

Town of Charlottetown

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April 7th, 2025

Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Head Office
c/o the office of President Jennifer Williams
Hydro Place, 500 Columbus Drive
P.O. Box 12400
St. John's, NL
A1B 4K7

Re: NL Hydro Plant for Charlottetown Labrador

Dear Mrs. Williams and the NL Hydro Board of Directors,

During a council meeting held on April 3rd, 2025, the Charlottetown Town Council discussed the recent decision by the Public Utilities Board (PUB) declining the proposed regional plant providing power to the six communities from Lodge Bay to Charlottetown located along the South Coast of Labrador. The Council was disappointed with the project being declined, but that disappointment is not only directed at the PUB, but more so at NL Hydro for continually pushing a project that their executive was adamant would be approved. The Charlottetown Town Council supported NL Hydro, not because it believed in a regional diesel plant, but rather out of necessity because Charlottetown had no other choice. NL Hydro did not veer away from the regional plant proposal and never put in place a secondary option if the project was declined, which it was. Due to the lack of understanding of the necessity for a new plant for Charlottetown and Pinsent's Arm, the Charlottetown Town Council no longer supports the regional project and requests NL Hydro to start the process to put a new power plant within the municipal boundaries of Charlottetown to provide stable power for both communities.

The communities of Charlottetown and Pinsent's Arm have been without a power plant since November 2019. Though NL Hydro has claimed the power being supplied to Charlottetown on mobiles is more the adequate to run the communities. NL Hydro is not stationed here and therefore are not fully aware of the power struggles the communities are having. Currently, residents of both Charlottetown and Pinsent's Arm have commented on the frequency of brownouts and inconsistent power, with the Charlottetown waste site becoming home to many electronics and appliances lost. Though claims have been placed with NL Hydro there has yet to be a claim approved because NL Hydro continual claims that the appliances and electronics lost is not due power supply.

If the costs related to building a new plant in Charlottetown cannot be justified by NL Hydro because of residential demands, then NL Hydro must understand that the lack of decision making is

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also affecting industry in the area. In a couple of months the Charlottetown Shrimp Plant, the only shrimp plant along the Labrador coast, will resume operation. The load demand required to operate is high due to the plant's machinery. When coupled with Charlottetown's own water system, feeding water to the community and plant, power consumption demand more than doubles at peak times. The Pinsent's Arm plant currently operates on generators because the current system does not allow for enough power to provide the Pinsent's Arm plant with the three-phase power required to operate.

Even with those issues, the Charlottetown Town Council supported the plan for the regional plant. After many face-to-face, and virtual meetings with members of the NL Hydro executive, the Charlottetown Town Council were convinced that a resolution was on the horizon. However, with a full rejection of the project by the PUB, the Charlottetown Town Council in partnership with the Local Service District Council of Pinsent's Arm will be looking out for the residents of their communities, no longer supporting the regional plant initiative. It cannot be stated enough that since the fire resulted in the loss of the Charlottetown power plant in 2019, the towns of Charlottetown and Pinsent's Arm have operated for 5½ years without a stable power supply. If NL Hydro continues to pursue their plan opposed to looking out for their customers, the Towns of Charlottetown and Pinsent's Arm will be left with no other choice but to fight back.

Sincerely,



Honorable Ricky Oram
Mayor, Charlottetown Labrador, NL



Mr. Harrison Campbell
Chairperson, Local Service District of Pinsent's Arm

cc Hon. Lisa Dempster, MHA Cartwright to L'Anse au Clair
cc Hon. Andrew Parsons, Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology
cc Mr. Kevin Fagan, Chairperson, Public Utilities Board
cc Jennifer Williams, President and CEO, Newfoundland Labrador Hydro