °C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	/
Days with Minimum Temperature:														
> 0 °C	3	2.8	7.4	20.1	30.6	30	31	31	30	29	18.2	6.8	239.8	/
<= 2 °C	30.2	27.7	27.6	16.3	2	0	0	0	0.15	5.3	17.2	27.5	154	/
<= 0 °C	28	25.5	23.6	9.9	0.43	0	0	0	0.04	2	11.8	24.2	125.5	/
< -2 °C	23.2	20.7	16.4	3.7	0.03	0	0	0	0	0.55	5.4	17.9	87.9	/
< -10 °C	10.3	9.2	3.2	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.14	4.8	27.6	/
< -20 °C	0.55	0.55	0.11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.04	1.3	/

Days with Precipitation:

>= 0.2 mm	6	5.3	9.3	13.3	13	11.8	10.6	10.5	11.9	12.8	13.5	9.7	127.8	/
>= 5 mm	2.2	2.3	3.9	4.5	5.3	5.3	4.4	4.6	5.5	5.3	6.1	3.9	53.4	/
>= 10 mm	1.1	0.9	1.7	2.4	2.7	3.1	2.6	2.8	3.4	2.7	3	1.9	28.3	/
>= 25 mm	0.1	0.07	0.17	0.33	0.37	0.62	0.6	0.87	0.93	0.52	0.41	0.28	5.3	/

Days With Snowfall:

>= 0.2 cm	11.2	8.4	5	1.5	0.07	0	0	0	0	0.03	2.7	8.6	37.5	/
>= 5 cm	3.3	2.5	1.6	0.3	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0.66	2.9	11.3	/
>= 10 cm	1.2	1	0.5	0.1	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0.24	1.1	4.2	/
>= 25 cm	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	0.03	0.33	/

Days with Precipitation:

>= 0.2 mm	16.3	12.8	13.3	14	13	11.8	10.6	10.5	11.9	12.8	15.1	16.5	158.7	/
>= 5 mm	5.6	4.9	5.4	4.9	5.3	5.3	4.4	4.6	5.5	5.3	6.9	7.1	65.3	/
>= 10 mm	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.6	2.7	3.1	2.6	2.8	3.4	2.7	3.3	3.2	32.9	/
>= 25 mm	0.21	0.21	0.3	0.33	0.37	0.62	0.6	0.87	0.93	0.52	0.52	0.34	5.8	/

Degree Days:

Above 24 °C	0	0	0	0	0	1.2	6.6	6.3	1.4	0	0	0	15.4	/
Above 18 °C	0	0	0	0.4	6.9	47.5	114.3	104.2	36.4	1.9	0	0	311.7	/
Above 15 °C	0	0	0	2.1	26.8	110.6	203.5	190.8	85.2	12.4	0.3	0	631.5	/
Above 10 °C	0	0	1.3	16.3	108.1	250	358.4	344.8	212.3	69.8	10.6	0.8	1372.1	/
Above 5 °C	1.3	1.1	15.4	71.8	245.9	399.7	513.4	499.8	360.8	186.4	55	8.3	2358.8	/
Above 0 °C	19.6	19.7	71.6	191.6	400.3	549.7	668.4	654.8	510.8	337.4	158.7	49.5	3632	/

State of emergency lifted, cleanup continues

Wednesday, October 18, 2006 - 02:00

Local News - The state-of-emergency in Fort Erie has been lifted.

Fort Erie Mayor Wayne Redekop made the announcement during a luncheon at the Italo-Canadian Club Tuesday.

The state of emergency, which was put into effect Friday, was officially lifted at 10:17 a.m.

Addressing an audience of about 200 people attending a farewell party in his honour, the mayor, who is not seeking re-election, said it is time to "move on" and that the community is now in "cleanup" mode.

"It's now time to assess the damage and ensure all lives get back to normal," Redekop said.

He described the damage caused by last week's freak snowstorm and the power blackout that resulted from it as "a major setback, but not a setback we can't recover from."

Redekop said he is proud of how locals have gathered together in a time of crisis to ensure neighbours, especially seniors, have been well taken care of.

"The way people have looked out for one another just proves what a strong and caring town Fort Erie really is."

Scattered pockets of Fort Erie were still without power, Tuesday.

Bill Daley, president and chief executive officer of Canadian Niagara Power, said power had been restored to 93 per cent of the the utilities customers with many of the remaining 1,000 or so homes and businesses expected to come back on line by Tuesday evening.

However, Daley said it's likely some customers in the hardest hit areas, where difficult repairs are being made, may take longer. It could be Friday before the last customers are reconnected, he said. Hydro crews are having to contend with soft ground and additional rainfall. Special equipment has been brought in to assist crews trying to replace as many as 70 hydro poles downed during the storm. The snow days are over for Fort Erie's kids. Students at General Vanier school and the Niagara Christian Community of Schools will return to class today, six days after an early snowfall crippled the community.

Students at Niagara Catholic schools and most District School Board of Niagara schools returned to school Tuesday, while students at NCC and General Vanier had an extra day off, while crews made sure the heat and hydro were back on and the area was safe.

Residents are being asked to check on elderly neighbours and family. Contact the region's seniors community programs office at 1-877-212-3922 for more information.

The region has activated a 24-hour telephone hotline providing residents with a pre-recorded status report by calling 905-685-4225, ext. 3002 or 800-236-7215, ext. 3002.

For more information regarding the Region of Niagara's eligibility for limited financial support, call 905-991-1169.

The shelves at Community Outreach Program Erie (COPE) are in need of replenishment.

Due to the large volume of people who have come to the local food bank looking food and financial assistance during the storm, the agency is appealing to the public to come forward with donations of money, food items, toiletries or gift certificates from local stores. COPE is located at 32 Dufferin St., just east of Central Avenue. For more information call 905-871-2526.

- With files from Jennifer Pellegrini, John Robbins and Ray Spiteri

CITY OF BUFFALO OCTOBER SURPRISE STORM TIMELINE

Thursday, October 12, 2006

- 3:00 PM Snow starts falling
- 5:00 PM Snow fall continues, tree branches begin to fall on city streets
- 8:00 PM Power outages start as the trees fall on power lines
- 8:15 PM Mayor's Staff confers with city Homeland Security Coordinator regarding opening
- 8:45 PM Emergency Operations Center (EOC) opened
- 9:00 PM Conference Call with National Grid regarding storm impact and response
- 10:25 PM Mayoral press conference on status of city/storm impact
- 11:30 PM Mayor, County Executive take "windshield tour" of various affected areas in city, primarily in Elmwood Village and Delaware District areas.

Friday, October 13, 2006

- 12:45 AM City Homeland Security Director contacts State Emergency Coordination Center regarding situation in Buffalo.
- 4:20 AM Mayor issues State of Emergency declaration in the city of Buffalo, which includes driving ban imposed on city of Buffalo
- 7:50 AM National Grid reports 70,000 customers in City of Buffalo without power; 230,000 countywide
- 8:30AM City opens office of Citizen Services as call center
- 1:00 PM Governor Pataki Arrives in Erie County; takes aerial tour of city/region with Mayor, County Executive, Congressman Reynolds**
- 2:00 PM Governor's Press Conference**
- Governor Requests Federal Emergency Declaration**
- 5:00 PM Mayor's Emergency Operations Center Press briefing**

Over 2,000 calls already fielded at Citizen Services call center

City Warming Centers Open: Saunders, Richmond-Summer, CRUCIAL Community Center and P.S. 93

Three private tree removal crews operating in city; six additional private crews scheduled to start on 10/14

National Guard Humvees (escorted by Buffalo Fire Department personnel) transport infirm to hospitals and elderly to warming centers

Saturday October 14, 2006

12:00 Noon EOC Staff Briefing

1:30 PM Tour Saunders Warming Center (Bailey Avenue) with Senators Schumer and Clinton

2:30 PM Tour Morgan Parkway/Hancock Road (South Buffalo) with Senators Schumer and Clinton and Congressman Higgins

3:30 PM EOC Press Briefing with Senators Schumer, Clinton and Congressman Higgins

5:30 PM EOC Staff Briefing

81,000 (est.) National Grid city customers without power

Citizen Services call center averaging 3,000 calls

National Guard Humvees (escorted by Buffalo Fire Department personnel) transport infirm to hospitals and elderly to warming centers

Sunday, October 15, 2006

11:00 AM EOC Staff Briefing

12:30 PM Mayor's EOC Press Conference

President Bush issues Federal Emergency Declaration for Erie, Niagara, Genesee and Orleans counties

National Grid workforce: 1,000 line crew workers, 500 forestry workers, and 100

damage survey personnel

Distribution of Emergency Flyers to area churches, warming centers and media outlets

Friday (11/13/06) garbage collection staged; normal collection to resume Monday, October 16th

300 Carbon Monoxide detectors donated by Home Depot, delivered to BFD HQ

5:30 PM EOC Staff Briefing

Monday, October 16, 2006

City Hall reopens/ Buffalo Schools closed

11:00 AM EOC Staff Briefing

12:00 Noon Mayor's EOC Press Conference

Mayor reports felony crimes in city fall 30% between 10/13 to 10/15 versus same time period in 2005

31 city clean-up crews and 69 four-man private clean-up crews in the field; additional 70 four-man crews expected by end of the week

Approximately 11 city streets blocked by debris/downed wires; decreased from 14 streets as of Sunday, 10/15

Power restorations in city increased by 14,000; 67,000 (est.) currently without power, down from 81,000

400 National Grid crews operating in city

Monday, October 16, 2006 (Continued)

2:50 PM Two Carbon Monoxide-related deaths reported at 650 East Utica Avenue

5:00 PM EOC Staff Briefing

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

11:00 AM EOC Staff Briefing

12:00 Noon FEMA/SEMO Briefing with Mayor & Congressman Higgins

1:00 PM Mayor's EOC Press Conference

39,000 National Grid city customers have power restored

Original 74% without power citywide now down to 35%

All city streets open and passable

620 National Grid crews now operating in Buffalo

5:00 PM EOC Staff Briefing

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

2:00 PM EOC Staff Briefing

4:00 PM Mayor's EOC Press Conference

50,529 National Grid city customers have power restored

Original 74% without power down to 25%

Mayor takes New York State Police helicopter for flyover review of condition of city

Mayor announces Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corporation operation Restoration Loans to assist city businesses affected by the storm

Beginning at 5%, loan amounts will range from \$2,500 to \$100,000 and they are available to any qualified business located in the City of Buffalo.

The loans will cover such things as furniture, fixtures and equipment, inventory, materials and supplies, as well as insurance deductibles.

The loan program will run from October 23rd through December 7, 2006.

Mayor thanks Bill Edwards and National Grid for \$50,000 donation to the City of Buffalo, along with the \$200,000 donation they provided to the Buffalo Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Mayor's Administration will use that \$50,000 grant to establish a loan program for city residents who will need to reconnect their home electric lines to National Grid's main

lines.

The objective is to help homeowners cover the cost of hiring electricians to perform this service.

Thursday, October 19, 2006

2:00 PM EOC Staff Briefing

4:00 PM Mayor's EOC Press Conference

66,000 National Grid city customers have power restored

81.2% customers in city have power restored

700 National grid crews now operating in Buffalo

Mayor announces initial cost estimates of storm damage in Buffalo: \$34.5 million

Mayor announces City of Buffalo Electric Reinstatement Grant Program (funded by National Grid \$50,000 grant) the objective is to help homeowners cover the cost of hiring electricians to perform this service.

Grant amounts will available up to \$500.00 per eligible household, which will be based on a verified income of 80 percent or less than the median income, which is determined by established HUD guidelines.

City Planners use mapping technology to see if bus routes are clear as the Buffalo public schools do a "dry run"

Friday, October 20, 2006

2:00 PM EOC Staff Briefing

4:00 PM Mayor's EOC Press Conference

73,000 National Grid city customers have power restored

Over 90% customers in city have power restored

700 National grid crews remain operating in Buffalo

Southside Warming Center closes; three remaining centers will close over weekend

8:00 PM City Hall Citizen Services call center closes; will operate Saturday (10/21) and Sunday (10/22) on 12-hour schedule and will resume normal 8-hour day on Monday (10/23).

City EOC suspends operations

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

President Bush issues Federal Major Disaster Area Declaration for Erie, Niagara, Genesee and Orleans counties

Ontario cities still recovering from freak storm



A woman looks over storm damage at her home in Fort Erie, Ont. A major snowstorm has forced officials in Port Colborne and Fort Erie to declare a state of emergency. (CP / Nathan Denette)



Fort Erie Mayor Wayne Redekop



Brutus struggles in the deep snow after a major snowstorm in Clarence, N.Y., a suburb of Buffalo on Friday Oct. 13, 2006. (AP / David Duprey)

CTV.ca News Staff

Updated: Sat. Oct. 14 2006 11:32 PM ET

The mayor of Fort Erie, Ont. says his town is still recovering from a freak autumn storm that dumped up to 30 centimetres of snow on the region in a 24 hour period.

Mayor Wayne Redekop told CTV Newsnet the situation has improved since Friday, but the city is still devastated by the early blast of winter.

On Saturday he described the situation as a "crisis," and said regaining electricity is the most pressing challenge.

"There's still about 80 per cent of the town without electrical power and there are real challenges with respect to heat and backup of sump pumps," Redekop told CTV Newsnet.

Canadian Niagara Power brought in crews from as far away as Hamilton, Niagara and Cornwall to help repair the damage mostly caused by trees or branches collapsing under the weight of snow and tangling with hydro lines.

"They've probably quadrupled their workforce to deal with this crisis and even with that they're concerned it's going to be another couple of days before everyone has power and then it's going to take literally weeks to get the mess cleaned up," Redekop said.

The damage was magnified because many trees still had their leaves when the storm struck.

"The trees have been snapped off, the branches broken, simply because the weight of the snow which came so early," Redekop said.

"The trees still had a lot of leaves on so they were simply holding the snow, and the branches would bend and finally snap and larger trees would snap. The winds picked up and some of the larger trees were actually uprooted."

Much of the snow has melted, helped in part by rain that followed the storm on Friday, and municipal crews have cleared most of the roads, Redekop said.

But the rain and quick thaw resulted in flooding for many residents.

The Ware family's basement filled with water, damaging furniture and destroying memories.

"I'm devastated," Kim Ware said Saturday while surveying the damage. "I just had a new floor put in my basement ready for carpet and now I've lost everything."

The sudden flooding has fire officials advising parents to be aware of their children.

"The melt now has got all the natural water courses extremely high and fast running, so keep the children away from those types of areas," Fort Erie Fire Chief Jim Douglas said.

Emergency crews are also dealing with fires. The power outage has



Damaged power poles are seen in the city of Fort Erie, Ont., after a snow storm ripped through felling trees and damaging homes. The Canadian Niagara Power Company estimates it could take up to five days to completely restore service. (CP / Nathan Denette)

prompted people to light household fireplaces in an effort to stay warm. But dirty chimneys can lead to devastating blazes.

"Clean your chimneys," Fort Erie Deputy Fire Chief Doug Woehl said. "Keep an eye on them (and use) clean, good burning wood and don't leave them unattended."

Port Colborne recovers

A state of emergency has now been lifted in nearby Port Colborne, Ont. which received about 30-centimetres of snow.

Mayor Ron Bodner said great strides are being made in the attempt to dig out from the storm.

"It doesn't mean that we're out of the woods yet, but simply that we're able to control our own destiny now, and we no longer need that state of emergency," he told CTV Newsnet.

He agreed with Redekop that the damage was exacerbated by the number of leaves still left on the trees.

"If it would have been a few weeks later when the leaves are off the trees we wouldn't be having this conversation. It just brought down so many trees and so many branches on the lines that it was pretty disastrous."

By Saturday, only about 1,200 Port Colborne residents were still without power, and Bodner -- who has been without power himself since Thursday at 5 p.m. -- said he expects everyone to have electricity back by the end of Sunday.

Five counties in western New York state, which was buried by up to 60-centimetres of snow, were still under a state of emergency on Saturday.

In Buffalo at least three deaths have been blamed on the storm. The Erie County Health Department said two people were killed in weather-related traffic accidents, while a third person died after being hit by a falling tree limb while shovelling snow.

As of Saturday, more than 340,000 homes and businesses were without power in western New York, even though repair crews had been working around the clock.

Officials said the job probably won't be finished before next weekend.

Environment Canada meteorologist Geoff Coulson said the early October storm is the most severe since 1870.

With files from The Canadian Press

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State Of Emergency In Fort Erie And Port Colborne, Ont.

Saturday October 14, 2006

Residents in Niagara region may not have electricity until Monday after one of the biggest and earliest snow storms in memory buried parts of southeastern Ontario and Western New York in white.

Approximately 30 cm of snow fell on the region overnight Thursday prompting officials in Fort Erie, Ontario and Port Colborne to declare a state of emergency. Residents are being asked to avoid travel unless it's absolutely necessary.

Yellow tape was used to seal off streets in Port Colborne and crews stood guard to ensure no one wandered into areas with downed power lines.

"Because of the extent of the damage, full restoration might take three to five days," Canadian Niagara Power president Bill Daly said Friday.

The freak storm stunned weather specialists, including Environment Canada's Geoff Coulson, who said the amount of snow that fell is unprecedented.

"We've been trying to look for similar events on record for Fort Erie, but we haven't been able to find anything of this magnitude for this month," he said.

It was even worse in Western New York where 60 cm fell and authorities also declared states of emergency in five counties. Now officials in Buffalo are worried about the possibility of flooding as the snow starts to melt.

Nearly 400,000 homes and businesses in the state are without power and shelters have been set up across the affected counties.

The heavy snow snapped branches, bringing down several power lines on both sides of the border. Officials in the area say the storm may not have been so bad if it had just come a few weeks later when all the leaves had fallen from the trees - they collect the snow and weigh the branches down.

The freak storm has also been blamed for at least three deaths in New York state. Two people were killed in weather-related traffic accidents and a falling tree limb killed another person while they were shoveling snow.

'Historic' October snowstorm blasts Niagara Region

Last Updated: Friday, October 13, 2006 | 12:20 PM ET

[CBC News](#)

A surprise October snowstorm of "historic proportions" hit the Niagara Region in southern Ontario overnight, virtually shutting down an entire town.

Nearly all 30,000 residents of Fort Erie were without electricity Friday morning. Outages also shut down schools and stores.

Fort Erie Mayor Wayne Redekop said the community is no stranger to heavy snow and winter storms, but residents were shocked by this early one.

"I grew up in town and I can tell you it's not unusual for us to get a major storm in November," he said. "But I don't ever remember a major storm of this magnitude in October."

Environment Canada said the storm brought "significant snowfalls of historic proportions."

"This really does stand out as a historic event and one that will be looked at by meteorologists in a number of years to come," said Geoff Coulson, a meteorologist with Environment Canada who specializes in warning preparedness.

The first snowstorm of the year dumped 30 centimetres in the Fort Erie and Port Colborne area. It was part of a system that walloped Buffalo, N.Y., with a record amount of snow and closed down the Peace Bridge, which connects the city to Fort Erie.

Since records were first kept in the 1870s, there are no snowfalls over a 1½-day period that dumped as much snow in the area as early as October, Coulson said.

Without power

Redekop expected most of the town would have power by mid-afternoon, but it could take hydro crews two to four days to clear downed hydro lines and restore power to the entire area.

Zero visibility caused by blowing snow closed a section of the Queen Elizabeth Way entering Fort Erie.

Ontario Provincial Police urged motorists to avoid the area until further notice.

Environment Canada said the storm could bring 15 more centimetres to the region Friday.

Snowsqualls off Lake Huron also left parts of Ontario's Bruce Peninsula, Parry Sound and other cottage country areas covered in snow.



A firefighter makes his way through broken trees and electrical wires after a snowstorm ripped through neighbourhoods, felling trees and damaging homes Friday in Fort Erie. (Nathan Denette/Canadian Press)



PORT COLBORNE

Ron Bodner
MAYOR

66 CHARLOTTE STREET
PORT COLBORNE, ONTARIO
L3K 3C8

PHONE: 905-835-2900
FAX: 905-835-2969

mayor@city.portcolborne.on.ca
www.city.portcolborne.on.ca

October 24, 2006

Canadian Niagara Power
1130 Bertie Street
P.O. Box 1218
Fort Erie, ON
L2A 5Y2

Dear Bill Daley,

On behalf of myself and the members of council for the City of Port Colborne, I wish to extend our thanks to you and your organization for your cooperation and the assistance you provided during the winter storm of October 12th and 13th. Your assistance was most appreciated by the community and those that were affected.

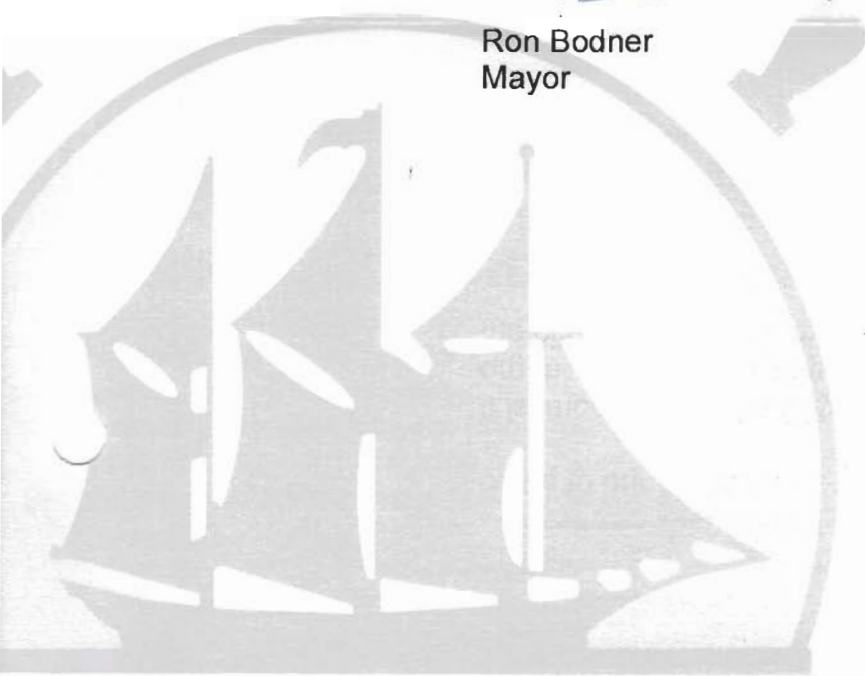
The key to our success in handling this storm was being able to call on your services for assistance. Everyone's quick response to come to our aid reduced the City's "down time" considerably.

It is important for the City to have good working relationships with organizations, such as yours. It is partnerships like these that keep the city moving in a forward direction.

Once again, thank you for your assistance. I look forward to our continued partnership for years to come.

Yours truly,

Ron Bodner
Mayor





FORT COLBORNE

Robert Cotterill, P. Eng.
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

66 CHARLOTTE STREET,
PORT COLBORNE, ON
L3K 3C8

PHONE: 905-835-2900
FAX: 905-835-2969

www.city.portcolborne.on.ca
cao@city.portcolborne.on.ca

October 24, 2006

Canadian Niagara Power
1130 Bertie Street
P.O. Box 1218
Fort Erie, ON
L2A 5Y2

Dear Bill Daley,

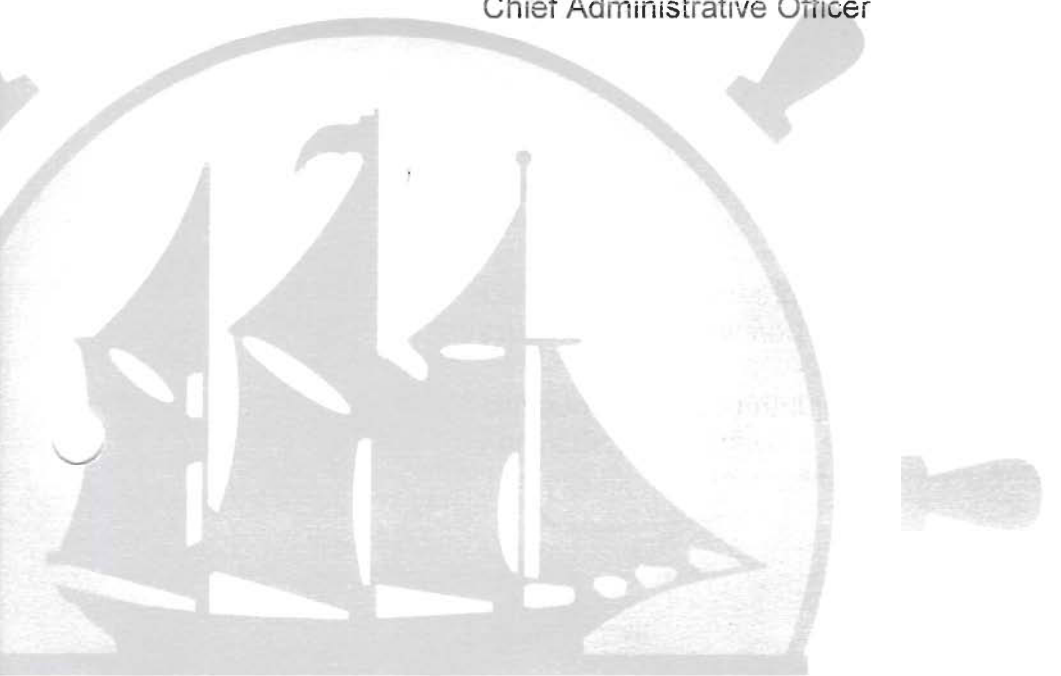
I personally want to thank you for your cooperation and assistance during the bizarre storm that hit Port Colborne on October 12th and 13th. Without the assistance of the Canadian Niagara Power Inc. services, and your quick actions to call in other companies, we would not have recovered from the damage we sustained as quickly and efficiently as we did.

The City is very fortunate to have a good working relationship with your organization. Your assistance did not go unnoticed by the citizens of this community.

Once again, thank you. I hope to continue working in such a cooperative manner in the future.

Yours truly,

Robert Cotterill, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer



THANK YOU NOTES FROM GRATEFUL CUSTOMERS

To: Daley, Bill
From: Tina Albert
Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2006 8:02 PM

I just wanted to let you know that your crews are doing a fantastic job. It's outstanding how far they have come repairing the damage that has ravaged Fort Erie and Port Colborne.

I am overwhelmed with the magnitude of the repairs that need to be completed and I thank everyone of your workers and all others from outside Fort Erie that have come to our aid, They are truly hero's in my eyes.

Thank You
Tina Albert

To: Kristine Carmichael
From: Nick van Heeren, Fort Erie
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2006 3:43 PM

We live on Wintemute St and I couldn't believe we got our power back on yesterday! Everyone at CNP should be applauded for working so hard and efficiently in such horrible conditions

Nick van Heeren, 26 Wintemute, Fort Erie

To: Bill Daley
From: Yvette Brown, Fort Erie
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2006 12:36 PM

Please extend my deepest thanks to all the workers from near and far who helped to restore power to our area. With the 24 hour work schedule, they managed to get power to my little corner of the world off Nigh Road without fuss or fight. Day and night these people put our needs ahead of their own to aid us.

Once again, thank you.

From a grateful resident.



3240 Mavis Road
Mississauga, Ontario
L5C 3K1

Tel: 905.273.9050
Fax: 905.279.2103

www.enersource.com

Date November 2, 2006

Canadian Niagara Power
1130 Bertie Street
P.O. Box 1218
Fort Erie,
Ontario
L2A 5Y2

Attention: Bill Daly

Re: Emergency Response

Dear Mr. Daly,

Thank you for the opportunity to lend assistance to your utility in your time of need. Our staff that responded very much enjoyed working with your staff and appreciated their hospitality. Our staff was also very complimentary on how well your staff organized the entire process. Restoring power to your entire system within such a short period of time is a truly remarkable accomplishment.

Attached is the invoice for the labour, equipment and material that were supplied to you by Enersource Hydro Mississauga. If you have any questions or require any clarification please feel free to contact myself at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Morrison', is written over the typed name.

Doug Morrison, P.Eng.,
Senior Manager of Distribution & Standards
Enersource Hydro Mississauga
(905) 283-4112



President Declares Emergency Federal Aid For New York

Release Date: October 15, 2006

Release Number: HQ-06-147

» More Information on New York Snowstorm

» 2006 Region II News Releases

» En Español

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today announced that federal aid has been made available to supplement state and local response efforts in the area struck by a lake effect snowstorm on October 12, 2006, and continuing.

FEMA Director David Paulison said federal funding is available to coordinate all disaster relief efforts which have the purpose of alleviating the hardship and suffering caused by the emergency on the local population, and to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in the counties of Erie, Genesee, Orleans, and Niagara.

Paulison said that FEMA has been specifically authorized to identify, mobilize, and provide at its discretion, equipment and resources necessary to alleviate the impacts of the emergency. Debris removal and emergency protective measures will be provided at 75 percent Federal funding.

Paulison named Marianne C. Jackson as the Federal Coordinating Officer for federal recovery operations in the affected area.

FEMA manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident, initiates mitigation activities and manages the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA works closely with state and local emergency managers, law enforcement personnel, firefighters and other first responders. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.



CITY OF PORT COLBORNE
Municipal Offices
66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario
L3K 3C8

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

October 24th, 2006.

The Honourable John Gerretsen,
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor,
Toronto, ON M5G 2E5

Dear Mr. Minister:

**City of Port Colborne Resolution
Requesting Assistance Under ODRAP Program**

At its meeting of October 23rd, 2006, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

"WHEREAS, the municipality of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne recently experienced a snow and wind storm on October 12 and 13, 2006, the Council of the municipality of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne hereby requests the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to declare the City of Port Colborne a "disaster area" for the purposes of the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP);

And further, should the Minister declare a disaster, Council will immediately, under the authority of ODRAP, appoint members to a disaster relief committee to administer ODRAP, as required."

Your favourable consideration of Council's resolution would be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly

Janet Beckett
City Clerk

JB:lw

cc: T. Hudak, MPP