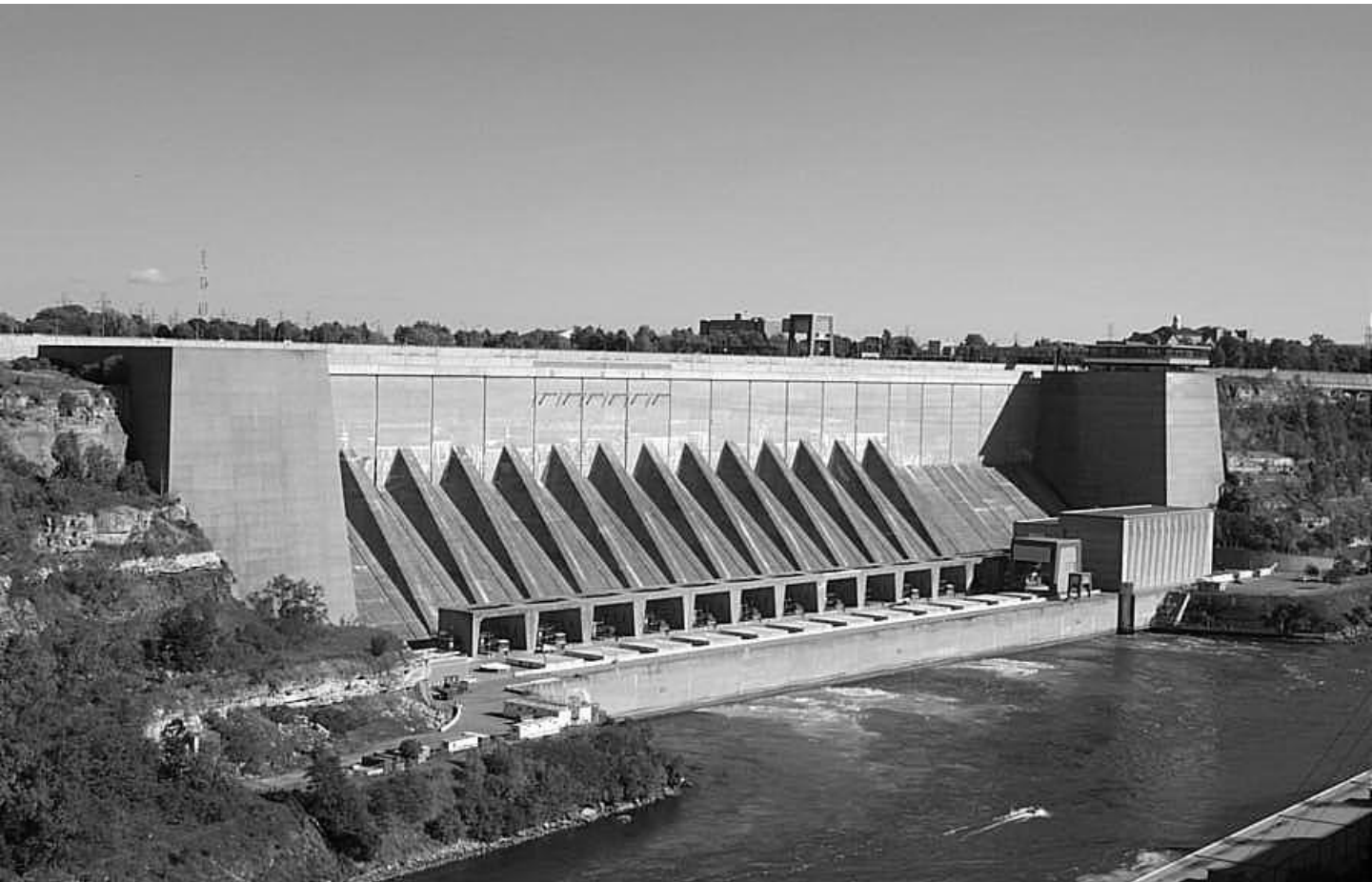


Public Opinion on a Loan Guarantee for the Lower Churchill Hydro Project

Abacus Data poll: April 11 - 15, 2011, n=1,005 online survey from
representative panel of over 75,000 Canadians



www.abacusdata.ca
Twitter.com/abacusdataca

ABACUS DATA

Public Opinion on Nuclear Power in Canada

Abacus Data: Not your average pollster

Abacus Data Inc. is Canada's newest player in the public opinion and marketing research industry. Whether it's telephone or online surveys, focus groups, one-on-one interviews, or secondary data analysis, the team at Abacus Data conducts public opinion, marketing, or stakeholder research that provides strategic insight to our clients. What sets the team at Abacus Data apart is its fresh perspective on politics, business, and consumer behaviour and a commitment to its clients.

Abacus Data offers its clients a comprehensive research tool kit that includes:

- Custom quantitative studies
- Opinion leader/Decision maker consultations
- The Vertex Panel (www.vertexpanel.ca)
- Omnibus surveys
- Focus groups
- Informal discussions
- Intercept studies
- One-on-one interviews
- Custom community panel creation and management
- Secondary data analysis

Dr. David Coletto – Abacus Data's CEO

David has seven years experience listening and interpreting what voters, consumers, and opinion leaders want and expect from government, business, and the non-profit sectors. He has worked with some of Canada's largest corporations and some of its smallest issue and advocacy groups.

He received his PhD in Political Science from the University of Calgary where he taught Research Methods to undergraduate students.

David is the Pollster for Sun News and a Visiting Fellow at the Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs. He is frequently called upon by news media for his unique perspective on public affairs, millennials, corporate citizenship, and political party finance. He co-authored a chapter in the recently released book *Money, Politics and Democracy* (eds Young and Jansen, UBC Press 2011).

Abacus Data also has a number of unique research practices.

Click on the graphics below for more information.



Methodology

From April 11th – 15th, 2011, Abacus Data Inc. conducted an online survey among 1,005 randomly selected Canadian adults from an online panel of over 75,000 Canadians.

The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is comparable to +/- 3.2%, 19 times out of 20.

Results of the survey were statistically weighted by gender, age, region, language, and immigration status using census data from Statistics Canada and by past vote using Elections Canada results from the 2008 General Election. Totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

For more information about the poll's methodology, visit the Abacus website at www.abacusdata.ca

Question Wording:

Respondents were shown the following table and then asked the question below:

In Favour of Loan Guarantee to Atlantic Canada	Opposed to Loan Guarantee
The Lower Churchill Project is a regional project with national economic and environmental benefits.	The federal government is unfairly subsidizing energy projects in Atlantic Canada when other provinces are struggling to build new power facilities.
It will create thousands of jobs in many regions of the country.	The private sector should be financing this project, not the government.
It reduce carbon emissions by 4.5 million tonnes each year — the equivalent of taking 3.2 million cars off the road year.	All regions of the country suffered because of the economic downturn and the federal government should help all regions create jobs equally.
It will make Atlantic Canada a clean energy powerhouse.	

Based on what you read, do you support or oppose the Prime Minister's pledge to help support the Lower Churchill River Project with a loan guarantee of \$4 billion?

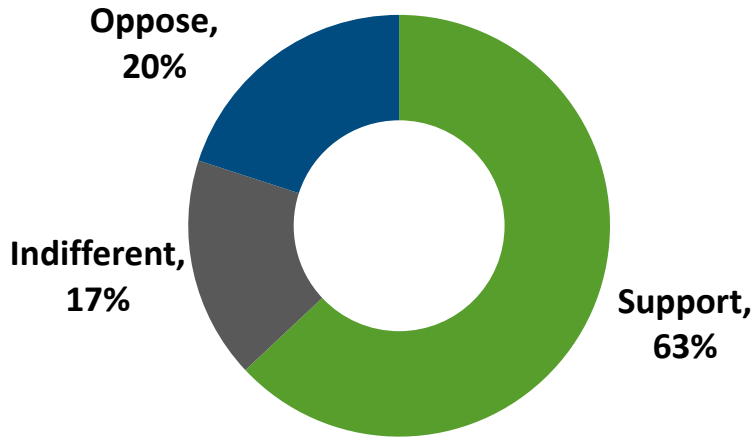
The table below reports the unweighted and weighted distribution by region or province.

Region/Province	Unweighted Count (All Respondents)	Weighted Count (All respondents)
Atlantic Canada	82	82
Quebec	255	266
Ontario	380	366
Prairies (MB and SK)	61	64
Alberta	108	11,1
BC	119	122
Total	1,005	1,011

Support for the Federal Government's loan guarantee

Q: Based on what you read, do you support or oppose the Prime Minister's pledge to help support the Lower Churchill River Project with a loan guarantee of \$4 billion?

Respondents were first presented with a grid outlining some of the pros and cons of the proposed deal and the loan guarantee.



Subgroup Analysis

	Men	Women	CPC	LPC	NDP	Bloc	Green
Support	67.4%	58.5%	87.5%	56.3%	48.3%	12.0%	64.3%
Indifferent	12.9%	21.7%	6.1%	18.8%	29.9%	21.3%	16.7%
Opposed	19.7%	19.8%	6.4%	25.0%	21.8%	66.7%	19.2%
Unweighted count	564	455	316	274	185	67	55

	18-30	31-60	60+	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Central	Alberta	BC
Support	61.3%	63.9%	62.4%	85.4%	21.2%	74.0%	61.9%	81.0%	68.0%
Indifferent	25.0%	16.6%	13.7%	11.0%	22.9%	17.5%	17.5%	10.8%	19.7%
Opposed	13.7%	19.5%	23.9%	3.6%	45.9%	20.6%	20.6%	8.1%	12.3%
Unweighted count	172	499	338	82	255	380	61	108	119

Reasons for Support or Opposition

Q: Why do you feel that way?

Values in the table below were aggregated from the open-text style question into common themes.

Reason for Position	Support Loan Guarantee	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose Loan Guarantee	All Responses
It will produce clean energy	27%	3%	1%	18%
Benefit to Atlantic Canada/They deserve it	19%	1%	-	17%
Benefits all Canadians	19%	2%	-	13%
Unfair for Quebec and other provinces	-	2%	52%	11%
Will create jobs	13%	-	-	9%
Federal government should not be involved	-	5%	21%	5%
No comment/Other comments	15%	87%	26%	29%
Weighted Count	638	175	198	1,011

For more information about this study or Abacus Data Inc.,
please contact:

David Coletto, PhD
Chief Executive Officer
(613) 232-2806 x. 248
david@abacusdata.ca
Twitter.com/ColettoD

To read our analyses and blog, find us online at www.abacusdata.ca