

Date : 3/24/2014 6:22:10 PM

From : "Quinton, Diana"

To : "Dalley, Derrick" , "Froude, Ian" , "Bown, Charles W." , "English, Tracy" , "Williams, Tina" , "Morris, Paul J."

Subject : Fw: Muskrat Falls Oversight Committee lacks independence: Ball

Attachment : Muskrat Fall Oversight Committee lacks independence Ball_March 24, 2014.docx;

From: Collingwood, Jennifer

Sent: Monday, March 24, 2014 06:19 PM Newfoundland Standard Time

To: Boland, Tracey; Brown, Milly; Quinton, Diana

Cc: Howard, Jacquelyn; Power, Glenda

Subject: Fw: Muskrat Falls Oversight Committee lacks independence: Ball

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: oppositionnewsreleas

Sent: Monday, March 24, 2014 6:16 PM

To: Wiseman, Lauren

Subject: Muskrat Falls Oversight Committee lacks independence: Ball

March 24, 2014
For Immediate Release

Muskrat Falls Oversight Committee lacks independence: Ball

Opposition Leader Dwight Ball today questioned Government's proposed new oversight committee for the Muskrat Falls mega-project, arguing that it is merely another political gesture meant to showcase their alleged new commitment to openness and accountability. "Five billion dollars has already been committed to this project, and we're only hearing about this oversight now," said Ball. "Proper management of any project, regardless of its size, means necessary review and due diligence, so it is telling that this Government has only just embraced this idea."

Government had announced that the proposed oversight committee would be made up of senior bureaucrats answering directly to Cabinet. Ball noted that this is hardly independent oversight and dismissed the committee's make-up as mere window dressing. Ball stated what is truly needed is accountability, and one option is calling in the Auditor General to look at the finances.

"If Government was serious about being open and accountable to the people of this province, they would ask the Auditor General to review the project's finances under *Section 16* of the *Auditor General Act*," said Ball. "Failing that, they could invite the Public Utilities Board to carry out ongoing oversight. But these options would mean real commitment to transparency with the Muskrat Falls project, something we have not yet seen from this Government."

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Media Contact: Lauren Wiseman | Communications Specialist | Office of the Official Opposition | 729-5306 | 631-8981 E copies @ www.liberaloppositionnl.com



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NEWS RELEASE

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