

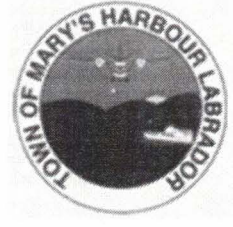
Mary's Harbour Town Council

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February 29th, 2024

Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities

120 Torbay Road, P.O. Box 21040

St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

Attention: Jo-Anne Galarneau, Executive Director and Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Galarneau:

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide our comments on the **NLH – Approval of the Construction of Hydro's Long-term Supply Plan for Southern Labrador** application, currently being considered by the Public Utilities Board.

As stated in all previous correspondence from the Town of Mary's Harbour, we DO NOT support the construction of a regional DIESEL plant in southeastern Labrador to supply this area of the province with electricity for the next 50+ years. We strongly and firmly believe that this is not the right approach to enhance our area for future growth and prosperity. It is expected that the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as the Government of Canada would not support such a venture. There is a strong global movement towards clean energy, and both the Province of NL and the Government of Canada has committed to developing a **net-zero electricity system by 2035 and developing a net-zero economy in 2050**.

It is our understanding now, that NL Hydro is looking for a conditional approval (in the amount of about \$9 million) to allow for the tender call on generators and the ability to proceed with the environmental assessment. Again, we do not support this conditional approval. Is it realistic to think that the PUB would grant a conditional approval to NL Hydro and spend \$9 million dollars of taxpayer dollars and then the application be denied? We have been given an estimate on how much it would cost to run the transmission line from central Labrador to southeastern Labrador and was told that was not considered because of costs. Maybe this scenario should be studied a little closer and compare it to what has been spent on providing electricity to this area since the initial application was submitted to the PUB and what it will cost to finish this proposed regional diesel plant and operate and maintain it for the next 50 years.

Again, thank for you for the opportunity and we look forward to reviewing correspondence/submissions from various intervenors.

Sincerely yours,

Mary's Harbour Town Council

Alton Rumbolt
Mayor