



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR  
**NDP Caucus Office**

February 10, 2023

Public Utilities Board  
Petroleum Pricing Review  
P.O. Box 21040  
St. John's, NL, A1A 5B2

Dear Board Members,

**RE: Petroleum Pricing Review, Phase I – Background and issue identification**

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in Phase I, identifying issues to be addressed in the 2023 petroleum products pricing review.

As the MHA for district Torngat Mountains, all my constituents reside in Zone 14 and therefore in order for me to accurately state the issues that I know to be important to Zone 14 residents, I must first say why I was deeply disappointed with the PUB's 2020 Labrador Petroleum Products Pricing Review. The 2020 Labrador review is relevant to this current review because of what was omitted. Proper and meaningful consultation and communication with the residents of Zone 14 was sadly omitted.

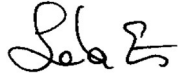
Zone 14 is composed of five Inuit communities and one Innu community. The 2020 Labrador review provided very limited means for local resident to provide their input. It was limited to "filing written comments or submissions or by requesting an opportunity to make a presentation to the Board by video or teleconference."

In my letter dated, May 29, 2020 I stated, "Given that the consultation process will involve many stakeholders who are located in rural and remote communities, where internet and communications connectivity is a challenge, I would encourage the Board to wait to hold consultations until formal in-person consultations can occur. Holding consultations through written or video consultations puts the residents of the North Coast at a disadvantage." Also, I was told that Nunatsiavut Government requested that the 2020 Labrador review include in-person consultation in the Zone 14 communities. Sadly there were no in-person consultation in the Zone 14 communities and therefore I believe the changes enacted since the 2020 review are in direct contrast to what residents would have advocated for and accepted.

Therefore I believe the greatest issue for Zone 14 that needs to be addressed in Phase I is inclusion. The 2023 Petroleum Pricing Review must ensure meaningful engagement that includes in-person consultation in the Zone 14 communities. This will give residents a chance to question and comment all the issues surrounding petroleum pricing model and adjustment mechanism for all zones in Labrador.

It is my hope that this review will be more successful and more balanced than the 2020 Labrador review.

Yours sincerely,



**Lela Evans, MHA**  
District of Torngat Mountains