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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 27, 2015

SENT BY EMAIL

Michael Miltenberger
Member of the Legislative Assembly for Thebacha
Minister of Finance
Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources
Minister Responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation
P. O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

The Town of Hay River will be exercising our option to initiate a competitive process for the distribution of power within our municipal boundary. This decision was based upon recommendations from the Town's Franchise Committee (consisting of 4 elected officials and 4 members of the public at large), and unanimously endorsed by our Town Council.

Currently, the Town of Hay River pays one of the highest costs per kilowatt hour in the Northwest Territories. Both the Town Council and the Franchise Committee have met with the existing distributor, at different times, to discuss the communities concerns around the rates, and the impact they have on families and businesses alike. No tangible solutions were forthcoming, reinforcing the decision to move forward with the public competition for distribution services.

As a municipal government, we are well aware of the high costs of living across the NWT. We are taking this issue very seriously and attempting to implement solutions to address this at the local level, and within our municipal mandate. Hay River has a small, vibrant manufacturing sector, a strong, industrious private sector and a complimentary balance of public sector jobs. As a community government, we believe that power rates are inhibiting the growth of private investment in our community, and the NWT. This is the one cost we are hoping to influence in a positive way that would see an immediate reduction in the costs of living in our community.

We are requesting support from the Members of the Legislative Assembly across the Northwest Territories, to permit the Northwest Territories Power Corporation to submit a bid during our open call for proposals.

Please feel free to contact if you have any questions,

Andrew Cassidy
Mayor
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