



Commission of Inquiry Respecting the Muskrat Falls Project

NEWS RELEASE

PHASE 3

Phase 3 of the Commission's hearings will explore a number of forward-looking topics in relation to the Commission's *Terms of Reference*.

Phase 3 hearings will be held at the Beothuck Building, 3rd Floor, 20 Crosbie Place, St. John's, NL on **Tuesday, July 16, 2019 to Friday, July 26, 2019**. These hearings are open to the public and will be webcast on the Inquiry's website: www.muskratfallsinquiry.ca/webcast

Phase 3 will cover the following main topics:

Financial Effects of the Muskrat Falls Project on Ratepayers and Taxpayers

The Commission has arranged for a panel of witnesses to provide presentations on the consequences of paying for Muskrat Falls from increased power rates and/or general tax revenue. Panel witnesses will include Denise Hanrahan (Department of Finance), Dennis Browne (Consumer Advocate), Professor Brandon Schaufele (Ivey Business School, Western University), Jerry Earle (NAPE), Lorraine Michael, Peter Alteen (Newfoundland Power), and Kevin Fagan (NL Hydro).

Preparing for 2041

The Commission will explore how the province can prepare for 2041 and the expiry of the 1969 Agreement, including an examination of exports, load forecasts, and strategy. The witness for this topic will be Pelino Colaiacovo (Morrison Park Advisors Inc.). Mr. Colaiacovo will also provide expert testimony on the Cumulative Present Worth (CPW) analysis that supported the decision to sanction the Muskrat Falls Project.

Energy Regulation in Newfoundland and Labrador

The Commission will hear additional evidence relevant to the Province's energy regulation framework and energy legislation. The expert witness for this topic will be AJ Goulding (London Economics International LLC).

Managing Large-Scale Publicly Funded Projects

This topic will supplement earlier evidence and cover governance schemes for large-scale publicly funded projects in other jurisdictions. The Commission will hear expert testimony from Professor Ole Jonny Klakegg (Norwegian University of Science and Technology).

The Role of the Civil Service, Record-Keeping, the Duty to Document and Document Production

This topic covers questions about the role of the civil service, record keeping, whether there should be a duty to document, and document production. Witnesses will include Professor Mel Cappe (Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto), Judge Donovan Molloy, Associate Professor Kelly Blidook (Harris Centre, Memorial University), and Gobhina Nagarajah (Commission Associate Counsel).

The Commission has also engaged the Leslie Harris Centre for Regional Policy and Development (Harris Centre) to facilitate two consultation sessions that will be open to the public and the media. The purpose of these sessions is to gather comments from members of the public who do not have standing at the Inquiry but who would like to provide input on matters within the Commission's mandate. The dates for these sessions are **July 30, 2019 (7:00-9:00 PM)** in St. John's at the Emera Innovation Centre, Signal Hill Campus, Memorial University of Newfoundland and **August 8, 2019 (7:00-9:00 PM)** in Happy Valley-Goose Bay at the Lawrence O'Brien Arts Centre. Further details for these public consultation sessions will be available on the Commission's website.

In view of the Quebec Court of Appeal's recent decision on water management of the Churchill River, the Commission expects to hold an additional in-camera hearing on water management on July 23, 2019. This session will be similar to the panel on water management that was held in Phase 1 of the Commission's hearings.

Please note that these arrangements for Phase 3 are subject to change.

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