



Government of
Northwest Territories

November 15, 2024

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MLA, Range Lake

Oral Question 325-20(1): Project Cost Overruns

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question raised on October 23, 2024, regarding Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) project cost overruns and when the Northwest Territories Power Corporation (NTPC) would restructure its board of directors.

Regarding my commitment to provide an update to the Members of the 20th Legislative Assembly on the GNWT's work to restructure NTPC's board of directors, the GNWT is transitioning away from having a board of directors for NTPC and its sister company, NT Hydro, composed of senior GNWT officials, and is going back to a public board.

The GNWT intends to recruit and appoint a public board by issuing a public expression of interest in early 2025 and then screen applicants for ministerial consideration. We will be looking for four-to-eight public members. It is our intention to retain two representatives from the GNWT, in some capacity, to ensure GNWT interests are represented as the sole shareholder of NTPC.

The GNWT will be seeking board members with the right combination of skills and experience to properly govern and oversee the business of NTPC and NT Hydro, which are utilities facing several challenges and opportunities in a rapidly changing energy environment. Since both are crown corporations, its board should reflect the nature and interests of NWT residents. That's why the GNWT will also be seeking board members that broadly represent the people of the NWT – including demographic, Indigenous and regional representation whenever possible.

This is the first time the GNWT will use an open public expression of interest to select and appoint NTPC and NT Hydro board members. As a result, the GNWT cannot be certain of the interest it will receive in response to this call. If the GNWT receives enough interest from qualified individuals, I would expect that when the public expression of interest closes early in 2025, new board members would be appointed within a few months.

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It is also important that we set up the new public board for success. That is why, if possible, the GNWT intends to stagger public appointments so there will be an overlap with the existing board members to ensure a proper transfer of knowledge. This means there could be more than one round of a public expression of interest.

Thank you.



Caroline Wawzonek
Minister, Infrastructure

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Director, Legislative Affairs and House Planning
Deputy Minister, Infrastructure