

## Lower Churchill Endorsement

### Who am I?

Seal Cove resident living within 2km radius of HTGS. I have lived in my current residence since October 1990. I was also a part time cabin resident since approximately 1970. Also, a member of the Community Liason Committee with HTGS since 2004.

### What has it meant to live next to HTGS?

I have to give credit where it is due, since joining the CLC I have seen a lot of improvements and a willingness to work with the concerns of community.

However, there should be no doubt that living here has an impact on my life. I have a large property with a lovely view of Conception Bay South, except for the eyesore of the HTGS. My property is on higher ground and sits at approximately same level of the base of the stacks.

Every summer I usually experience at least 6 weeks of quiet, emission free enjoyment of where I live. It has been considerably longer in recent years with more effective hydro power management. Ever since we purchased our permanent residence here, I have longed for the day when HTGS would be no more. I have lobbied government in the past to make improvements and choose greener alternatives that might eventually eliminate the plant.

When the plant is operating it is a nuisance and I have often questioned the possible effects it could have on my family's health. I have done research about the effects of SO<sub>2</sub> and some of the other chemicals that are emitted unfiltered from HTGS stacks on a regular basis. Trust me, there is NOTHING good that comes out. There have been studies on SO<sub>2</sub> done in St John, NB by Health Canada which correlated a decrease in lung function to the exposure to high SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the area. If you read the Material safety data sheets on some of the other chemical emissions like vanadium pent-oxide, it's alarming.

### Here are some examples of our personal experiences:

1. Aesthetics- large pink plumes winding from the plant, along the shore and around Portugal Cove, which can be seen from the Manuels Access Road.
2. On windy days when we are outside and the wind is blowing in our direction, we have experienced an acidic taste in our mouths, severe coughing spurts and burning in our eyes.
3. Property damage as a result of large excursions in the form of soot deposits on siding, camper trailer, decks and vehicles.
4. Ongoing nuisance soot deposits causing damage to paint finishes and glass.
5. Noise pollution. Sometimes when there have been problems, the noise actually shook the house.
6. Very strong acidic odors on fuel delivery days.

**What are the impacts of these experiences?**

1. STRESS
2. Curtailing outdoor activities due to wind direction to avoid exposure
3. Turning off our Air Exchanger to avoid exposure
4. Washing vehicles after nuisance deposits, siding, decks
5. Being startled by the sudden loud noise, sometimes in the middle of the night.

**Why am I here?**

To endorse the Lower Churchill because it will mean an improved quality of life for myself and my family and all other residents who live within the dispersion area of HTGS, not only because we will be rid of the nuisance factors which go hand in hand with HTGS operations, but because we will have reliable GREEN power that I believe will benefit all residents of our province. The alternative of continued HTGS operation with upgrading will bring other nuisance factors that I do not endorse whatsoever. As long as HTGS operates, we are at the mercy of world oil prices and the trend for those prices is to increase over the long term. Why not take a cost hit upfront and have the benefits of price stability from green power in the long run. Obviously, there will be monetary and non-monetary costs to this project. However, after hearing about the details of the project, I believe the benefits outweigh the costs. As a layperson, this project seems to be a reasonable, sensible, logical choice.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to make this brief presentation.