


**Reference from the Lieutenant-governor in Council  
On the Muskrat Falls Project  
(the “Muskrat Falls Review”)  
REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

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2 CA/KPL-Nalcor-268 Consumer Question: This question is in reference to a study  
3 commissioned in the 1971-1975 period by then Premier Frank Moores.  
4 Frank Moores paid 1.5 million dollars to a company to drill down to the  
5 bedrock in the Labrador Straits. The company was unable to get the drill  
6 equipment down due to the water pressure in this area. This area is the  
7 same area that Nalcor is proposing to lay a cable on the sea floor. The  
8 pressure (caused by the principle of Bernoulli Effect) will not permit the  
9 cable to sit on the sea floor. Frank Moores went to Plum Point/St. Barbe  
10 and sand a hold in the ground here and another hole was dug on the  
11 Labrador side (Blanc St. Blanc) area. This is when he was considering  
12 the idea of a tunnel. However, the company hired to drill down to the  
13 bedrock on the sea floor was unable to get the drill to the bottom due to  
14 huge pressure in this area. If this could not be done, then it will also be  
15 impossible for Nalcor to lay a cable on the “same” sea bed floor.  
16 Remember, you can’t compress water. Nalcor is presently proposing to  
17 dig two holes (one on the island side and one of the Labrador side) and  
18 come out about 2 km on the horizontal and pull the cable across the bed  
19 floor. It appears this may not be feasible.

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21 (a) Has the cost of digging two holes and trying to lay the cable on the  
22 sea bed floor been included in the overall cost?  
23 (b) Are all the other contracts (eg. The 50 million dollar contract to SNC  
24 Lavalin) been added into the overall cost?  
25 (c) Are there other contracts (i.e. Manitoba Hydro and other preliminary  
26 contracts) been factored into the overall cost or did government and  
27 Nalcor keep these separate?  
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1 Dated at St. John's in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, this 21<sup>th</sup> day of February,  
2 2012.  
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