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WHAPMAGOOSTUI FIRST NATION

P.O. BOX 390 WHAPMAGOOSTUI (QUEBEC) JoM 1G0 entes)

July 14, 2011

Honorable Premier Jean Charest Premier of Quebec Edifice Honoré-Mercier 835 boul, René-Levesque Est 3° étage Quebec (Quebec) G1A 1B4 Régie de l'énergie

DOSSIER: R.3864.1013

DÉPOSÉE EN AUDIENCE

Date: 19.06.2014
Pièces nº: C. G.R.An. B. W. 26

Subject:

Development of Renewable Energy and Sustainable Development within the Framework of the Government of Quebec Northern Plan

Mr. Premier Charest,

The Whapmagoostul First Nation is looking forward to continuing the development of its Nation to Nation relationship with the Government of Quebec.

To facilitate the continuation of this relationship, we request that the Government of Quebec establish an independent Commission to assist the realization of projects relating to the development of new and renewable energy sources, like Wind and Solar, within the Northern Plan adopted for the Province of Quebec.

Given the important environmental impact of hydro-electric development projects on Eeyou Istchee, our traditional homeland, we believe that the evaluation of the viability of cleaner alternative energy sources must be undertaken before looking at developing new large scale Hydro-Electric projects as we believe that we cannot afford to continue using very costly and polluting energy from thermic sources without at least attempting to introduce alternative renewable energy sources in Northern Quebec.

We recognize that great challenges are associated with the introduction of new and emerging technologies and that it will not be different with the implementation of alternate energy sources in remote areas required to satisfy our current and future energy needs. We believe that these issues should be evaluated by this Commission rather than being unilaterally evaluated by Hydro-Quebec as is currently the case.

The primary objective of this Commission should be to table a report by the end of December 2011 on a program for the implementation of renewable energy sources in

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Eeyou Istchee and we believe that independent groups that will be the most impacted by the energy choices available for Northern Quebec, such as members of the Cree Nation and the Inuit, should be invited to actively participate in the fulfillment of the mandate of this Commission.

We also believe that a moratorium should be placed on all new projects proposed by Hydro Quebec for Northern Quebec and, as well, we believe that all approved requests for projects already presented to any regulatory Boards should be suspended until the new Commission is in a position to table its report and an agreement on project choices can be reached by all affected parties.

The rapid establishment of this Commission is crucial to the Whapmagoostul First Nation's interests as it will allow for an independent review of the community's proposal for a pilot project to introduce a new alternative energy solution requiring the integration of Wind/Solar CSP/Hydrogen sources which we intend to propose as a substitute to the thermic plant located within our community that is scheduled to be replaced by Hydro-Quebec in 2013.

We believe that the successful establishment of this pilot project will lead to much needed local economic development opportunities, which is one of the foundations of the sustainable development model within the Northern Plan, as the results of the pilot project will allow for the implementation of a new technology that will form the basis of an economic engine that will be directly responsible for the establishment of new development and Job creation opportunities.

Notably, this proposed hybrid energy project will provide direct economic benefits for members of the Cree nation given the required personnel to operate and feed the boiler system that will be relied upon and given the fact that the primary source of raw materials, consisting of the biomass materials, will be the members of the surrounding communities.

We believe that time is of the essence with respect to these matters as the pilot project can be implemented within the framework of your government's Northern Pian that was recently adopted where you committed yourself to the development of 300 MW of wind power and 200 MW of others renewable energy sources.

We have enlisted the collaboration of GuoDian United Power to help us assess the viability of alternate sources of energy through this pilot project and, in this regard we believe that the rapid conclusion of a Power Purchase Agreement with Hydro-Quebec for the sale of 10 MW of energy expected to be produced through the project will generate an income stream necessary to secure financing from the China Development Bank so that we may fully test the viability of this technology in a northern environment.

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We are hopeful that a Memorandum of Understanding on the implementation of the pilot project can be concluded with GuoDian United Power and financing obtained from the China Development Bank within a timeframe that will allow the VVhapmagoostul First Nation to participate fully as a member of the Quebec delegation to China to promote trade at the end of August.

Given that the successful implementation of the technologies to be developed through the Pilot Project will prove beneficial to both all Quebecers, we would appreciate having an opportunity to meet with you where we may discuss the project in greater detail and look forward to receiving your response in this regard.

Yours truly

Chief Stanley George

Grand Chief, Dr. Matthew Coon Come Whapmagoostul Band Council Members