



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Department of Natural Resources  
Office of the Minister

January 9, 2012

Mr. Thomas Johnson  
Consumer Advocate  
O'Dea Earle  
323 Duckworth Street  
St. John's, NL  
A1C 5X4

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On December 12, 2011, I wrote to Mr. Andy Wells, Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, requesting the Board to complete its review of the Muskrat Falls Project by March 31, 2012.

In light of this new deadline, I am advising that you have been provided with additional guidance to govern your role as Consumer Advocate in this process. Please see attached.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome Kennedy", written over a horizontal line.

**Jerome Kennedy, Q.C.**  
MHA, Carbonear-Harbour Grace  
Minister of Natural Resources

Attach.

**Guidance to the Consumer Advocate - Muskrat Falls Review**

The following is intended to clarify the role of the Consumer Advocate following his appointment pursuant to section 117 of the *Public Utilities Act*:

- In responding to the Reference Question, the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities (the "Board") has sought independent advice from Manitoba Hydro Inc. (MHI). The Consumer Advocate may critically review the MHI report and any submissions in the possession of the Consumer Advocate relating to the Reference Question. The Consumer Advocate may retain such expertise as necessary solely for the purpose of assisting the Consumer Advocate in preparing for any public hearing held by the Board relating to the Reference Question. The Consumer Advocate may attend any such public hearing and make representations to the Board on behalf of rate payers in respect of the submissions received by the Board in response to the Reference Question.