Q. What is the sedimentation anticipation and what is the associated loss of storage capacity and energy?

A. Based on sedimentation and morphodynamics modeling, the anticipated net sediment loading in the Muskrat Falls reservoir is conservatively estimated to be approximately 1 million m^3 annually. This volume would be deposited upstream of the Muskrat Falls dam. This volume is negligible compared to the overall volume of the reservoir of 1,600 million m^3.

Considering this sediment would be deposited on the bottom of the reservoir, it would represent a loss of dead storage volume as opposed to live storage volume. The Muskrat Falls reservoir's 50 million m^3 live storage capacity would remain unchanged. The energy output of the plant is determined by the head of the facility, or the difference in water elevation between the upstream and downstream water levels. Since sedimentation upstream of the dam would not alter the full supply level (upstream water level) or the tail water level (downstream water level), the energy output of the plant would not be affected.