



NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY - NIAGARA POWER PROJECT IMPORTANT DATES

- **1757:** Harnessing Niagara River energy begins with a water-powered saw mill for cutting lumber.
- **December 14, 1881:** On this day electricity was produced by the Niagara River powering two mills, several stores, some streets and the offices of the Niagara Falls Gazette. Until this time the only power produced by the river had been mechanical.
- **1895:** Large scale electricity production on the Niagara River began at what became known as the Edward Dean Adams Station.
- **February 27, 1950:** The United States and Canada signed a treaty to both preserve the beauty of Niagara Falls and make more water available for power production.
- **March 20, 1951:** The federal Power Authority Act is amended to include hydroelectric development of the Niagara River and the St. Lawrence River.
- **June 7, 1956:** Events leading to the construction of the Niagara Power Project began, when a devastating rockslide destroyed the Niagara Mohawk's Schoellkopf hydropower plant.
- **August 21, 1957:** President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Niagara Redevelopment Act in 1957 directing the Federal Power Commission (now known as FERC, the Federal Energy Regulating Commission) to issue NYPA a license to build the Niagara project. The license was issued on January 30, 1958.
- **March 18, 1958:** Construction begins on the Niagara project; led by the NYPA Chairman Robert Moses, now known to many as New York's "master builder."
- **January 28, 1961:** First power was achieved at the Niagara project.
- **February 10, 1961:** First power commemoration at neighboring Niagara University Student Center with nearly 4,500 guests highlighted by a message from President John F. Kennedy.
- **October 11, 1962:** The Niagara project was declared to be in full operation.
- **July 19, 1963:** The Niagara project's visitors center, the Power Vista, with sweeping views of the surrounding Niagara River gorge, was dedicated and opened. In 2001, it received a \$2.3 million renovation. The total number of visitors to the Power Vista as of 12-31-10 is 6,752,727.
- **September 1, 2007:** a new 50-year license took effect ensuring that a valuable source of low-cost power for Western New York will continue operating for another half-century with power, environmental and recreational benefits to be provided by NYPA and valued at over \$1 billion.