

All About the Gas Power Plant



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Project Summary

- A 500 megawatt gas and diesel power plant is proposed for Tantramar.
- The project would be built and operated by U.S.-based ProEnergy on NB Power land in Centre Village, the Town of Tantramar
- Planned start of operation: 2028
- Construction would clear sections of local wetlands and forested habitat.
- The facility would use 7 million litres of groundwater per day.
- It would store millions of gallons of diesel on site.
- NB Power would be committed to a 25+ year fossil fuel contract with a private U.S. corporation, subject to fuel price instabilities, increasing costs, and border relations.

Why It Matters to Tantramar?

1. Health Risks

- Gas/diesel plants emit NO_x, SO₂, linked to asthma, heart disease, and lung cancer.
- Health Canada attributes 17,400 premature deaths/year to air pollution in Canada.
- PFAS (“forever chemicals”) are released by gas plants and accumulate in birds, wildlife, and humans.

2. Water Security

- 7 million litres/day extraction can lower groundwater tables affecting homes, farms, and wetlands.
- Concentrated brine discharge from reverse-osmosis treatment impacts soil and water systems.
- Diesel spill risk threatens wells and aquifers in a rural, groundwater-dependent region.

3. Climate & Cost Impacts

- The plant will emit more than 900,000 tonnes of CO₂/year.
- A new fossil plant operating into the 2050s conflicts with NB Power’s 2035 net-zero electricity target.
- Gas “peaker plants” and turbine technologies are one of the highest-cost sources of electricity, increasing pressure on NB Power ratepayers.
- Long-term contracts mean hundreds of millions in fixed payments to a U.S. company, while ratepayers carry the financial risk.

4. Ecology & Wildlife Impacts

- The plant site lies within the Chignecto Isthmus, a nationally important wildlife corridor linking NB and NS.
- Clearing forested and wetland areas fragments habitat for migratory birds, amphibians, and mammals.
- Noise, lighting, and traffic from the facility disturb wildlife movement and breeding behaviour.
- The region is part of the UNESCO Fundy Biosphere Reserve, adding ecological significance.

Did You Know?

- The Chignecto Isthmus is one of the most important wildlife corridors in Eastern Canada.
- Tantramar’s wetlands protect communities from flooding, storm surges, and spread of wildfires; wetland loss increases risk.



Why This Matters for New Brunswick's Future

- NB has committed to a net-zero electricity grid by 2035.
- Building new fossil infrastructure locks the province into high emissions and long-term payments.
- Clean energy alternatives improve reliability without sacrificing people's health or nature's ecosystems.
- Clean energy alternatives would mean ratepayers avoid the volatility of global gas markets and long-term contracts with foreign operators.



Better, Cleaner, More Affordable Alternatives

1. Battery Storage

Modern grid-scale batteries provide 4–12 hours of reliable power. Already in use in NB (e.g., Saint John Energy's Tesla Megapacks).

2. Virtual Power Plants (VPPs)

Networks of homes and businesses acting as flexible grid support. Proven in Alberta and California, delivering hundreds of megawatts of capacity.

3. Energy Efficiency

Each \$1 invested in efficiency avoids \$2–3 in new generation costs. Reduces peak demand without building new fossil fuel plants.

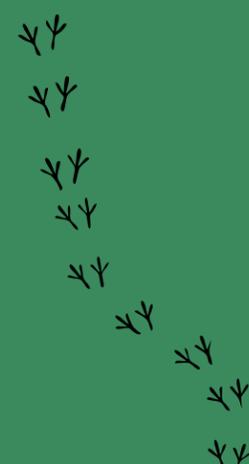
4. Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G)

EV fleets and school buses supply power during peaks. BC Hydro already operates a V2G pilot.

These solutions reduce emissions, protect water and wildlife, and keep energy spending local.



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What Can I Do?



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What else can I do?

Contact your representatives

Email or call your MLA and MP. Tell them you want **NO GAS PLANT** in Tantramar and investment in clean alternatives instead.

Share and mobilize

Help build public visibility by posting your photo, reshare coalition updates and posts, and attend one of our upcoming community information sessions

Use Hashtags like: #pcic.nb #saynotoethetantramargasplant #protectthechignectoisthmus #pcic #StopTheTantramarGasPlant #ProtectTantramar

Get involved

Follow and volunteer with us PCIC/Atlantic Wildlife Institute for meetings, events, and future actions. Email griffin@caravanconsult.com for more information.