



BACKGROUND

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ATTENTION NEWS/ENERGY EDITORS

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RECORD TEMPERATURES MEAN RECORD ELECTRICITY USE

SUMMER 2001 NOW HAS 4 OF 10 TOP USE DAYS EVER

Toronto – August 7, 2001 – Record high temperatures across Ontario have seen the summer of 2001 become the highest electricity use season ever, with four of the top six electricity use days taking place since this June.

“With the extremely hot and humid temperatures this summer, electricity consumption has been at unprecedented levels,” says the IMO’s Chief Operating Officer, Paul Murphy. “This significant increase in demand can be directly attributed to the hot weather and the growing number of air conditioners in homes and businesses across the province.”

“The two highest electricity use days in Ontario’s history have now been set in the summer, with possibly more records to come,” adds Murphy. “We have tended to set a record on the third or fourth workday into a heat wave following a hot and humid night – a scenario we have seen quite often this summer.”

Ontario is not alone in seeing record electricity demand this summer. All-time records have also been established in Michigan, New York, the New England States, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Top 25 All-Time Electricity Demand Days in Ontario

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>20-Minute Peak (MW)</u> | <u>Season</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | August 8, 2001 | 25,000+ | Summer |
| 2 | July 24, 2001 | 24,013 | Summer |
| 3 | January 19, 1994 | 24,007 | Winter |
| 4 | July 23, 2001 | 23,712 | Summer |
| 5 | December 13, 1989 | 23,635 | Winter |
| 6 | June 27, 2001 | 23,608 | Summer |
| 7 | January 16, 1992 | 23,487 | Winter |
| 8 | July 5, 1999 | 23,435 | Summer |
| 9 | December 21, 1989 | 23,433 | Winter |
| 10 | January 17, 2000 | 23,428 | Winter |
| 11 | January 18, 1994 | 23,391 | Winter |
| 12 | December 12, 1989 | 23,352 | Winter |
| 13 | December 14, 1989 | 23,333 | Winter |

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|--------|---------------|
| 14 | June 15, 2001 | 23,325 | Summer |
| 15 | January 13, 1999 | 23,308 | Winter |
| 16 | December 12, 2000 | 23,291 | Winter |
| 17 | December 11, 2000 | 23,269 | Winter |
| 18 | January 26, 1994 | 23,253 | Winter |
| 19 | June 14, 2001 | 23,231 | Summer |
| 20 | August 31, 2000 | 23,222 | Summer |
| 21 | January 21, 1991 | 23,212 | Winter |
| 22 | December 20, 1989 | 23,205 | Winter |
| 23 | June 28, 2001 | 23,196 | Summer |
| 24 | September 1, 2000 | 23,191 | Fall (Summer) |
| 25 | January 15, 1992 | 23,157 | Winter |

Because electricity can't be stored, it must be manufactured and distributed instantaneously to meet customer demand. The IMO is responsible for predicting the electricity needs of 11 million Ontarians every minute of every day and matching the amount of generation needed to meet customer requirements at all times.

The IMO also manages the flow of electricity to local distribution utilities and major wholesale customers in Ontario and will be responsible for managing Ontario's new competitive wholesale electricity marketplace.

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