

## First Quarter 2009

### Message from the Chairman of the Board and the President and Chief Executive Officer

#### Summary of results

Income from continuing operations totaled \$1,407 million in the first quarter of 2009, for an increase of \$74 million over the same period of 2008. Net electricity exports by Hydro-Québec Production decreased by \$84 million on account of a 1.4-TWh reduction in volume related to unavailability of generating capacity for export because of colder temperatures in Québec in 2009. The depreciation of the Canadian dollar and the positive effect of hedging aluminum prices increased income by \$41 million. Moreover, capital tax and financial expenses decreased by \$18 million and \$64 million, respectively.

With regard to discontinued operations, a non-recurring gain of \$117 million related to the price adjustment provided for in the contract for the sale of the company's interest in Transelec, in Chile, had been recognized in 2008.

Net income for the first quarter therefore amounted to \$1,407 million, a \$43-million decrease from 2008.

#### Consolidated results

**Revenue** increased by \$101 million to stand at \$3,872 million. Revenue from electricity sales totaled \$3,802 million, with the Québec market accounting for \$3,348 million of this amount, an increase of \$192 million over 2008. Revenue from markets outside Québec totaled \$454 million, a decrease of \$91 million.

In Québec, the \$192-million increase in revenue from electricity sales was mainly the result of colder temperatures in 2009 and the April 1, 2008 rate adjustment. It was also due to the depreciation of the Canadian dollar and the positive effect of hedging aluminum prices, which are items absorbed by Hydro-Québec Production.

On markets outside Québec, the \$91-million decrease was attributable to a reduction in the volume of exports by Hydro-Québec Production, which was mitigated by the depreciation of the Canadian dollar.

**Total expenditure** amounted to \$1,914 million, for growth of \$91 million over 2008, due mainly to a \$66-million increase in electricity purchases by Hydro-Québec Distribution because of the colder temperatures in 2009, as well as a \$41-million increase in the amortization expense for net costs related to the retirement of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets; this expense was recognized in accordance with the

conditions established by the Régie de l'énergie. These factors were mitigated by an \$18-million decrease in capital tax as a result of a reduction in the tax rate.

**Financial expenses** were \$551 million, compared to \$615 million in 2008, a \$64-million decrease due mainly to lower interest rates and an increase in capitalized financial expenses.

## Segmented results

### *Generation*

Hydro-Québec Production posted net income of \$868 million, a year-over-year increase of \$6 million. Net electricity exports decreased by \$84 million on account of a 1.4-TWh reduction in volume, mitigated by the depreciation of the Canadian dollar. This volume reduction led to a \$13-million decrease in transmission capacity reservation expenses. In Québec, the depreciation of the Canadian dollar and the positive effect of hedging aluminum prices resulted in a \$41-million increase in income. Furthermore, capital tax and financial expenses decreased by \$9 million and \$22 million, respectively.

### *Transmission*

Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie's net income amounted to \$128 million, a \$9-million increase over 2008. Revenue from native load transmission service increased by \$12 million, while revenue from point-to-point transmission services provided to Hydro-Québec Production decreased by \$13 million. The amortization expense for net costs related to the retirement of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets, recognized in accordance with the conditions established by the Régie de l'énergie, increased by \$18 million. Capital tax and financial expenses decreased by \$7 million and \$22 million, respectively.

### *Distribution*

Hydro-Québec Distribution recorded net income of \$417 million, compared to \$353 million in 2008, for an increase of \$64 million. The \$135-million increase in revenue from electricity sales was mitigated by a \$59-million increase in net electricity purchases and transmission costs. The amortization expense for net costs related to the retirement of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets, recognized in accordance with the conditions established by the Régie de l'énergie, increased by \$23 million. Capital tax and financial expenses decreased by \$3 million and \$14 million, respectively.

### *Construction*

The Construction segment comprises the operations of Hydro-Québec Équipement and Société d'énergie de la Baie James.

For the first quarter of 2009, the volume of activity in this segment totaled \$395 million, compared to \$345 million in 2008. Among the major projects underway are Eastmain-1-A/Sarcelle/Rupert and the 1,250-MW interconnection with Ontario. Hydro-Québec Équipement also continued with engineering and procurement activities to refurbish Gentilly-2 nuclear generating station in Bécancour.

## Investment

As at March 31, 2009, investments in property, plant and equipment, intangible assets and the Energy Efficiency Plan totaled \$689 million, compared to \$641 million in 2008. As anticipated, a large portion of this amount was devoted to the capital projects of Hydro-Québec Production, especially the Eastmain-1-A/Sarcelle/Rupert hydroelectric development.

Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie continued investing in its transmission system to bring new generating facilities onto the grid. It also pursued construction of the interconnection with Ontario and carried on work to ensure long-term operability of all its facilities. Hydro-Québec Distribution kept up investments to meet growth in demand in the Residential and farm category, improve service quality and implement the Energy Efficiency Plan.

## Financing

In January 2009, two financings maturing on February 15, 2050, raised \$1,009 million on the Canadian market. The cost of these borrowings was 4.95%.



Michael L. Turcotte  
Chairman of the Board



Thierry Vandal  
President and Chief Executive Officer

May 14, 2009

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**In millions of Canadian dollars  
(unaudited)

		Three months ended March 31	
	Notes	2009	2008
<b>Revenue</b>		<b>3,872</b>	3,771
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Operations		<b>613</b>	614
Electricity and fuel purchases		<b>419</b>	337
Depreciation and amortization	4	<b>590</b>	575
Taxes		<b>292</b>	298
Regulatory deferrals		-	(1)
		<b>1,914</b>	1,823
<b>Operating income</b>		<b>1,958</b>	1,948
Financial expenses	5	<b>551</b>	615
Income from continuing operations		<b>1,407</b>	1,333
Income from discontinued operations	6	-	117
<b>Net income</b>		<b>1,407</b>	1,450

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF RETAINED EARNINGS**In millions of Canadian dollars  
(unaudited)

		Three months ended March 31	
		2009	2008
Balance, beginning of period		<b>16,445</b>	15,556
Net income		<b>1,407</b>	1,450
Balance, end of period		<b>17,852</b>	17,006

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.*

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**In millions of Canadian dollars  
(unaudited)

	Notes	As at March 31, 2009	As at December 31, 2008
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		1,014	370
Short-term investments		1,778	3,545
Accounts receivable		2,654	1,966
Derivative instruments		613	659
Materials, fuel and supplies		272	290
		<u>6,331</u>	<u>6,830</u>
Property, plant and equipment		55,196	54,987
Investments		106	108
Derivative instruments		1,497	1,428
Intangible assets		873	880
Regulatory assets		1,073	1,167
Other assets		1,399	1,374
		<u>66,475</u>	<u>66,774</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings		172	91
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		1,727	1,948
Dividends payable		-	2,252
Accrued interest		534	915
Regulatory liabilities		38	56
Current portion of long-term debt		785	770
Derivative instruments		125	82
		<u>3,381</u>	<u>6,114</u>
Long-term debt		36,605	35,290
Derivative instruments		1,629	1,887
Asset retirement obligations		307	300
Regulatory liabilities		-	6
Other long-term liabilities		771	760
Perpetual debt		365	355
		<u>43,058</u>	<u>44,712</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Share capital		4,374	4,374
Retained earnings		17,852	16,445
Accumulated other comprehensive income	7	1,191	1,243
		<u>19,043</u>	<u>17,688</u>
		<u>23,417</u>	<u>22,062</u>
		<u>66,475</u>	<u>66,774</u>

Commitments and contingencies

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*The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.*

On behalf of the Board of Directors,



**Jacques Leblanc**  
Chair of the Audit Committee



**Michael L. Turcotte**  
Chairman of the Board

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**In millions of Canadian dollars  
(unaudited)Three months ended  
March 31

	Notes	2009	2008
<b>Operating activities</b>			
Net income		1,407	1,450
Income from discontinued operations	6	-	(117)
Income from continuing operations		1,407	1,333
Adjustments			
Depreciation and amortization	4	590	575
Amortization of debt premiums, discounts and issue expenses	5	32	29
Difference between contributions paid and pension cost		(53)	(14)
Regulatory deferrals		-	(1)
Other		(51)	(11)
Change in non-cash working capital items	8	(1,260)	(1,345)
		665	566
<b>Investing activities</b>			
Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets		(658)	(610)
Investments		-	56
Acquisition of investment, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired		(17)	-
Costs related to Energy Efficiency Plan		(31)	(31)
Net disposal of short-term investments		1,779	1,826
		1,073	1,241
<b>Financing activities</b>			
Issuance of long-term debt		1,032	500
Repayment of long-term debt		(2)	(1,141)
Inflows resulting from credit risk management		345	75
Outflows resulting from credit risk management		(300)	-
Net change in short-term borrowings		81	413
Dividends paid		(2,252)	(1,372)
Other		(1)	(1)
		(1,097)	(1,526)
<b>Foreign currency effect on cash and cash equivalents</b>			
		3	3
<b>Net change in cash and cash equivalents</b>			
		644	284
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period</b>			
		370	54
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>			
		1,014	338

Supplementary cash flow information

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*The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.*

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**In millions of Canadian dollars  
(unaudited)

	Three months ended March 31	
	<b>2009</b>	2008
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>1,407</b>	1,450
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		
Change in deferred gains (losses) on items designated as cash flow hedges	<b>64</b>	(15)
Reclassification to operations of deferred gains on items designated as cash flow hedges	<b>(116)</b>	(57)
	<u><b>(52)</b></u>	<u>(72)</u>
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
<b>Comprehensive income</b>	<b>1,355</b>	1,381
	<u><u>          </u></u>	<u><u>          </u></u>

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (unaudited)

For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2009 and 2008

*Amounts in tables are in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise indicated.*

### Note 1 - Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and reflect the decisions of the Régie de l'énergie (the "Régie"). These decisions affect the timing of the recognition of certain transactions in consolidated operations, resulting in the recognition of regulatory assets and liabilities, which Hydro-Québec considers it is likely to recover or settle subsequently through the rate-setting process. The quarterly consolidated financial statements, including the present Notes, do not contain all the required information regarding the audited annual consolidated financial statements and should therefore be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying Notes in Hydro-Québec's *Annual Report 2008*.

The accounting policies used to prepare the quarterly consolidated financial statements conform to those presented in Hydro-Québec's *Annual Report 2008*, except as regards the changes in accounting policies described in Notes 2 and 3.

Some of the data for the corresponding period of the previous year have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in the current year.

Hydro-Québec's quarterly results are not necessarily indicative of results for the year on account of seasonal temperature fluctuations. Because of higher electricity demand during winter months, revenue from electricity sales in Québec is higher during the first and fourth quarters.

### Note 2 - Changes in Accounting Policies

#### Recent Changes

##### 2009

#### *Goodwill and Intangible Assets*

On January 1, 2009, Hydro-Québec adopted the recommendations of Section 3064 of the *Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) Handbook*, "Goodwill and Intangible Assets," which superseded Section 3062, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," and Section 3450, "Research and Development Costs." Section 3064 establishes standards for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of goodwill and intangible assets. The adoption of these recommendations had no material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

#### *Regulated Activities*

On January 1, 2009, the temporary exemption provided for in *CICA Handbook* Section 1100, "Generally Accepted Accounting Principles," which allowed the recognition and measurement of regulatory assets and liabilities, was withdrawn. However, based on *Statement of Financial Accounting Standard (SFAS) No. 71*, "Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation," issued by the U.S. Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), Hydro-Québec is maintaining the current accounting treatment for regulatory assets and liabilities, pursuant to a practice allowed by Canadian GAAP. The withdrawal of the exemption therefore had no impact on the consolidated financial statements.

#### *Credit Risk and Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities*

On January 20, 2009, the Emerging Issues Committee (EIC) of the CICA released *Abstract of Issue Discussed EIC-173*, "Credit Risk and the Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities." EIC-173 clarifies that an entity's own credit risk and the credit risk of the counterparty should be taken into account in determining the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities, including derivative instruments. The adoption of the recommendations in this abstract had no material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

## **Note 2 - Changes in Accounting Policies (continued)**

### **Future Changes**

#### ***Business Combinations***

In January 2009, the CICA issued Section 1582, "Business Combinations," which superseded Section 1581, "Business Combinations." Section 1582 establishes the principles and requirements for how the acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree. It will apply prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is in a fiscal year beginning on or after January 1, 2011. However, early adoption is permitted.

#### ***Consolidated Financial Statements and Non-Controlling Interests***

In January 2009, the CICA issued Section 1601, "Consolidated Financial Statements," and Section 1602, "Non-Controlling Interests," which superseded Section 1600, "Consolidated Financial Statements." Section 1601 establishes standards for the preparation of consolidated financial statements. Section 1602 establishes standards for accounting for a non-controlling interest in a subsidiary in consolidated financial statements subsequent to a business combination. These sections will apply to interim and annual financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2011. However, early adoption is permitted as of the beginning of a fiscal year.

#### ***International Financial Reporting Standards***

On February 13, 2008, the Canadian Accounting Standards Board (AcSB) confirmed that the complete changeover to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) would take effect for interim and annual financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2011. Hydro-Québec is currently examining the issues involved in the changeover from Canadian GAAP to IFRS.

## **Note 3 - Effect of Rate Regulation on the Consolidated Financial Statements**

### **TRANSMISSION**

In decision D-2009-023 of March 17, 2009, the Régie set Hydro-Québec's power transmission rates effective January 1, 2009. The new rates take into account a 7.65% return on the rate base, assuming a capitalization with 30% equity.

### **DISTRIBUTION**

In decision D-2009-021 of March 16, 2009, the Régie granted an across-the-board increase of 1.22% in Hydro-Québec's electricity rates, effective April 1, 2009. This increase takes into account a 7.42% return on the rate base in 2009, assuming a capitalization with 35% equity.

In addition, the Régie accepted the Distributor's and the Transmission Provider's proposal to recognize net costs related to the retirement of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets in the statement of operations for the year in which they are incurred. The balance of the related account as at December 31, 2008, will therefore be expensed in 2009, and an amortization expense of \$53 million was recorded in this regard as at March 31, 2009.

**Note 4 - Depreciation and Amortization**

	Three months ended March 31	
	2009	2008
Property, plant and equipment <sup>a</sup>	453	474
Intangible assets	32	29
Regulatory assets and liabilities	102	70
Deferred charges	-	2
Projects written off	3	-
	<u>590</u>	<u>575</u>

a) In fiscal 2009, Hydro-Québec will revise the useful life of some property, plant and equipment used for hydraulic generation, which could have a major impact on the depreciation and amortization expense.

**Note 5 - Financial Expenses**

	Three months ended March 31	
	2009	2008
<b>Interest</b>		
Interest on debt securities	576	620
Amortization of debt premiums, discounts and issue expenses	32	29
	<u>608</u>	<u>649</u>
<b>Net exchange (gain) loss</b>	(7)	20
<b>Loan guarantee fees</b>	44	42
	<u>37</u>	<u>62</u>
Less		
Capitalized financial expenses	76	67
Net investment income	18	29
	<u>94</u>	<u>96</u>
	<u>551</u>	<u>615</u>

**Note 6 - Discontinued Operations**

In the first quarter of 2008, Hydro-Québec recognized a gain of \$117 million, net of \$25 million in related income taxes, for the price adjustment provided for in the contract for the sale of its interest in HQI Transelec Chile S.A. (Transelec). This adjustment was made following the ministerial order issued on January 15, 2008, establishing the value of the regulated trunk transmission asset base of Transelec.

**Note 7 - Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income**

	As at March 31, 2009		
	Cash flow hedges	Other	Total
Balance, beginning of period	1,243	-	<b>1,243</b>
Changes during the period	<u>(52)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>(52)</b></u>
Balance, end of period	1,191	-	<b>1,191</b>

	As at March 31, 2008		
	Cash flow hedges	Other	Total
Balance, beginning of period	965	(3)	962
Changes during the period	<u>(72)</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>(69)</u>
Balance, end of period	893	-	893

**Note 8 - Supplementary Cash Flow Information**

	Three months ended March 31	
	<b>2009</b>	2008
<b>Change in non-cash working capital items</b>		
Accounts receivable	<b>(679)</b>	(803)
Materials, fuel and supplies	<b>16</b>	(18)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<b>(211)</b>	(119)
Accrued interest	<u><b>(386)</b></u>	<u>(405)</u>
	<b>(1,260)</b>	(1,345)
<b>Investing activities not affecting cash</b>		
Increase in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	<b>16</b>	12
<b>Interest paid</b>	<b>929</b>	924

**Note 9 - Employee Future Benefits**

	Three months ended March 31			
	Pension Plan		Other plans	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
Accrued benefit cost recognized	14	44	26	26

**Note 10 - Commitments and Contingencies****Guarantees**

As at March 31, 2009, the potential maximum amount Hydro-Québec could have had to pay under letters of credit or guarantees provided as security totaled \$413 million. Of this amount, \$334 million was related to energy purchases. Guarantees amounting to \$145 million will expire between 2009 and 2019, while others totaling \$268 million do not have maturity dates.

Hydro-Québec provided guarantees to the purchasers of its interests with respect to contingent tax liabilities and certain other customary representations. These guarantees, for which no liability was recognized, will be in effect until the applicable limitation periods expire.

**Note 11 - Segmented Information**

The following tables contain information related to operations and assets by segment:

Three months ended  
March 31, 2009

	Generation	Transmission	Distribution	Construction	Corporate and Other Activities	Intersegment eliminations and adjustments	Total
Revenue							
External customers	487	11	3,371	-	2	1 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3,872</b>
Intersegment	1,524	702	18	395	274	(2,913)	-
Income (loss) from continuing operations	868	128	417	(1)	(9)	4	<b>1,407</b>
Net income (loss)	868	128	417	(1)	(9)	4	<b>1,407</b>
Total assets as at March 31, 2009	31,016	17,262	12,577	354	5,666	(400)	<b>66,475</b>

a) Resales of excess supply by Hydro-Québec Distribution on outside markets are presented as offsets of electricity purchases rather than in Revenue.

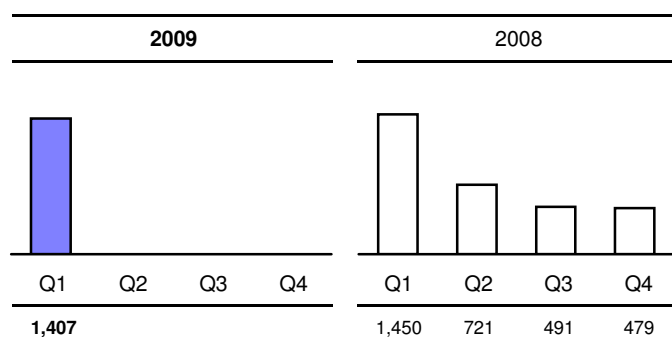
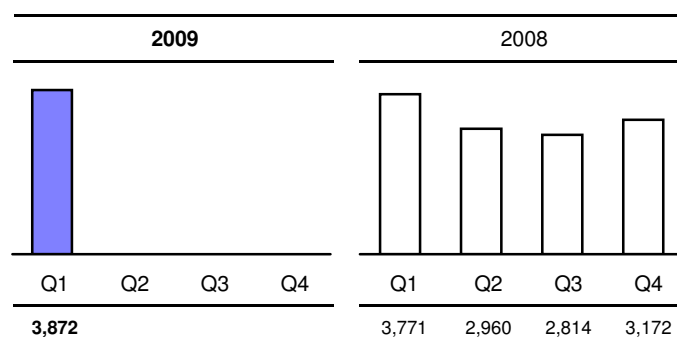
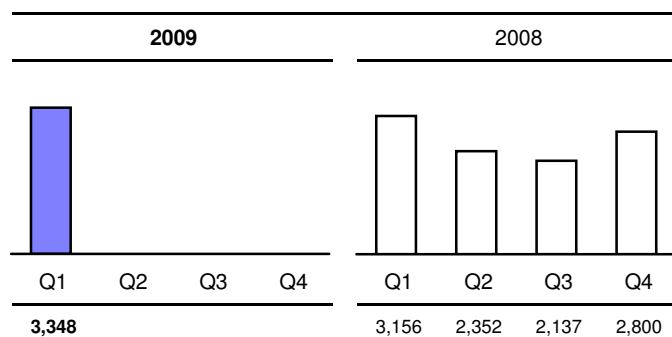
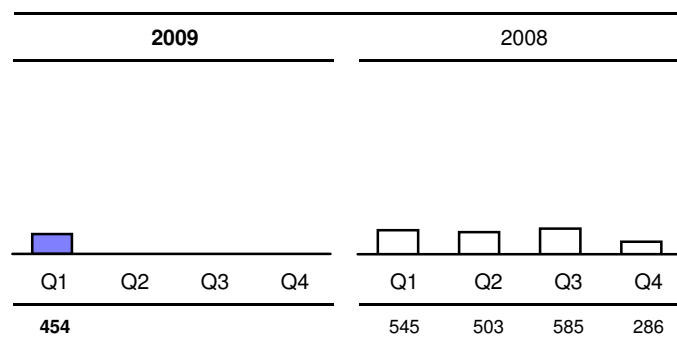
Three months ended  
March 31, 2008

	Generation	Transmission	Distribution	Construction	Corporate and Other Activities	Intersegment eliminations and adjustments	Total
Revenue							
External customers	578	11	3,176	-	6	-	3,771
Intersegment	1,491	694	15	345	278	(2,823)	-
Income (loss) from continuing operations	862	119	353	-	(4)	3	1,333
Net income	862	119	353	-	113	3	1,450
Total assets as at March 31, 2008	29,810	16,795	12,205	297	5,065	(299)	63,873

**CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

In millions of Canadian dollars  
(unaudited)

Summary of Operations	Three months ended		
	March 31		
	2009	2008	Change (%)
Revenue	3,872	3,771	2.7 ↑
Expenditure	1,914	1,823	5.0 ↑
Financial expenses	551	615	10.4 ↓
Discontinued operations	-	117	100.0 ↓
Net income	1,407	1,450	3.0 ↓

**Net Income****Revenue****Revenue from Electricity Sales in Québec****Revenue from Electricity Sales Outside Québec**

## Quarter Highlights

### Generation

#### *Romaine complex*

In early March, a federal-provincial review panel and a commission of inquiry of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement handed down a favorable opinion on the project to build four hydroelectric developments with a combined capacity of 1,550 MW on the Romaine, in the Minganie region. Subject to the necessary approvals, work will begin in the second quarter of 2009.

At the end of March, the community of Ekuanitshit and Hydro-Québec signed the Nishipimian 2009 agreement in connection with the Romaine project. This was the last of the four affected Innu communities to sign such an agreement. Reflecting Hydro-Québec's wish to partner with host communities, the agreement will enable the Innu of Ekuanitshit to participate in the construction and to play an important role in the environmental follow-up studies. It will also contribute to community development.

### Transmission

#### *Decision of the Régie de l'énergie*

In March, the Régie de l'énergie set the power transmission rates and conditions of service of Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie, effective January 1, 2009. The decision provides for an increase in revenue for native load transmission service from \$2,529 million to \$2,575 million.

#### *Chénier–Outaouais line*

In January, the Québec government authorized the start of construction on the Chénier–Outaouais line. The \$214-million project, approved by the Régie de l'énergie in March 2008, is part of the future 1,250-MW interconnection with Ontario. The 315-kV, 115-km line will be erected within an existing right-of-way. The new interconnection will double Québec's export capacity to Ontario and enhance security of supply in the Outaouais region.

### Distribution

#### *Decisions of the Régie de l'énergie*

In March, the Régie de l'énergie authorized Hydro-Québec Distribution to increase its **electricity rates** by 1.22% as of April 1, 2009. This translates into an increase of \$1.24 in the monthly bill of an average residential customer.

The Régie also approved a budget of \$262 million for the 2009 **Energy Efficiency Plan** (EEP). The energy savings target for the year has been set at 924 GWh. A budget envelope of \$15.4 million has been allocated to special programs for low-income customers. Hydro-Québec Distribution is now aiming to achieve annual savings of 5.8 TWh by 2010, by which time the division will have invested nearly \$1.2 billion in the EEP since the plan was launched in 2003.

## **Technological innovation**

### *Electric vehicle*

Hydro-Québec subsidiary TM4 has been chosen by the Indian automaker Tata Motors and its European subsidiary Miljø Innovasjon to supply electric motors, inverters and electronic controls for a hundred cars. The vehicles will be used by Miljø in Norway to demonstrate an all-electric version of the new Indica Vista in 2009–2010. TM4's electric vehicle motors are the fruit of 10 years of R&D.