

From: Turpin, Carmel

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 10:05 AM

To: Hart, Diane; Tompkins, John; Clarke, Lesley; NLIS, NLIS

Cc: Cheeseman, Josephine

Subject: FW: DEVELOPING LOWER CHURCHILL: Premier "Danny Williams" says the odds of developing the Lower Churchill are 50/50 at best

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[NLIS - for our Lower Churchill file](#)

CT

From: LeonaBarrington@nlh.nl.ca [mailto:LeonaBarrington@nlh.nl.ca]

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 9:51 AM

To: Matthews, Elizabeth; Nolan, Andrea; Turpin, Carmel; Barron, Tracy B.; Snook, Corey

Subject: DEVELOPING LOWER CHURCHILL: Premier "Danny Williams" says the odds of developing the Lower Churchill are 50/50 at best

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Thursday, January 03, 2008 07:00AM Item # 01

CBC Radio St. John's

NANCY WALSH: Premier Danny Williams says the odds of developing the Lower Churchill are 50/50 at best.

Williams says this may be the province's best chance at developing the hydro project. But as David Cochrane reports, there are obstacles that could scuttle the deal.

DANNY WILLIAMS: We have never been better positioned. We've never been better prepared.

DAVID COCHRANE: At first blush, it seems that Danny Williams thinks nothing can get in the way of the Lower Churchill development. Everything is lining up perfectly, but nothing is certain.

DANNY WILLIAMS: The market is right, the prices are certainly in the ballpark, it's moving nowhere but up; there never could be a better time to do this project. We have some hurdles.

DAVID COCHRANE: Williams says those hurdles mean the project has just a 50 percent chance of going ahead. There are environmental issues with a project this size and there is the always tangly issue of dealing with Quebec if the province wants to ship Churchill power through that province. Those are big challenges and that's just the start of it.

DANNY WILLIAMS: We have to enter into an agreement and strike a land claims agreement with our local Innu. We have issues with the Quebec Innu, who have now basically, are trying to establish claims in Labrador. We will have, obviously, issues with the federal government.

DAVID COCHRANE: The relationship with the federal government is the most volatile issue at the moment. Ottawa will likely have to play a significant role if the project is going to proceed and if relations deteriorate even further it may be tough for Williams to get basic cooperation from Ottawa, let alone the major help he could be looking for. David Cochrane, CBC News, St. John's.

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