

REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 28 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 2002 CONSTRUCTION OF EIGHT (8) KILOMETERS OF SINGLE PHASE DISTRIBUTION LINE TO THE MOLIAK COMMUNICATIONS TOWER IN RIGOLET, LABRADOR

August 3, 2004

PROPONANT:

(i) <u>Name of Corporate Body:</u>

Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro

(ii) <u>Address:</u>

P.O. Box 12 400 Hydro Place 2 Captain Whelan Drive St.John's Newfoundland and Labrador A1B 4K7

(iii) <u>Chief Executive Officer:</u>

Name:	Mr. William E. Wells
Official Title:	President and Chief Executive Officer
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(iv) <u>Principal Contact for the Purpose of Environmental Concerns:</u>

Name: Official Title:	Mr. Wayne Lidster Environmental Coordinator Environmental Services and Properties Department
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THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) <u>Name of the Undertaking:</u>

Service Installation to Moliak Communications Tower, Rigolet, Labrador

(ii) <u>Nature of the Undertaking:</u>

The major scope of the project includes the construction of extension to an existing 7.2 kV standard distribution line for a distance of eight (8) kilometers to provide service to a communications tower at Rigolet, Newfoundland and Labrador.

(iii) <u>Purpose/Rationale/Need for the Project:</u>

This service installation and line extension is being undertaken at the request of a customer for electrical power to the communications tower near the town of Rigolet on coastal Labrador. The line extension will allow the replacement of diesel generators that now supply power to this site. This project is expected to reduce cost to the customer and improve service reliability. It will also reduce logistical requirements for winter service in this region of Labrador.

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) <u>Geographic Location:</u>

The Moliak communications tower is located southwest of the community of Rigolet (Figure 1). The community is located approximately half way up the coast of Labrador in Hamilton Inlet at the entrance to Lake Melville and the bay at Goose Bay. It is at the southern end of what is commonly referred to as the north coast of Labrador. It is part of the "Labrador Mineral Belt".

(ii) a) <u>Proposed Route:</u>

The line route follows a generally southwest direction from the community. The total distance of the line is ~ 8.0 kilometers. Starting from Rigolet, the line follows a southerly direction for 3131 meters. It then turns westerly for a distance of 1337 meters. It then runs southwest for 2513 meters then westerly for 1864 meters. The last turn brings the line to the tower for a distance of 964 meters. All coordinates for turns in the line are indicated on the map provided.

The first 3.5 kilometers of the new route follows a road that is under construction. There are no existing corridors along the remaining 5.5 kilometers. The line traverses forested ground near the start and cliff rock as it approaches the Moliak tower location.

Construction:

(a) Construction Schedule:

Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro forces will carry out construction over a four (4) week period upon receipt of required permits and release under the Environmental Assessment Regulations. As with all customer service requests, electrical hook up is presumed to be expedient once requested.

(b) Construction Activities:

The major construction activities associated with this distribution line include:

- Surveying;
- Brush Clearing
- Material Handling and Distribution;
- Pole Installation;
- Anchor Installation
- Conductoring; and
- Clean Up and Rehabilitation.
- (c) Potential Sources of Pollutants:

The potential sources of pollutants during the construction period would include the siltation of streams or water bodies and hydrocarbon leakage from temporary fuel storage facilities and construction equipment.

(d) Potential Resource Conflicts:

A ground survey will be conducted by Hydro's Environmental Services and Properties Department to assess the location of structures. Mitigation will be employed to reduce potential disturbance at all work locations and travel routes. There are two (2) stream crossings along the proposed route.

Standard environmental mitigation will be put in place when working near water bodies as well as adherence to any special requirements identified in the approval process. This work is not anticipated to have adverse environmental impacts. Buffer zones to the streams will be maintained. Fording of both streams is required.

The proposed route will be surveyed by helicopter to determine the presence of Raptors and other wildlife. Any conflicts with protected species can be resolved through rerouting of the line if required. Standard Operating procedures as outlined in "Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's Environmental Protection Plan for Transmission and Distribution Facilities 2004" shall be adhered to while working in proximity of any Raptor nests. The timing of this work should not conflict with nesting birds.

(iii) **Operation:**

This distribution line will be constructed using permanent structures with a minimum operating life of 40 years.

(a) Maintenance:

The distribution line will be inspected from the ground annually. All terrain vehicles and snowmobiles will be used to transport workers and equipment during ground inspections. Vegetation management of the right-of-way will be conducted every five (5) to ten (10) years as determined necessary by vegetation surveys of the distribution line.

(b) Potential Source of Pollutants:

Potential sources of pollutants will be limited to those which may result from the use of all-terrain vehicles along the line during routine inspection and maintenance. All equipment will be inspected routinely to ensure that no hydrocarbon (i.e.; gasoline, diesel fuel, lubricating oil, hydraulic fluid, etc.) leaks occur.

(c) Potential Resource Conflicts:

Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro undertakes an Integrated Vegetation Management Program to manage vegetation within transmission and distribution line rights-of-way. This program involves manual cutting of brush and the application of herbicides depending on the particular section of right-of-way to be managed. No herbicides will be applied in a domestic water supply area.

An Integrated Vegetation Management Plan requires follow up every five (5) to ten (10) years depending on the location within the province. All vegetation management activities are undertaken subject to approval from the Pesticide Control Section, Department of Environment and with adherence to the Pesticide Control Act and Associated Regulations.

Conflicts with the fisheries resources along the right-of-way are not anticipated during maintenance activities.

(iv) Occupations:

The occupations required to construct this undertaking are:

Civil Engineers;

- Electrical Engineers;
- Ecologists;
- Environmental Monitors;
- Engineering Technicians;
- Land Surveyors;
- Heavy Equipment Operators;
- Line Workers;
- Ground Workers; and
- Laborers.

(v) <u>Approvals for the Undertaking:</u>

The following is a list of permits, approvals, and authorizations, which may be necessary for the proposed project:

- a. Release of the Undertaking under the Environmental Assessment Regulations – issued by the minister of the Department of Environment and Conservation;
- b. Easement Rights for a Power Line Over Crown Land Lands Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation;
- c. Municipal Approvals Department of Municipal Affairs;
- d. Quarry Permit Mineral Land Division, Department of Mines and Energy;
- e. Approval under the Navigable Waters Protection Act, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada;
- f. Approval for Cutting of Timber and Forest Travel under the Forestry Act, Department of Forestry and Agrifoods and the Labrador Inuit Association.

(vi) <u>Schedule:</u>

The proposed project release date for this undertaking is September 2004.

(vii) <u>Funding:</u>

This project does not depend on federal funding.

tuguest 3, 2004

Fred H. Martin, Vice President Transmission and Rural Operations

