



NUNATSIAVUT
kavamanga Government

Nunaligninikmik amma Nunamiutanic
Ujaganik Imaniklu
Lands and Natural Resources

February 15, 2018

Via email: admin@muskratfallsinquiry.ca
Commissioner Richard Leblanc
Commission of Inquiry Respecting the Muskrat Falls Project
5th Floor, Suite 502, Beothuck Building
20 Crosbie Place
St. John's NL A1B 3Y8

Dear Mr. Leblanc:

Terms of Reference
Commission of Inquiry Respecting the Muskrat Falls Project

The Nunatsiavut Government has reviewed the terms of reference (ToR) for this inquiry and would like to stress the importance of including the concerns that have been raised through the environmental assessment and after sanctioning of the project – concerns that are still being raised today.

We have spent considerable effort in identifying the risks to the downstream environment that will significantly impact Labrador Inuit rights and culture in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area. The environmental assessment panel listened to our concerns and made several recommendations in its report that would have helped address our concerns. Unfortunately, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Nalcor Energy chose to ignore most of these recommendations.

Part 4 b. v. of the ToR asks the inquiry to look into “any risk assessments, financial or otherwise, were conducted in respect to the Muskrat Falls Project, including any assessments prepared externally...”. The EA Panel Report stated that Labrador Inuit would be significantly impacted and a new downstream assessment needed to be undertaken. We hope that your inquiry will look in to this aspect of the project in relation to impacts to Labrador Inuit and the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area. Labrador Inuit would not only be impacted financially, but significantly culturally and environmentally as well. We encourage you to look at all of these aspects.

Part 5 a. of the ToR directs you to consider “participation in the inquiry by the established leadership of Indigenous people, whose settled or asserted Aboriginal or Treaty rights to Labrador may have been adversely affected by the Muskrat Falls Project.” We feel that the downstream impacts and impacts to Labrador Inuit have largely been ignored by the Province and Nalcor. We strongly urge you to consider our concerns under this section of the ToR.

Sincerely,

Darryl Shiwak
Minister

