Water Supply Outlook Overview

For Immediate Release: November 12, 2008

Autumn precipitation below to much normal in most areas of Alberta

Fall precipitation totals (September through October 2008) were generally below to much below normal with the lowest precipitation amounts recorded across the middle of the province. Above to much above normal precipitation was recorded in the High Level region and the Lethbridge – Milk River- Cypress Hills area. Some mountain and foothill areas west of Calgary and High River recorded below normal to normal precipitation.

Precipitation during the month of October was much below normal in Alberta except for the Drumheller-Oyen and Fort McMurray areas which recorded generally above to much above normal precipitation.

Other Highlights (As of November 1)

- Water storage in the major irrigation and hydroelectric reservoirs of southern and central Alberta are generally above normal to normal, with the exceptions of the Keho Lake, Travers and Brazeau Reservoirs, which are below normal.
- Water storage volumes in major reservoirs in the Athabasca River basin are below normal to normal.
- Water level gauges in the Travers, Lake Newell and Crawling Valley Reservoirs are shut down for the winter. The Travers Reservoir water level is being drawn down for maintenance work.

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