December 5, 2016

Dear [Redacted]

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 [Our File #: PRE/113/2016]

On November 4, 2016, the Premier’s Office received your request for access to the following records/information:

"Any communication between the Office of the Premier and the federal government regarding the federal loan guarantee for Muskrat Falls, between Sept. 1, 2016 and Nov. 3, 2016."

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Chief of Staff of the Premier’s Office to provide access to the requested information.

Please be advised that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the processing of your access request, as set out in section 42 of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act). 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.

The address and contact information of 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

You may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court Trial Division within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of the Act.
Responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically 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. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (709)729-3570 or by e-mail at joybuckle@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joy Buckle
ATIPP Coordinator
Enclosure
Thank you

May be minor wording changes. Expected to be released around 3 EST — embargoed until then.
News Release
For Immediate Release

Government of Canada Announces Additional Loan Guarantee Support for Lower Churchill Projects

November 3, 2016 Ottawa Natural Resources Canada

Working with provincial and territorial partners is key to the Government of Canada’s approach to developing clean, renewable and reliable sources of electricity, creating jobs for Canadians and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Today, the Honourable Jim Carr, Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources, announced that the Government of Canada will provide additional loan guarantee support for the Lower Churchill projects in Newfoundland and Labrador. Canada will guarantee up to an additional $2.9 billion in debt for the portion of the Lower Churchill projects led by Newfoundland and Labrador Crown corporation Nalcor Energy.

The specific conditions of this support will be negotiated with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Nalcor Energy in the near future with provisions for commercial terms, including a guarantee fee of 0.5 percent above the federal rate. The Government of Canada will also work with the province to provide immediate relief for its escrow account obligations as well as an extension to the timeline for debt repayment.

The Government of Canada will continue to monitor the projects and work closely with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to protect the interests of Canadian taxpayers.

In keeping with the Government of Canada’s long-term plan for infrastructure — including the new commitments of $81 billion announced in the Fall Economic Statement — and in the context of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, the Government continues to work with provinces and territories to bring more clean and reliable energy on a smarter, better connected electricity grid, creating jobs for middle-class Canadians and providing a healthier environment for future generations.

Quote

“The Lower Churchill projects will make a major contribution to meeting Atlantic Canada’s future energy needs by providing a long-term, reliable and abundant source of clean energy. The Lower Churchill projects are helping the people of Newfoundland and Labrador and will contribute to the achievement of Canada’s carbon emissions reduction targets.”

Jim Carr
Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources

Contact

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343-292-6837
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