

**DG3 Numbers Holding Up Loan Guarantee: Premier**

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The Premier says the Muskrat Falls federal loan guarantee is millimetres from completion. Kathy Dunderdale says the DG3 numbers are holding up the loan guarantee. At a meeting this week between the Premier and Stephen Harper, the PM reiterated his commitment to the project. Dunderdale says the last couple of issues are the most complicated and usually take the most time. Dunderdale says she and the Prime Minister will give negotiators a little push "from above" to get the job done. She's not really saying how long the process will take, but Dunderdale says she expects everything to be in play and ready for a debate before the end of October. The DG3 numbers will not be publicly released until the Manitoba Hydro report is done. MHI is still waiting on the final cost estimates and the loan guarantee.

Dunderdale met with Harper for about 40 minutes Monday. She described the discussion as frank and open, touching on things like changes to EI and search and rescue. She says she was reassured by the PM that it was not the intention of the EI changes to penalize people who worked in seasonal industries in a region where no other work was available. She says she once again raised the issue of the Burton Winters tragedy, and Harper responded that "lessons were learned".