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From : "Collingwood, Jennifer"

To : "Carroll, Lynette" , "Hammond, Lynn" , "Brown, Milly" , "Marnell, Debbie" , "Maclean, Heather"

Cc : "Power, Glenda" , "Howard, Jacquelyn"

Subject : Fw: Premier makes a joke out of Muskrat Falls debate

Attachment : Premier makes a joke out of Muskrat Falls debate\_Dec 5 2012.doc;

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**From:** oppositionnewsreleas

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 05, 2012 06:41 PM

**To:** Foote, Carla

**Subject:** Premier makes a joke out of Muskrat Falls debate

**December 5, 2012**  
**For Immediate Release**

### **Premier makes a joke out of Muskrat Falls debate**

Today in the House of Assembly the Premier made a mockery of democracy by limiting discussion on the 9-billion dollar Muskrat Falls project to just two hours of debate on a Private Members Resolution (PMR).

"The Premier had many options to debate this project in the House, but chose the most limited form possible," said Liberal Opposition Leader Dwight Ball. "There should have been a full debate on Muskrat Falls, but Government is maintaining its trend of secrecy and lack of transparency and selectively choosing what the people of Newfoundland and Labrador will know about this boondoggle of a project."

Government is using their own filtered experts and not allowing independent examination by both sides to be heard in the House. This Premier has the audacity to steam roll Muskrat Falls forward without independent regulatory oversight. Government's concern is for their own agenda, not the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.

"It's an insult to democracy," said Ball. "How can the Premier justify ramming this project through without any meaningful debate and no independent regulatory oversight?"

Government has made it abundantly clear that the well-being of the public is not top of mind. The Premier told the House of Assembly today that her Government has vision. It's now blatantly obvious that it's actually "tunnel vision" on Muskrat Falls and government is not at all concerned about an increase in power rates for the taxpayers of this province. Revenues from Muskrat Falls will have little impact if the people of the province end up paying the highest rates in the country for power.

"This two hour discussion taught the people of this province an important lesson," noted Ball. "Government isn't concerned about the effects high electricity bills will have on the people of this province. They forget that it's the taxpayers that are footing the bill for this project, so they should be concerned about the effects this will have."

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Office of the Official Opposition  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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