

Date : 3/19/2014 11:02:28 AM
From : "Collingwood, Jennifer"
To : "Quinton, Diana" , "Donnan, Hugh" , "Boland, Tracey" , "Brown, Milly"
Cc : "Howard, Jacquelyn" , "Power, Glenda"
Subject : FW: No truly Independent Oversight on Muskrat Falls Project
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From: oppositionnewsreleas
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 11:02 AM
To: Foote, Carla
Subject: No truly Independent Oversight on Muskrat Falls Project

March 19, 2014
For Immediate Release

No truly Independent Oversight on Muskrat Falls Project

Opposition Leader Dwight Ball is calling on Government to publicly release all documents pertaining to the Muskrat Falls Project, now that a new oversight committee has been struck. Yesterday in the House of Assembly Government revealed that there is nothing to prevent the public release of reports, not even the Bill 29 legislation.

“The Premier has gone on record as saying there is nothing in ATIPP legislation that prevents Government from voluntarily releasing information. His statements also applied to Bill 29 and documents presented to Cabinet,” said Ball. “A truly open and transparent Government would take the initiative to make public all documents on Muskrat Falls including those of the newly formed oversight committee.”

Meanwhile Ball is questioning the autonomy of a committee made up of senior bureaucrats that will provide oversight into Nalcor’s spending on the construction phase of the Muskrat Falls Project. Now that Government has admitted the need for more oversight of the multi-billion dollar project, they should also ensure the participation of the Auditor General.

“Government is crafting a committee that will report directly to Cabinet. Government has the authority, under Section 16 of the Act, to request that the AG provide oversight of Nalcor’s role in the Muskrat Falls Project, however they are refusing to make that request,” said Ball. “We have come to expect this from a Government that believes saying something is the same as doing something.”

Ball is challenging Government to commit to a truly independent oversight of the Muskrat Falls Project instead of leaving it in the hands of a bureaucratic committee of Government, with oversight by Nalcor.

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