

New Brunswick Energy Commission - Volpé & Thompson

February 16, 2010



About Us

The Atlantica Centre for Energy is an industry association dedicated to the sustainable growth and economic development of the regional energy sector. Originally centered in southwestern New Brunswick, the Centre's board has expanded to include leading energy professionals and national professional services companies in Maine, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador and Ontario.

The Centre serves as a bridge between corporations and the community to help realize the opportunities associated with the energy sector in Atlantic Canada and the American Northeast. It provides a meeting ground for government, the education and research sectors, and the community at large to foster partnerships and engagement in energy-related issues and policy development.



WELCOME

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Our Partners



Latest News

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Atlantica Centre for Energy & the Commission

- ACfE Seen as an ongoing resource to the Commission
 - Ongoing relationship/engagement
 - Iterative exchange
- New Brunswick's Energy Sector - committed to this region.
 - Invested partners in the success of the region
 - Employment
 - Tax dollars
 - People – population growth
- **Actions today to build the Commission's 10 year view**

Citizen Engagement Process

- Commission consultations & Outreach
 - 9 Cities in 17 days
 - Numerous stakeholder consultations
 - Much to absorb lot to absorb
- ACfE
 - Observations
 - Outcomes – measure success

Success Measures

1. Future Proofed Policy:

- Cleaner & Greener: Hydro, Nuclear, Natural gas & Renewables
- Flexible to regional opportunities: Maritimes, Lower Churchill & Hydro Quebec
- Energy Efficiency/DSM, Building codes – centralized heating solutions (Natural gas usage)
- Positions NB to optimize its advantages: Natural Gas, Geography
- Professionalized & Resourced EUB – Regulation
- Depoliticized

2. Economic Development: Competitive industrial electricity rates measured against jurisdictions with like industry.

3. Economic Development: Competitive Industrial class Natural gas rates measured against jurisdictions with like industry

Competitive Electricity & Economic Development

- Where do we want to be 10 years from now?
 - Competitive Industrial Electricity Rates vital to attract and retain industrial investment.
 - Competitive rates: measured against jurisdictions with like industry.
 - Immediate urgency today
 - Going forward
 - Hydro, Nuclear, Natural Gas, Wind & our neighbours
 - Not artificially burdened by stranded debt from uncompetitive (oil) or from legacy assets.
- Action today and the Path forward.
 - Encourage the de-politicization of the utility
 - EUB: Professionalize and better resourced

Observations: Renewables

- British Columbia's New Clean Energy Act: A Better Model for the Maritime Provinces?
 - Rolled out in 2010 has three main areas of priority: ensuring electricity self-sufficiency at low rates; harnessing B.C.'s clean power potential to create jobs in every region; and strengthening environmental stewardship while reducing greenhouse gases.
 - By building in low cost electricity, British Columbia is explicitly stating the vital importance of low cost power for the province's economic development. Like New Brunswick, B.C. has a large forest products industry and has reiterated its commitment to low cost power for this industry, among others.
 - Caution against politicized renewable energy policy that integrates higher cost renewables and constrains ability to offer competitive energy
- Renewable Energy and Regional Cooperation
 - Intermittent nature of renewables.
 - Regional cooperation is critical to ensuring that renewable energy can be effectively balanced with traditional sources of energy generation.

Observation: Natural Gas Distribution

- Where do we want to be 10 years from now?
 - A jurisdiction that optimizes the full potential of natural gas.
 - Shale, LNG, M&NE (sable), McCully & other
 - Competitive rates: measured against jurisdictions with like industry
 - Right environment energy park & power generation
- Action today & the Path Forward
 - System is struggling in need of restructuring/renegotiation
 - Vital that Natural gas (Energy) used as an instrument to attract and retain investment
 - Market base system versus cost of service
- Competitive rates: measured against jurisdictions with like industry
 - ACfE recognizes that the province is just developing its distribution system.
 - Rates may not be the lone differentiator for investment attraction, but should not be seen an impediment/inhibitor.
- Existing rates inhibit future investment and risks existing investments
- EUB: Professionalize and better resourced

Energy & Utility Board

- Professionalize and better resourced.
- The financial and regulatory aspects are complex.
 - Natural gas distribution
 - Electricity sector
- Fulltime and professionally qualified/credentialed
 - Assure the public that their decisions have had the required professional scrutiny.
 - Resourced with sufficient multi-disciplinary expertise.

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