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For Immediate Release

Voith Hydro Canada ready to begin mechanical installation at Riel Converter Station

Voith is a partner with Stuart Olson Industrial Constructors Inc. to build four stations

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (April 19, 2017) – Voith Hydro Canada and Stuart Olson Industrial Constructors Inc. are ready to begin the mechanical portion of the installation process at the Riel Converter Station which is under construction in southern Manitoba. Essential equipment assemblies are currently making their way to the site so that the four Synchronous Condenser units can be installed at the station. The station is part of Manitoba Hydro's Bipole III Transmission Line Project.

The first major piece of equipment, one of the stators, or the stationary portion of the Synchronous Condenser, left Trois-Rivieres (Québec) by rail and is scheduled to arrive on site this month. In the meantime, the first rotor, designed and manufactured in Voith Headquarters in Heidenheim, is currently crossing the Atlantic Ocean towards its final location. Other Voith components will be arriving in the upcoming months, including unit transformers, and the other stators and the rotors. This major project relies on the logistics, scheduling and management of thousands of parts for the installation, involving special shipments by boat and train for the rotors and the Main HV transformers.

In May 2015, Manitoba Hydro awarded a contract to the Consortium Voith Hydro Canada-Stuart Olson for the engineering, supply, construction and commissioning of four synchronous condenser stations within the Riel station.

"The timely delivery and installation of the synchronous condensers by Voith Hydro Canada-Stuart Olson is critical to the Bipole III Transmission Line Project's success and the arrival of the first components at Riel will mark an important milestone as we work towards completion in July 2018," said Shane Mailey, Vice-President of Transmission at Manitoba Hydro.

The Bipole III project requires synchronous condensers at the Riel Converter Station in order to support the operation of the high-voltage direct current (HVDC) equipment and conversion of DC power to AC power for the southern Manitoba power grid. The synchronous condensers will provide additional reactive power for the HVDC conversion process while also controlling the AC voltage on the 230kV bus at Riel to ensure reliable operation of Bipole III.

"Apart from high level performances, Voith Hydro Canada has made strong commitments on the availability of the installation, putting the durability and maintainability of the installation at the center of the design decisions," said Bill Malus, President of Voith Hydro Canada. "We are thrilled to start the next phase of this very important project."

Voith Hydro Canada has devoted its whole manufacturing and purchasing network, involving its own manufacturing facilities in six different locations namely in Germany, India and Brazil, and suppliers in Europe and North America.

About Voith

For 150 years, Voith's technologies have been inspiring customers, business partners and employees around the world. Founded in 1867, Voith today has around 19,000 employees, sales of $4.7 billion and locations in more than 60 countries worldwide and is thus one of the largest family-owned companies in Europe. Being a technology leader, Voith sets standards in the markets of energy, oil & gas, paper, raw materials and transport & automotive.

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