NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

MEDIA RELEASE January 2, 2019

Reference on Rate Mitigation Options and Impacts Relating to the Muskrat Falls Project Costs

Release of Interim Expert Reports and Invitation for Submissions and Comments

The Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities today released two interim reports which were prepared by its experts, The Liberty Consulting Group and Synapse Energy Economics, relating to the Board's review of electricity rate mitigation options and impacts in relation to the Muskrat Falls Project.

Liberty's interim report includes preliminary findings on issues related to potential cost savings, including the structure of the Nalcor group of companies and operational and maintenance costs. Synapse's interim report includes preliminary findings on issues relating to load forecasting, energy conservation and export markets. Both interim reports are available on the Board's website or by contacting the Board.

Board's Interim Report

The Board's interim report to Government addressing its preliminary findings is required by February 15, 2019.

Nalcor has been requested to file its submission by January 11, 2019.

Other submissions and comments for the consideration of the Board in its interim report may be filed in writing no later than **3:00 pm on Friday**, **January 18, 2019**. For additional information as to how to file a submission or comments see the Board's website or contact the Board as set out below.

Board's Final Report

The Board's final report to Government is required no later than January 31, 2020.

It is anticipated that the experts will file their final reports before the end of summer 2019 and a public hearing will be held in the fall. The detailed process and schedule for this phase of the review will be established this spring. Information related to the process and schedule will be available on the Board's website or by contacting the Board and a notice will be published in advance of the hearing.

Contact the Board

Further information relating to this review is available on the Board's website (<u>www.pub.nl.ca</u>) or by contacting the Board Secretary, Cheryl Blundon, toll free: 1-866-782-0006, telephone: 709-726-8600, or E-mail: <u>rmreview@pub.nl.ca</u>.

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