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For Immediate Release
January 19, 2010

Ontario Power Generation Inc. Fined \$100,000 After Worker Injured

Dryden, Ont. – Ontario Power Generation Inc., pleaded guilty and was fined \$100,000 yesterday for a violation under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) after a worker was injured.

On January 15, 2008, two maintenance workers at the company's Atikokan operating station were called to examine some malfunctioning equipment. The equipment was locked in a chamber to protect workers from its electrically energized, moving apparatus. A lockout system required equipment to be electrically de-energized, grounded and locked out before the chamber could open. An equipment operator used a bypass key to circumvent the lockout system and open a hatch door while the equipment was still energized. One of the workers shone a flashlight into the open door, causing an arc flash of electricity. The arc flash burned the worker's hand, arm and chest.

A Ministry of Labour investigation found that the key used to bypass the lockout system was available to workers.

Ontario Power Generation Inc. pleaded guilty to failing to take the reasonable precaution of preventing ready access to the means of circumventing the lockout system.

The fine was imposed by Justice Peter Bishop. In addition to the fine, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

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For further information:

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Court Information at a Glance

Location:	Ontario Court of Justice 479 Government St. Dryden, Ont.
Judge:	Justice Peter Bishop
Date of Conviction:	January 18, 2010
Defendant:	Ontario Power Generation Inc.
Matter:	Occupational Health and Safety
Conviction:	OHSA, Section 25(2)(h)
Crown Counsel:	Katherine Ballweg and Wes Wilson



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