Date : 4/26/2012 8:53:14 AM
From : "Drover, Rodney C"
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Subject : VOCM - Government Delays Muskrat Falls Debate

Government Delays Muskrat Falls Debate

VOCM: Thursday, April 26 2012

Premier Kathy Dunderdale says any debate in the House of Assembly on Muskrat Falls will now likely happen sometime this Fall. Earlier this month, Dunderdale said she would allow a Muskrat Falls debate to happen this summer. Now she says, because the PUB did not recommend the hydro deal, Manitoba Hydro will attempt to do what the PUB did not, using the information that the PUB said it lacked. Once that information is processed, Dunderdale says that's when any debate on the project will happen.

She says MHI's work on Decision Gate Three numbers will not be completed until July or August. That information needs to go into the hands of the opposition, and that's when the debate in the House will happen.

The province's opposition parties say they're just fine with a delay in the Muskrat Falls debate in the House of Assembly. Liberal Leader Dwight Ball says his party did not ask for the delay.

Ball says when the debate on Muskrat does happen he wants to make sure that information on power purchase agreements are available. He also wants information on any deal with Emera that may transpire.

NDP Leader Lorraine Michael says there is even more information that still needs to be considered. Michael says while government appeared to be in a rush to push the deal through, it's now been forced to slow down. She says she's glad time lines are being scrapped in this instance for the sake of better review.