

November 1, 2019



Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (File # NR-208-2019)

On October 8, 2019, the Department of Natural Resources received your request for access to the following records/information:

RE: NR-167-2019 please provide a copy of the following note: Atlantic Canadian Energy Collaboration

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Department of Natural Resources, confirmed by the Deputy Minister, to provide access to the requested records. The responsive records are attached.

We are providing access to the most information possible but have made redactions in accordance with Sections 29(1)(a), 34(1)(a)(i) and 35(1)(d)(g) of ATIPPA, 2015 as follows:

29. (1)(a) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information that would reveal advice, proposals, recommendations, analyses or policy options developed by or for a public body or minister;

34. (1)(a)(i) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct by the government of the province of relations between the government and the following or their agencies: the government of Canada or a province;

35. (1)(d) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information which could reasonably be expected to disclose information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in the premature disclosure of a proposal or project or in significant loss or gain to a third party.

35. (1)(g) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information which could reasonably be expected to disclose information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to prejudice the financial or economic interest of the government of the province or a public body.

Please note that page 4 (Annex A of the note) of the responsive record package has been redacted in full under all the aforementioned redaction codes.

As set out in section 42 of the Act you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the department's decision to provide access to the requested information. A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing within 15 business days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Commissioner. Your request should identify your concerns with the department's response and why you are requesting a review.

The request for review may be addressed to the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
2 Canada Drive
P.O. Box 13004, Stn. A
St. John's, NL. A1B 3V8

Telephone: (709) 729-6309
Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309
Facsimile: (709) 729-6500

Pursuant to section 52 of the Act, you may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after receiving the department's decision.

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Completed Access to Information Requests website within one business day following the applicable period of time. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online.

For further details about how an access to information request is processed, please refer to the Access to Information Policy and Procedures Manual at <http://www.atipp.gov.nl.ca/info/index.html>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 709-729-0463 or rhynes@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rod Hynes".

Rod Hynes
ATIPP Coordinator

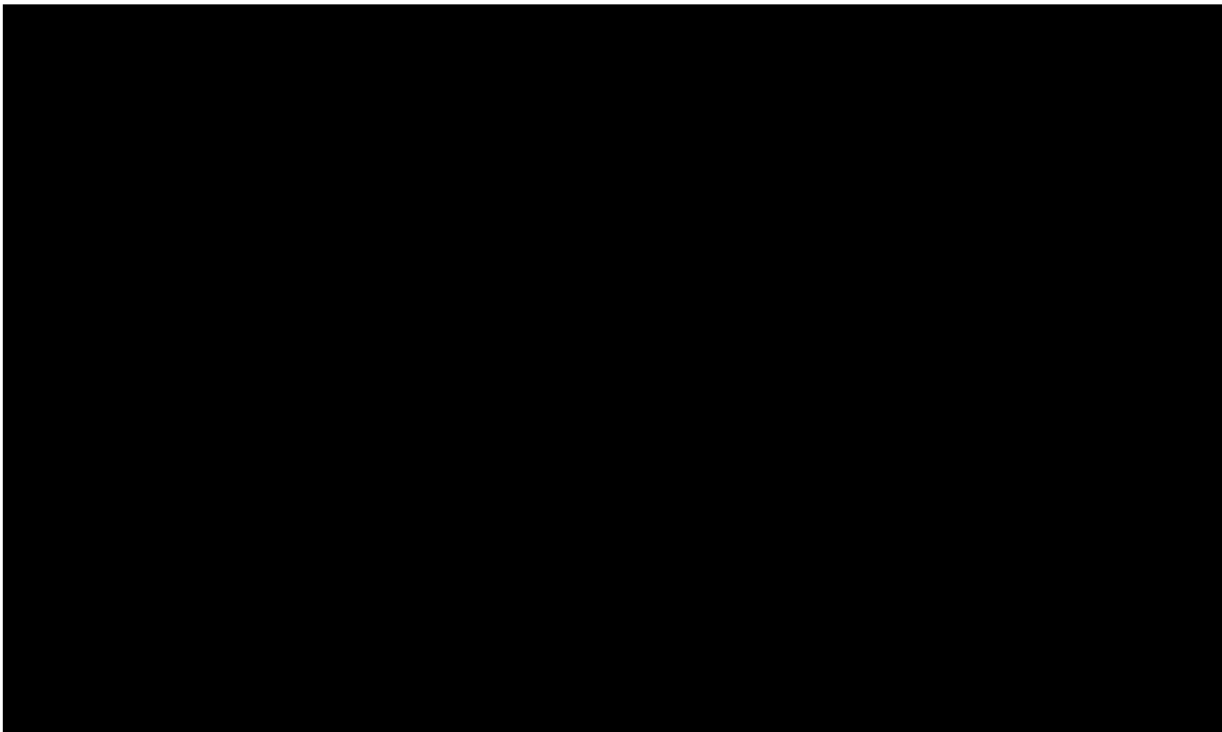
**New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) Briefing Book
Background Note – Atlantic Canadian Energy Collaboration
Department of Natural Resources**

Issue: To provide an overview of Atlantic Canadian energy collaboration to support a private discussion among Premiers during the NEG/ECP conference in Saint John, NB.

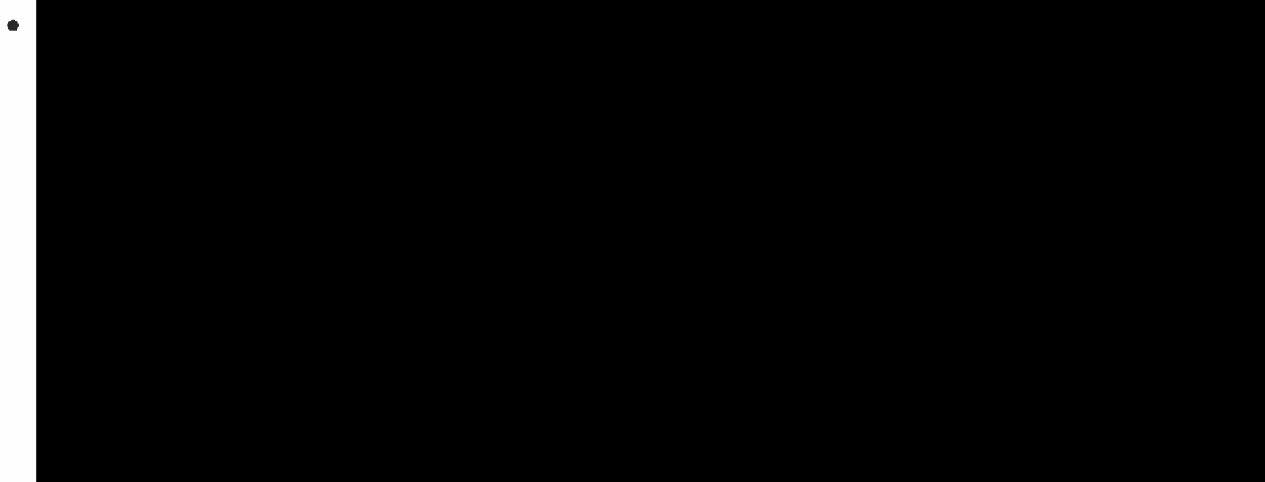
Background and Current Status:

- In recent years, PTs in Atlantic Canada have collaborated on clean energy priorities, such as through the Regional Electricity Cooperation and Strategic Infrastructure Initiative (RECSI) and the Atlantic Clean Energy Partnership (ACEP).
 - The federally-funded, two-year RECSI, completed in summer 2018, was a federal initiative to work with Atlantic provinces and utilities to identify the most promising electricity infrastructure projects (generation and transmission) to reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions.
 - The ACEP, announced by Atlantic Premiers in April 2017, was created to identify opportunities to improve and strengthen the region's energy sector and drive economic activity including focusing on electrification of space heating and transportation supplied by clean and renewable energy on smart, integrated and resilient networks and grids.
- At the March 2019 Atlantic Growth Strategy meeting, Atlantic Provinces agreed to build on RECSI and ACEP by collaborating with utilities and the Federal Government to develop a Clean Power Roadmap for Atlantic Canada. This work, to be co-chaired by NRCAN and NS, will outline a collective vision for how the Federal Government, the Atlantic Provinces and electric utilities will collaborate to build a clean power network across the region to produce and use more clean energy in the region while improving transmission networks, better integrating regional markets and regulatory regimes, and strengthening reliability.

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S.35.1.g

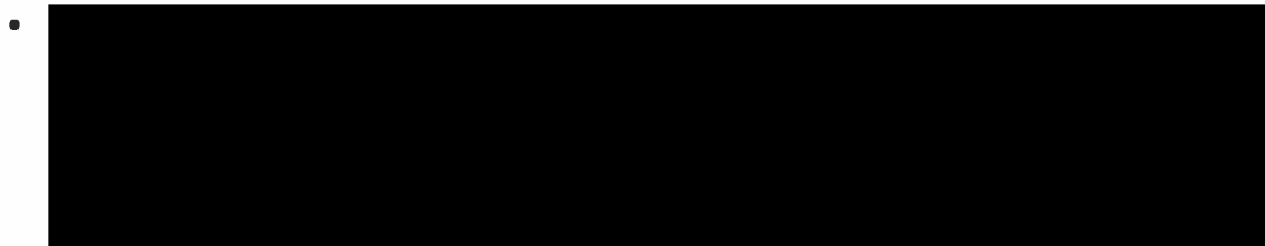


S.29.1.a

S.34.1.a.i

Analysis

- Energy collaboration in the Atlantic region aligns with NL’s clean energy priorities to electrify the economy, find new domestic customers and to maximize exports. These initiatives help mitigate the impact of the Muskrat Falls Project and were raised as possible options in the PUB interim report on mitigating the MFP in February 2019 as well as in Government’s April 2019 “Protecting You from the Cost Impacts of Muskrat Falls” plan.
- In December 2018, Canada announced regulations to phase-out traditional coal-fired electricity by 2030. Though coal accounted for 8.6 per cent of Canada’s electricity generation in 2017, the share of provincial electricity supply from coal was 47.9 per cent in NS, and 15.8 per cent in NB. In addition to coal, existing generation in NB and NS have varying end of useful life dates, thus requiring NB and NS to consider their long term new supply options such as new nuclear at Point Lepreau (NB), Gull Island (Labrador), Churchill Falls upgrades, various smaller scale projects throughout the region, and QC.
- This initiative and the planned phase-out of coal-fired generation in NB and NS may provide an opportunity for the Province, contingent on additional transmission capacity, to maximize exports from current sources and to develop other generation projects (e.g., Gull Island – 2,250MW capacity and 11.9TWh energy; or Churchill Falls Upgrades and Expansion – 1,500MW and 1TWh energy).



S.29.1.a

S.34.1.a.i

S.35.1.d

S.35.1.g

Potential Speaking Points (Note: These will be included in a separate tab for the Premier to use in a private meeting with just Premiers.)

- NL has vast renewable energy resources including wind, tidal, and hydro, such as the Gull Island project, which alone has the potential for 2,250 MW. NL’s developed and undeveloped renewable resources can assist other provinces to meet their energy needs and greenhouse gas reduction targets.

- NL is pleased to work with QC along with NS, NB, PEI and NRCan to find power supply solutions that can benefit all provinces in the region.
- The development of a Clean Power Roadmap for Atlantic Canada provides a good opportunity for us to leverage the federal government's policy priorities, and its support for a clean electric future, in the development of regional efforts to enhance system reliability, electrify the economy and to continue leading in national greenhouse gas reductions.

Prepared/Reviewed by: R. Hodder/K. Bradbury
Approval:



August 28, 2019