

November 4th, 2021

Ms. Cheryl Blundon
Director of Corporate Services and Board Secretary
Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities
Prince Charles Building
120 Torbay Road, P.O. Box 21040
St. John's NL A1A 5B2

Dear Ms. Blundon:

Construction of Phase I of NL Hydro's Super Diesel Plant Complaint:

First and foremost, may I say how gut wrenching it is to hear of our new electricity source potentially being a diesel plant when the whole country has been working tirelessly to become environmentally friendly. Environmentally friendly meaning, let's reduce greenhouse gas emissions, not let's propose a super DIESEL plant.

A diesel plant is high maintenance, expensive to run [will continue to be more expensive] and does not run efficiently when overloaded.

NL Hydro's idea is to have the South Coast of Labrador [5 communities] running on the electricity from the one centralized diesel plant. The one thing I see wrong with this, the only thing I see wrong with this is...diesel.

Diesel electricity is in the past and by environmental rights should stay in the past. Not only do emissions damage crops and trees, but it can also leech into our soil and waters, in turn entering our food supply. What a shame it would be if we would ever have to wonder about or second guess a meal because of harmful diesel emissions. Not to mention the terrible noise pollution it emits.

Now, environmental isn't the only part of this worry, but as mentioned above how diesel plants do not run efficiently when overloaded, one thing comes to mind; The mining company that sees a great future in our area will be needing sufficient, reliable electricity, as will the 5 communities that are being planned to be hooked into this super diesel plant. Is this something that can be guaranteed? I understand that St. Lewis' phase is not due until 2045, but who's to say that our communities won't have more residents and/or businesses by then?

It is our understanding that Charlottetown is in desperate need of an electricity source since 2019 when a fire destroyed their diesel plant, however, we deserve a better, cleaner, quieter method of electricity. We have Muskrat Falls that can distribute clean electricity to our South Coast in Labrador, why not go that route? Stay in the same lane as the rest of the Country, don't take the backroad to the past.

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Sincerely,

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Amanda Chubbs
Mayor of St. Lewis