From: jamesmeaney@lowerchurchillproject.ca
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 11:57 PM

To: Jason Kean

**Subject:** Fw: Canada Letter on Cost Overrun

Attachments: Scan\_1.pdf

Importance: High

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: James Meaney <JamesMeaney@lowerchurchillproject.ca>

Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 12:21 PM

To: Gilbert Bennett; Derrick Sturge; Lance Clarke; Paul Harrington

Cc: Auburn Warren; Anthony Embury; xmartis@fasken.com

Subject: Fw: Canada Letter on Cost Overrun

## Hi Folks

Attached in the "formal" follow up from Canada to the discussion I had with Nik and Medland yesterday. Here is my assessment of the points in their letter:

- 1. With the note sent out by Paul to the Component Managers late last week (which was after my initial call with Nik), #1 and #4 should get addressed in short order.
- 2. Anthony and I have spoke about getting a inventory of the Change Orders that will fall out of the AFE update and determine which ones meet the criteria defined in the PFA where we need to provide copies to the IE. I expect there will be some, which is fine. Anthony, based on this letter suggest this becomes a priority in your team.
- 3. I think we can find a means to address #3, will just need to ensure alignment with what is conveyed to the OC, Govt, Board, etc and that we never get out ahead of that process with Canada.
- 4. They are reaching beyond their rights for items 5, 6 and 7. As has already been committed, we have an obligation to keep them informed on these matters, at the appropriate time, but they

do not have the right to be at the table with the contractors. Xeno, I'll ask that you confirm this point in the context of the PFA's.

I had suggested to Nik and Medland and further discussion on cost overruns during the Nov 2 meeting to kick off the IE site visit. Appears they want to meet sooner than that in Ottawa. If we are prepared to do that, I would suggest there needs to be Nalcor representation from the Finance team (likely myself and Auburn) and the LCP Project Team (some combination of Gilbert/Paul/Lance?). From my perspective, the earliest I could go to Ottawa and meet their schedule would be Friday. The early part of the following week would be fine. I'll try to find some time early next week for us to regroup on this, but in the meantime, feel free to convey preliminary thoughts.

Regards

Jim

## **James Meaney**

**General Manager, Finance** 

PROJECT DELIVERY TEAM

**Lower Churchill Project** 

- t. 709 737-4860 c. 709 727-5283 f. 709 737-1901
- e. JamesMeaney@lowerchurchillproject.ca
- w. muskratfalls.nalcorenergy.com

You owe it to yourself, and your family, to make it home safely every day. What have you done today so that nobody gets hurt?

```
---- Forwarded by James Meaney/NLHydro on 10/16/2015 12:01 PM -----
```

```
From: "Manzer, Alison" <amanzer@casselsbrock.com>
```

To: "jamesmeaney@nalcorenergy.com" <jamesmeaney@nalcorenergy.com>

Cc: "xmartis@fasken.com" <xmartis@fasken.com>

Date: 10/16/2015 11:21 AM

Subject: Cost Overrun [IWOV-Legal.FID1640195]

I have been asked to send you the attached to ensure we have an agenda to discuss the cost overrun situation and develop a more solid and timely reporting process around this issue.

## Alison Manzer



Direct: +1 416 869 5469 • Fax: +1 416 350 6938 • amanzer@casselsbrock.com

2100 Scotia Plaza, 40 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3C2

www.casselsbrock.com

Services provided through a Professional Corporation

This message, including any attachments, is privileged and may contain confidential information intended only for the person(s) named above. Any other distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. Communication by email is not a secure medium and, as part of the transmission process, this message may be copied to servers operated by third parties while in transit. Unless you advise us to the contrary, by accepting communications that may contain your personal information from us via email, you are deemed to provide your consent to our transmission of the contents of this message in this manner. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by reply email and permanently delete the original transmission from us, including any attachments, without making a copy. (See attached file: Scan 1.pdf)



amanzer@casselsbrock.com Writer's Direct Line: (416) 869-546 Direct Fax: (416) 350-6938

October 16, 2015

BY EMAIL PDF

Mr. James Meaney Nalcor Energy P.O. Box 12800 500 Columbus Drive St. John's NL A1B 0C9

Dear Mr. Meaney:

Re: Cost Overruns Issue / Revised Reporting Protocol

I am writing further to our recent telephone conference, being the Muskrat Falls Project update call with Canada and the Independent Engineer on Monday, September 28, 2015. The review during the course of that call was surprising to both Canada and to the Independent Engineer, as to a number of matters but most particularly as to the cost overruns identified, for the first time, during the course of that call. Both Canada and the Independent Engineer feel that the buildup of these cost overruns, and a proper estimate of further anticipated cost overruns, should have been identified on a month to month basis in the course of the regular reporting, and the recently held site visits. Canada is not prepared to proceed with the current reporting regime, without amendment, as it cannot accept significant cost overruns building, and being identified, late in the review process, and before they are able to provide input to properly recognize Canada's concerns in the setting of cost estimates, and contingencies. Accordingly Canada requires that we hold an all hands meeting, and work to a revised reporting process which will avoid these types of unreported, and unresponsive, identification of delay and cost issues.

We have identified the matters where reporting needs amendment, and require that the meeting include, at least, as agenda items the following matters, appropriately recognizing the requirements of Canada, and the recommendations of the Independent Engineer.

We are generally available for a meeting next week (other than Thursday); because of travel restraints on Canada we would prefer Ottawa. While we recognize a full team may not be able to attend we believe and early meeting to start the dialogue is needed. We can then consider in and in St. Johns meeting is required to follow that as you suggested.

The meeting agenda will require discussion of the following:

1. Timely submission of Monthly Contractors Reports. The submitted reports should not lag by several months from the current reporting period. Ideally, they should be from the





Page 2

previous month. In addition, the practice of submitting concurrent reports for several consecutive months should stop. There is little value in doing that particularly when all these reports are already obsolete. Only several contractors (namely Andritz-CH0032 and Nexans) are regular with their timely submissions while monthly progress reports from others like Astaldi and Gilbert (CH0008) have not been submitted to date. The situation with regard to Astaldi is particularly disturbing, and we must ensure that we are getting timely progress and related reports with regard to the very substantial Astaldi contract. This creates difficulties in assessing the proper management supervision is being undertaken, although we recognize the current commercial discussions, when suitable reports are not being provided.

 Change Orders should be provided to the IE for information. The IE should be kept abreast of more significant Change Requests and/or Potential Claims discussions and development.

We believe that these should be provided on an as received basis, and suggest a two business day protocol after receipt to provision. While we recognize there are needs to internally access, and review with Nalcor and the shareholder, we must ensure that we have timely understanding and receive timely information, as to these matters.

- 3. Every two/three months there should be a meeting between Nalcor and the IE (with participation from Canada) to discuss unforeseen design changes, change requests, potential claims and disputes and the corresponding risk analysis and mitigation strategy (Nalcor's). These will continue until such time as contracting has been completed, and we are satisfied with progress; after that time meetings can be scheduled, taking into account site visits, as needed to review matters such as design changes, change requests, claims, disputes etc.. We require that the meeting schedule be set by November 15, 2015.
- 4. Monthly Progress Reports from Astaldi are not available. To date all issued contractor reports have been rejected by Nalcor due to inaccuracies in them. Reportedly, this situation is not expected to improve in the coming months. As a result, Nalcor should be providing (based on submitted Contractor's reports) monthly summary of the contract progress, cost, change orders and requests, potential claims and disputes, major challenges and issues for IE's review. We believe that the Independent Engineer should be reviewing the reports, notwithstanding inaccuracies, Nalcor can provide the reports identifying the inaccuracies they perceive in the Astaldi progress reports. This discussion is to supplement our note in agenda item #1. We require that delivery of this item commence by November 15, 2015.
- 5. IE (Nik Argirov) participation in Nalcor discussions/negotiations with Astaldi. We require that we have agreement to this participation, immediately, and that an outline of the current status to the discussions and negotiations be provided to Canada and the Independent Engineer.
- 6. IE (Nik Argirov) participation in the Supply and Install Mechanical and Electrical Auxiliaries CH0031 (BOP) contract negotiations. We require that we have agreement



Page 3

to this participation, immediately, and that an outline of the current status to the discussions and negotiations be provided to Canada and the Independent Engineer.

7. IE (Nik Argirov) participation in the schedule acceleration / re-scheduling discussions between Nalcor, Astaldi, Andritz the BOP contractor and such other persons as may need to be involved. We require that we have agreement to this participation, immediately, and that an outline of the current status to the discussions and negotiations be provided to Canada and the Independent Engineer.

The Independent Engineer is responsible to ensure that Canada is kept appropriately, and timely, advised as to status, progress, costing, and in the context of that responsibility is required to ensure that the monthly approvals of the funding and progress draws are accurately and appropriately reflected. The Independent Engineer is also responsible to ensure that the cost overruns are suitably costed. At this time there is significant concern that appropriate contingencies and estimates have not been included with regard to the power house and HVDC transmission line, and the potential for further delay, or costs to avoid such delay. As a consequence we also require item #8 to the agenda to be a discussion of the contingency and estimate process, and a discussion as to a mutually acceptable number to use for the cost overrun estimates which will be used for the cost overrun process and protocol for this year. We suggest that this discussion must go forward sooner than later.

While we recognize this is an extensive agenda, we require that a meeting be set to review these matters on an as soon as possible basis, timely resolution of these matters is necessary to ensure that the cost overrun process, and funding, is suitably undertaken for the required December dates. In addition Canada is concerned that the incidents of delayed reporting of cost overrun build up does not occur in the future, and must have assurances as soon as reasonably possible, around these issues.

If this cannot be suitably done in this manner, then the Independent Engineer will need to take this into account in their approval of the monthly draws, their reporting of site and related visits, among other matters, which we would prefer to avoid. However Canada has its responsibilities to ensure suitable and appropriate management of the costing of the project, and the Independent Engineer has its responsibilities to Canada in this regard, all of which must be suitably recognized in the review and reporting process.

We trust we will hear from you on this matter.

Yours truly,

CASSELS BROCK & BLACKWELL LLP

per:

Alison R. Manzer

Practices law through a Professional Corporation

ARM:ar