Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (File # NR-06-2019)

On January 22, 2019, the Department of Natural Resources received your request for access to the following records/information:

BN: high level export options (from December 2018)

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 records are attached.

We are providing access to the most information possible but have made redactions in accordance with Sections 29(1)(a), 35(1)(d), and 35(1)(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;

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 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.

Please be advised that this letter will be published following a 72 hour period after it 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 letter posted to the Office of Public Engagement's website within one business day following the applicable period of time.

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

Sincerely,

Rod Hynes

Rod Hynes
ATIPP Coordinator
Information Note
Department of Natural Resources

Title:  High Level Export Options

Issue:  To provide an overview of existing and undeveloped Newfoundland and Labrador Renewable Energy

Background

• Newfoundland and Labrador has clean electricity resource options capable of producing energy and capacity in excess of the Province’s own requirements.

• After the Muskrat Falls Generation station enters service, Newfoundland and Labrador projects a significant surplus of annual energy generation from the Province’s fleet of renewable hydroelectric stations and reservoirs.

• In addition to existing generation projects and those under construction, the Province possesses a significant list of undeveloped hydro resources such as new capacity at Bay d’Espoir and other small projects at various locations.

• An additional 2,250 MW of hydro power is also available for development at Gull Island on the Churchill River in Labrador.  

• The Canadian Wind Atlas indicates that there is significant wind potential in Newfoundland and Labrador that can be developed to support export or domestic load growth.

• Newfoundland and Labrador is connected to the North American Electricity grid via two transmission links or “interties” – the Quebec Intertie and Maritime Link – which can facilitate export of some of this electricity. New transmission would likely have to be constructed for certain projects, such as Gull Island.

Speaking Points:

• Newfoundland and Labrador is a ready partner for providing renewable electricity to eastern Canada and beyond to the northeast USA.

• Newfoundland and Labrador has an impressive suite of existing and undeveloped renewable electricity resources to meet a wide range of energy and capacity needs in eastern North America which could also be used for inward investment purposes.

Prepared/Approved by:  M. Janes/C. Snook /J. Cowan

Ministerial Approval:

December 3, 2018