

MacAskill's Brook Reservoir Meets IPEX

Since 1972, the community of Glace Bay, Nova Scotia had been served by two wood stave lines directing raw water intake for two kilometres from the reservoir at MacAskill's Brook Dam to the municipality's water treatment plant. A change was needed.



The engineers designing the project specified PVC pressure pipe, and IPEX Centurion® was chosen. IPEX Centurion® was perfect for this project as it is corrosion resistant and can be field cut to accommodate unexpected changes. The outside diameter of IPEX Centurion® matches that of its cast-iron equivalents (CIOD), and it can also be fitted with nitrile gaskets that are essential when working in corrosive soil conditions. IPEX's patented gasket system withstands many times the rated system pressure and full vacuum pressures.

The project met a few challenges along the way, including working through the winter. Eric Connors of Dillon Consulting in Sydney, NS stated, "The Centurion® DR25 is a better choice for winter installations in that ice and snow don't adhere and freeze in the way that ductile iron is prone to. Also, what does freeze to the pipe seems to be removed with a lot less time and effort, thereby allowing the whole install to progress at an accelerated rate."

Other challenges on the project included wet conditions, water table issues, and coping with sections of the line running through rock and slate. In spite of these issues, the final result was problem free. For the final pressure test, 2300 meters of 30-inch pipeline were filled with water over a 24-hour period to a pressure of 100 psi. There was no drop in pressure, which spoke to the excellence of the installation.

“The product performed to my expectations and beyond. I would not hesitate to use IPEX Centurion® in the future.”

David Cantwell
Northern Contracting Limited

Another challenge of the project was having to curve the pipeline. This curve was achieved by deflecting the joints by a couple of degrees to eventually get the pipeline to bend to the required route. The gaskets coped with this and kept a perfect seal for the length of the pipe.

IPEX sales representative, Patrick Pelletier, visited the site several times over the construction period from mid-November to April in order to answer questions and ensure that there were no issues. At present, the municipality is confident that one new PVC line will meet their requirements, and there are no plans to replace the second wood stave line in the near future.

David Cantwell from Northern Contracting Limited adds, "The product performed to my expectations and beyond. I would not hesitate to use IPEX Centurion® in the future."

For projects requiring larger diameter pipe, IPEX Centurion® is now available in 54" and 60" diameters. These are the world's largest diameters of PVC pressure pipe. Only available in Canada from IPEX.