



Niagara Power Project

Selected Quotes* from U.S. Presidents for First Power Ceremony – February 10, 1961

U. S. President John F. Kennedy: President at the time of the First Power Ceremony.

- The project is “an outstanding engineering achievement and a happy example of teamwork and cooperation between private and public enterprises.”
- “This great power project signifies a new and more prosperous era for the Niagara Frontier...and is an example to the world of North American efficiency and determination.”
- Hear the entire recording at <http://www.jfklibrary.org/Asset-Viewer/Archives/JFKWHA-008.aspx>

U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower: As President, he signed the Niagara Redevelopment Act in 1957 authorizing the Federal Power Commission to issue the New York Power Authority the license to build and operate the Niagara project.

- “The achievement reflects enlightened international, national, and state leadership and cooperation.”
- “The mighty power of the Niagara has been harnessed for public good, and the beauty of historic Niagara Falls has been preserved for all time.”

U.S. President Harry S. Truman: As President, he signed the International Treaty with Canada, with whom the U.S. shares the Niagara River, in 1950 to make additional water available for power product while preserving the beauty of Niagara Falls.

- "As President I signed the treaty with Canada in 1950 which made possible the protection of Niagara Falls and the Niagara Power Project, the greatest hydroelectric development in the western world.”

U.S. President Herbert C. Hoover: Prior to his Presidency, Hoover was appointed by President Calvin Coolidge as Chairman of the American commission to begin dialogue with Canada on use of the Niagara and St. Lawrence rivers for power production.

- “The gigantic benefits to our nation are today a reality.”
- “I am glad to join the celebration of the delivery of the first hydroelectric energy from this enormously expanded use of the Niagara Falls and I salute you for the magnificent job that you and your fellow engineers and associates have accomplished and to express my admiration to the New Yorkers as a whole for the major service they have given to the whole American people...”