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*Representing Northern Business Since 1973*

Energy Planning  
Industry, Tourism and Investment  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
(Sent electronically)

To whom it may concern,

In association with the network of community Chambers of Commerce in Fort Simpson, Behchoko, Norman Wells, Fort Smith, Hay River and Yellowknife as well as the Northern Aboriginal Business Association, the NWT Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of more than 865 members. For more than 35 years, it has been the only pan-territorial voice of businesses across all sectors of the Northern economy.

Following its meeting with the GNWT's Electricity Review Team, the NWT Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors passed seven motions related to the Review of Electricity Regulation, Rates and Subsidy Programs in the Northwest Territories.

Among the seven approved motions, those receiving unanimous support have been identified as such.

The seven approved motions are:

1) The leadership of the NWT Chamber of Commerce feels that, although we appreciate the opportunity to participate in this process, this review would have benefitted from being more inclusive. To that end, the Chamber is disappointed that the GNWT didn't mandate its Energy Review Team to also explain and consider feedback related specifically to the Draft NWT Hydro Strategy, the unsolicited ATCO proposal and the Northwest Territories Power Corporation review as part of this discussion. **This motion carried with unanimous support.**

2) The leadership of the NWT Chamber of Commerce is in support of private investment in the Northwest Territories Power Corporation, particularly if it helps offset costs related to infrastructure accelerating development of such projects. Additionally, the Chamber feels the best model to use when considering private investment opportunities would be three-way partnerships involving the territorial government, aboriginal development corporations and private industry. By bringing new partners such as these to the table, land access and technical expertise would further accelerate development of this much-needed infrastructure beyond the simple addition of new capital.

3) The leadership of the NWT Chamber of Commerce is in support of an enhanced power system that delivers increased reliability for all commercial and residential customers.

4) The leadership of the NWT Chamber of Commerce is not in support of anything that would increase the cost of power in the NWT. Energy costs are already a huge barrier to economic development in the North and the Chamber thinks greater effort should be made to reduce our already high rates. **This motion carried with unanimous support.**

5) The leadership of the NWT Chamber of Commerce is in support of a reworked commercial power subsidy that is more effective in assisting a greater number of NWT-based small and medium sized enterprises, which form the backbone of our territorial economy.

6) The leadership of the NWT Chamber of Commerce is in support of the Northwest Territories Power Corporation advancing net metering technology allowing businesses and individuals to generate their own electricity and sell any surplus power back into the system at a fair market rate. **This motion carried with unanimous support.**

7) The leadership of the NWT Chamber of Commerce is in support of developing new power generation infrastructure and transmission lines that open up new opportunities for the sale of power – both within the NWT and to export markets – by the Northwest Territories Power Corporation. **This motion carried with unanimous support.**

Should you have any questions, please contact:

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