

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
7<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL, 54<sup>TH</sup> SESSION

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 2-54

TABLED ON JANUARY 10, 1975

December 12, 1974

SUBMISSION:

TO: Standing Committee on Indian  
& Northern Affairs  
House of Commons, Canada

FROM: David H. Searle, Q.C.  
Member for Yellowknife  
Council of the N.W.T.

SUBJECT: Bill C-13, An Act to amend the  
Northern Canada Power Commission Act

1. Looking at Clause 4 of this Bill which deals with amendments to S.10, particularly sub-section (3)(a) to (d), there is obviously no subsidy envisaged when it comes to the establishment of the rate for a rate zone. Because of this I seriously question the need for a Crown Corporation and suggest that we appear to have all the disadvantages due to normal government inefficiencies, yet none of the advantages of such a corporation. I suggest, therefore, that the Committee start right back at square one and enquire into whether a Crown Corporation, in the circumstance, is required, or whether the development by private enterprise of such energy would not be more efficient, hence less costly. One advantage certainly of private enterprise would be that such a company, or companies, would be subject to our Northwest Territories Utilities Ordinance and the jurisdiction of the Board established pursuant to such legislation, whereas N.C.P.C., because of its incorporation by federal legislation, is not now so subject. At present, therefore, N.C.P.C.'s rates are not subject to review by any independent body, nor subject even to public examination or debate.

.....2

2. Assuming that the suggestion to go with private enterprise is unacceptable in this day and age, then the nature of the corporation should be Territorial pursuant to Ordinance enacted by Council, rather than through federal legislation. This would require the splitting of the assets of the existing corporation and the creation of two Territorial Crown Corporations, one for each Territory. The following benefits would flow from this suggestion:

- (a) the headquarters of the corporation would be within each Territory, instead of Edmonton; and
- (b) the Board of Directors, or Commission, would consist wholly of residents of the Territory, hence be more responsive and knowledgeable of local needs; and
- (c) the corporation would be answerable respecting rates to the Utilities Board established pursuant to the Utilities Ordinance; and
- (d) from the federal government's point of view, there would be substantial control over the corporation through fiscal restraints and other controls, which the federal government has over the Territorial Governments and their Commissioners.

3. From 1 and 2 above you can see that it is felt that, regardless of the nature of the power corporation, its rates should be subject to public review and debate. This is possible under existing Territorial legislation if the entity is from

private enterprise or a creature of Territorial Ordinance. It is not possible without further federal legislation if it remains a federal Crown Corporation. So assuming the suggestions contained in 1. and 2. are unacceptable (God forbid) then at the very least further federal legislation is required to set up some form of federal review or utility board which will hold hearings in the North for the purpose of permitting and reviewing the power rates to be charged.

4. Finally, we come to the vexatious matter of rate zones as contemplated by Clause 4 of the Bill which would amend section 10 of the Act. The stated purpose here is to permit the Commission to establish rates on the basis of the cost of the system in each rate zone instead of on the basis of costs of an individual plant. A form of equalization, on the face of it, would seem to be what is advocated. We all, of course, in principle, favour equality, especially with Eastern Canada. That is not, however, what will happen, in my opinion. In that few people in the vast majority of northern settlements actually pay the local power rate, the only real effect will likely be to raise the cost of power to business communities such as Yellowknife and Hay River and lower the costs of power in the settlements to the federal government, as it is the federal government who pays for and supplies territorial and federal civil servant housing and the northern rental home to native people. If the native people or the civil servant who serves them require subsidization, then that is surely a proper role for the federal government, not for the rest of the urban populous of the N.W.T.

APPENDICES:

- (1) "A" - a table of comparisons re utility bills for selected Canadian locations.
- (2) "B" - annual utility costs breaking out the cost of power
- (3) "C" - letter from Giant Yellowknife Mines Ltd.
- (4) "D" - letter from N.C.P.C. to Plains Western indicating a jump in wholesale power costs of 58% by October, 1975.
- (5) "E" - Certified copy of defeated motion and debate in the Council of the N.W.T. of 8 July, 1968 respecting "rate averaging" of power costs.
- (6) "F" - Certified copy of Motion 17-46 adopted by the Council of the N.W.T. on 21 January, 1972, respecting N.C.P.C.
- (7) "G" - Certified copy of Motion 3-47 adopted by the Council of the N.W.T. on 26 June, 1972, respecting N.C.P.C.
- (8) "H" - Certified copy of motion 36-48 adopted by the Council of the N.W.T. on 9 February, 1973, respecting N.C.P.C.
- (9) "I" - Copy of resolution passed by the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce at its Annual General Meeting on the 7th day of December, 1974.
- ~~(10) "J" - Telegram from the Council of the City of Yellowknife resulting from their Council Meeting of 11 December, 1974.~~

ALL OF WHICH IS  
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

TABLE 6A-3

ANNUAL UTILITY BILLS - SELECTED CANADIAN LOCATIONS

	1973		1968	
	Small home*	Large home**		Small home*
Edmonton	\$216	\$288	Edmonton	\$200 (estimate)
Esquimalt (B.C.)	-	\$432	Churchill	\$900
Ottawa	\$372	\$504	Fort Nelson	\$728
Thompson	\$360	\$480	The Pas	\$579
Yellowknife	\$660	\$864	Fort Smith	\$1040
Fort Simpson	\$1032	\$1296	Pine Point	\$1010
Inuvik	\$1032	\$1332		

\* Small home: 776 sq. ft. L.F.A.; 4 rooms/2 bedrooms/detached bungalow with basement

\*\* Large home: 1264 sq. ft. L.F.A.; 7 rooms/4 bedrooms/detached 2-storey home with basement

Source: R. H. Jenkins, Treasury Board, Ottawa, February 14, 1974 (reporting results from CMHC study commissioned by the Treasury Board).

TABLE 6A-4

## TYPICAL ANNUAL UTILITY COSTS

- INUVIK, FORT SIMPSON, YELLOWKNIFE, FROBISHER BAY, EDMONTON

	INUVIK		FORT SIMPSON		YELLOWKNIFE		FROBISHER BAY		EDMONTON	
	Sm <sup>*</sup>	L <sup>**</sup>	Sm <sup>*</sup>	L <sup>**</sup>	Sm <sup>*</sup>	L <sup>**</sup>	Sm <sup>*</sup>	L <sup>**</sup>	Sm <sup>*</sup>	L <sup>**</sup>
Water Supply	120	120	211	211	110	140	60	60	84	120
Heating Fuel	480	650	335	455	370	510	350	460	66	90
Electricity	440	570	490	640	180	220	600	840	54	75
TOTAL	1040	1340	1036	1306	660	870	1010	1360	204	285

\* Small home    \*\* Large home: See foot of Table 6A-3 for description of each.

N.B. Edmonton data refer to 1972; the remainder refers to 1973

Source: D. Wood, C.M.H.C., Edmonton, February 28, 1974.

## GIANT YELLOWKNIFE MINES LIMITED

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.

XOE 1HO  
CANADA

December 10, 1974.

Mr. D. H. Searle, Q. C.,  
Member, Council of the Northwest Territories,  
YELLOWKNIFE, N. W. T.

Dear Mr. Searle:

I understand that you are appearing as a witness before the Standing Committee of the House of Commons on the Indian and Northern Affairs in Ottawa later this week to make representations concerning proposed amendments to Section 10 of Bill C-13, an Act in respect of the Northern Canada Power Commission. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of our Company's position on this matter and also to ask you to make representation on our behalf.

As you know, in 1946 Giant Yellowknife Mines undertook to develop a source of hydro power on the Snare River in co-operation with the Department of Mines and Resources. The project was taken over by the Northern Canada Power Commission on the understanding that Giant would receive a certain designated horsepower and with the Company agreeing to purchase the power for a period of 20 years at rates consistent with costs involved in repayment of principal, plus operating and maintenance expenses. The Company also agreed to take excess power that might be available for use in electric boilers for heating of process waters and plant buildings. Earlier this year the Company supported an application by the Northern Canada Power Commission for construction of additional hydro capacity at Strutt Lake in the Northwest Territories. A large part of our reason for supporting the application was the obvious economic advantages of hydro-electric power over diesel-generated power.

Under the proposed amendments to the Act, we can see an increase in our costs if the hydro plants are in the future to subsidize the less economical diesel generating stations located throughout our proposed rate zone. While we agree that subsidization of these plants may be desirable, we feel that the subsidy should come from a source other than the communities or industrial users that now have the benefits of hydro.

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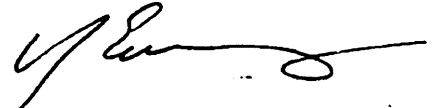
For our part, we cannot afford substantial increases in power costs as we are now in a position of having to mine lower grade ores in order to keep the mine going. You are probably well aware of the fact we were rapidly running out of reserves and it was only the increase in gold price that permitted us to extend the life of the operation. With rapidly escalating wage and supply costs, a significant increase in power costs at this time would tend to negate any benefits we may have received from the higher price.

Possibly you could point out to the Standing Committee the importance of a healthy mining industry in the development of the North, and consequently the importance of doing whatever is possible to ensure that cost increases for power are kept to a minimum.

I have discussed implications of the amendments with Mr. D. P. Walli, Manager of our associated Company United Keno Hill Mines Limited in the Yukon. He is equally concerned about any further cost increases and has authorized me to lend his name in support of this letter on behalf of United Keno. Your assistance in bringing our concerns to the attention of the Standing Committee will be most appreciated.

Yours very truly,

GIANT YELLOWKNIFE MINES LIMITED.



D. J. Emery,  
Mine Manager.

DJE\*mb

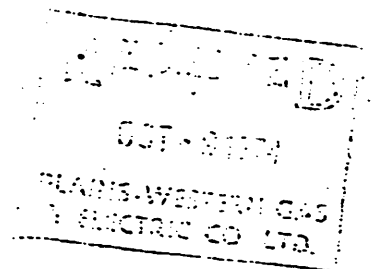
c.c. Mr. D. R. De Laporte, President,  
Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited  
and United Keno Hill Mines Limited.

Mr. D. P. Walli, Manager,  
United Keno Hill Mines Limited.



October 4, 1974

File: S11-3, S1-4



Mr. G. Chelmick,  
Vice-President,  
Plains Western Gas & Electric Co. Ltd.,  
9924 - 63 Avenue,  
EDMONTON, Alberta

Dear Mr. Chelmick:

In accordance with Section 9(c) of the Agreement between the Commission and Plains Western Gas & Electric Co. Ltd., we must advise you of a proposed increase in the energy charge to your Company in October, 1975 and possible further increases in 1976.

Based upon our latest forecast of operating costs and revenue, we propose to increase the energy charge from 0.95¢ per KWH to at least 1.5¢ per KWH, commencing with the October, 1975 billing period. Further increases are anticipated in 1976, depending upon projected diesel-electric generating costs and hydro construction costs at that time.

We sincerely regret the necessity to effect these increases in order to conform to Section 10 of our Act and assure you of our dedication to providing power at the lowest possible cost to all our customers.

Yours truly,

B. G. Christie  
Assistant General Manager, Operations

c.c. A. Yevchuk  
E. W. Jones

HEAD OFFICE: 701-101ST AVENUE

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1001, TORONTO

EDMONTON, ALTA, CANADA

Blair  
WILLIAM BLAIR  
CLERK OF THE  
COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

AT Yellowknife, N.W.T.

ON THE 5th DAY OF December 1974

WHEREAS this licence is not returning any justifiable revenue, now

THEREFORE I move that the Commissioner request that the Department of Fisheries remove this licence requirement and permit the residents of the Territories to sports fish free of charge.

THE COMMISSIONER: Moved by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Trimble, that the Commissioner request that the Department of Fisheries remove this licence requirement and permit the residents of the Territories to sports fish free of charge.

Ready to vote?

All those in favour signify in the usual manner.

Against, if any?

---Carried

Motion No. 51, Mr. Stewart.

Formal Motion No. 51: Electric Power Rates

MR. STEWART:

WHEREAS the power costs at Fort Resolution are out of reach of the average citizen, and

WHEREAS policy of the NCPC is designed to ensure that each power plant in the system breaks even financially, now

THEREFORE I move that the Commissioner request NCPC to review this policy and suggest that a rate-averaging policy replace the present system.

THE COMMISSIONER: Moved by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Pryde, that the Commissioner request NCPC to review this policy and suggest that a rate-averaging policy replace the present system.

The motion, as I see it, is in order for the following reason: it is asking the NCPC to review their policy. Now, as I understand the present policy of NCPC, it is to the effect that it operates in each settlement without a loss. In other words, there be no loss on the system. This apparently is the crux of the trouble.

Point 2: after the Council tour in 1964, NCPC rates were more or less stabilized, we understood, at 12 cents a kilowatt being the total amount, and in Fort three, this Council has passed a recommendation to the authorities asking that power be subsidized in the Northwest Territories up to five cents a kilowatt. This was some time ago.

Well, gentlemen, we are at motion No. 51. This is a question that you might want to think about. We have not done badly on motions. We have only 6 left. How about having coffee and then coming back and finishing this motion here. Then we can go on with the new business. Is that agreeable to everybody?

---Agreed

---Short recess

THE COMMISSIONER: Council will come to order.  
Motion No. 51: discussion?

MR. FAIRBROTHER: Mr. Commissioner, I am in full sympathy with this motion, but just at coffee break I discussed the situation here with Mr. Smith, our Legal Adviser, and according to the way the NCPC Act, a federal statute, is set up, NCPC really have no control in this circumstance.

According to the way the NCPC Act reads, each plant must be self-sufficient, they must set their rates, they must set all the expenses of the operation of the plant, their long-term paying for the units must come from that village. We were just discussing it, and I don't think, according to the way that Act reads, that you can even subsidize power. This is the conclusion we came to. I think before this motion could be given any serious consideration, you would have to have a motion to have the NCPC Act looked into and changed before you could change anything regarding rates or even subsidy.

THE COMMISSIONER: Further discussion?

MR. SEARLE: Mr. Commissioner, the thing that disturbs me about this motion is that it naturally implies that in, say, towns like Yellowknife, the rates would go up here across the board and the people of Yellowknife would be subsidizing the people out in the settlements. That applies to Inuvik, Fort Smith, Hay River; in the larger settlements the rates would go up all over, and they would, in effect, subsidize lower rates in the settlements.

I was just thinking of some of the power bills I know of. Take the Yellowknife Hospital; the power bill is already \$2,500 a month. A slight increase in the kilowatt-hour rate might reflect another \$500 a month. You might say, "Well, that is all right because it subsidizes people out in the settlements." However, I think this thing needs a lot of study and I would rather prefer thinking along the line that because this is a Crown Corporation, maybe the subsidy should come directly from the Crown through the corporation--rather than having the rest of the people, by a higher overall average rate, doing the subsidizing. Certainly for my part, on that basis, I would not support this motion.

THE COMMISSIONER: Any further discussion? I would wonder, in view of the reservations on the part of two members--perhaps even more might have reservations--whether you would want to reconsider this motion and consider putting together a different type of motion, Mr. Stewart. It might not be a good idea if we defeated the motion; people would misunderstand what we were trying to do.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Commissioner, I agree with the member from Mackenzie North. However, I would point out that Hay River and Yellowknife do not come under the NCPC rate as far as I know. The basic power on this is the power grid type of policy.

MR. TRIMBLE: Mr. Commissioner, on a point of order here, is the member summing up in reply?

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

MR. TRIMBLE: I would like to speak briefly to this motion before he does so.

THE COMMISSIONER: I am sorry. Proceed, Mr. Trimble.

MR. TRIMBLE: Mr. Commissioner, we have as a Council gone to quite some length in deciding on and recommending a subsidy for all electrical power in the Northwest Territories, and have been waiting for quite some decision on the part of the Federal Government on this. I have had some reason to hope that a decision would not be too far away. Also, I think at least 2 years ago, this Council recommended to the Federal Government that consideration be given to the feasibility or the possibility of the Territorial Government's taking over all government power generating facilities in the Northwest Territories--excluding private generating facilities--but all government generating facilities and responsibilities for providing power in all communities in the Northwest Territories, and forming a territorial Crown Corporation for this purpose. As I understand it, both this aspect and the aspect of subsidization of electrical energy are awaiting some decision on the part of the Federal Government. It seems to me that we are perhaps complicating the issue by bringing in this motion at this time. I sympathize with the feelings behind this motion. Before taking a definite stand on it, I would want to give it a good deal of thought, because we are going away from the idea of the government subsidizing electrical energy and bringing in a different concept that of people in the larger areas, where the cost, because of the consumption of power, is relatively low, subsidizing the smaller areas where the consumption is considerably less and therefore the cost more. Considering the fact that the cost of living is so high already in the Territories, I don't know if we should really put an additional burden on the people in the larger centers. I would want to give this a good deal of thought, although I can sympathize with the idea that is expressed here, namely, to try and bring down the cost of the remote areas.

However, in view of the fact that we are awaiting some decision on the part of the Federal Government on the other 2 aspects that I spoke of, this is where I think we should focus our attention at this time and renew our requests to the Federal Government to come forth with some decisions on our recommendations, so that we can either proceed to implement them or, if they come forth with negative decisions, then try to adopt some other procedures such as is outlined here. But I don't think we should follow this up at this time.

THE COMMISSIONER: Is there anyone else?

MR. GIBSON: There is one thing I would like to say: if we take an overall average of all over the Northwest Territories, we will never be able to find out whether it is fair or whether it is not. It takes too much bookkeeping and too much everything. A town like Yellowknife, here, to bring in a little

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industry that they may want, should not have to pay more than the reasonable cost of producing and distributing, in this town and in every other town throughout the Territories; and I think it is reasonable in little villages where it is not economical, that that should not be a cost to the people at all, and in the city as well.

That is the way I see it.

MR. COMMISSIONER: Any further discussion?

MR. STEWART: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. I must agree with the speakers who are opposing this motion inasmuch as their feeling is that the "THEREFORE" section of this motion is not too clear. We have a situation in Mackenzie South in which NCPC is responsible for power for Fort Smith, Pine Point and Fort Resolution. The Taltson River Project producing electricity by hydro was installed on the Taltson River and has been highlined to Fort Smith and Pine Point. Now, when we think of power costs, I think, relatively speaking, we are speaking of a good system, and I would think that Fort Resolution would be a part of this particular system inasmuch as they are close together mileage-wise, and this is the only point of operation NCPC has on the southern shore of the lake. It is the people's wishes at Fort Resolution that the power costs of Fort Smith, Pine Point and their own be equalized, and they feel then that their rates would be down sufficiently that the people there could make use of the power because the power rates at Smith, and particularly at Pine Point which is a major user--the actual rate to Pine Point would be negligible--and would bring down the cost of power to the native people at Fort Resolution. This is the intent of the motion. I agree, it is not very well presented and does not give this view point, possibly, but this is the intent and inasmuch as power rates generally are organized on a grid system, it certainly has no intention of affecting the rates in Yellowknife or Hay River because neither of these places is actually being supplied power by NCPC: there are private companies supplying power to both of these points.

I appreciate that this Council has gone on record and has done a great deal to try and bring down the power rates by subsidy, but if my memory serves me right, the Council has been working on this for 5 years at least, and to my knowledge the cost of power has not come down at any point. Possibly this particular motion could be rearranged, but I think we have got to take some definite stand to see that power is going to be available to people this winter. Fort Resolution at the present rate is 16.6 cents per kilowatt, and they just cannot possibly afford to use the power. What is the related cost of the system they have there which is capable of producing sufficient power for the whole town, and yet people can't use it because they can't afford it? What is the relationship between the cost of operating that plant under full maximum load and the way it is now serving the Government and the Hudson's Bay Company? Some sort of equitable solution must be found and must be found soon. We can't wait forever for these things to happen.

With the explanation of the intent of this motion, I would hope, that if you cannot support the motion itself the way it is written, we can possibly develop another one for presentation tomorrow.

THE COMMISSIONER: All those in favour of the motion signify in the usual manner.

Against, if any?

---Defeated

Now, this was a perfect example of introducing new material on summing up a motion. I say this not to detract anything from Mr. Stewart, but obviously during the course of the discussion Mr. Stewart thought of something that he had not brought to Council. He introduced at least eight minutes of new materials, which may, had other members of Council had a chance to discuss it, have altered the vote. Now think of this when you are discussing rule 15, because this is the best example I have seen of it in this session. This is to your credit, not to detract at all from what you have said, but this is something you have to think about when you change that rule, because there was not a single one of you here who could have given any indication of what your thinking was or whether it would change your thinking, or who could have got up to try to indicate to Council that your position had now changed because of the additional new material.

We will now stand down motions until later.

AIR MARSHAL CAMPBELL: Mr. Commissioner, on a point of privilege, earlier in the day one of our more eloquent members used the word, I believe, called "exegesis". I took it upon myself--he was maligned at that time for bringing undesirable epithets into Council. I took it upon myself to look up this word and I thought I would rise on this point of privilege because it is a very interesting definition which I found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary, and I think all members of Council will be pleased to know that the remarks of the eloquent member and the Commissioner are apparently of the order of Scripture, because the term "exegesis" means "Exposition, especially of Scripture".

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Air Marshal Campbell.

All right, we will stand down motions for the moment.

MR. WILLIAMSON: It means my words are Gospel.

THE COMMISSIONER: We will move on to--Mr. Deputy Commissioner, what would you wish to go on with now?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PARKER: I would suggest that we go to No. 6, which will be very brief, and then proceed to 8.

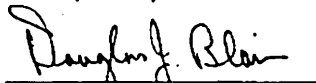
ITEM 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

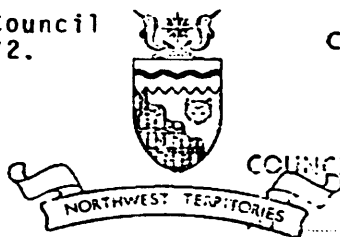
THE COMMISSIONER: Item No. 6, Tabling of Documents.

Tabling of a Wire From the Inuvik Village Council

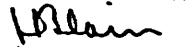


Certified Motion adopted by Council  
46th Session, January 21, 1972.

  
Douglas J. Blain  
Clerk Assistant



"F"  
CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

  
J. Blain  
CLERK OF THE

COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

  
J. Blain

MOTION NO. 17-46

ON THE 5th DAY OF Dec 1974

Establishment of Northwest Territories Electric  
Power Commission

WHEREAS municipalities, settlements, industries  
and citizens within the Northwest Territories  
have a need for a reliable, efficient, and  
economical electrical power distribution  
system and service;

AND WHEREAS it is generally accepted within the  
Northwest Territories that the present electrical  
power distribution system and service in the  
Northwest Territories is not satisfactory, and is  
not the equivalent of the standard achieved in  
the provinces;

AND WHEREAS the responsibility for an electrical  
distribution system and service within the  
Northwest Territories is, for the most part,  
assigned to the Northern Canada Power Commission  
which is a crown corporation having its headquarters  
office in Ottawa, and not in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the scale of charges for electricity within the Northwest Territories is one of the primary factors contributing to the fact that a large proportion of the residents of the Northwest Territories are not able to enjoy the same standard as that available to residents of the provinces;

AND WHEREAS this problem does not appear to result from the management of the Northern Canada Power Commission, but rather from the policies under which this Commission is required to operate;

AND WHEREAS in the provinces the electrical power requirements of their communities, industries, and citizens are met by an appropriate Provincial Electric Power Commission located within the Territorial boundary of each province;

AND WHEREAS a relocation of the headquarters office of the Northern Canada Power Commission to any location not within the Northwest Territories, would not significantly improve the services of the Commission, or the policies under which it operates;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Council recommend to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, that action be taken as a matter of urgency to

establish within the Northwest Territories, a Northwest Territories Electric Power Commission by:

- (a) passing the necessary amendments to existing federal legislation,
- (b) transferring from the Northern Canada Power Commission the necessary elements to form the nucleus of a Northwest Territories Electric Power Commission with its headquarters office located within the Northwest Territories, and
- (c) such additional legal and administrative actions as may be necessary to achieve the objective of this motion.

Date of Notice: January 20, 1972      Moved by: A/M Campbell

Date for Introduction: January 21, 1972      Seconded by:

Disposition:

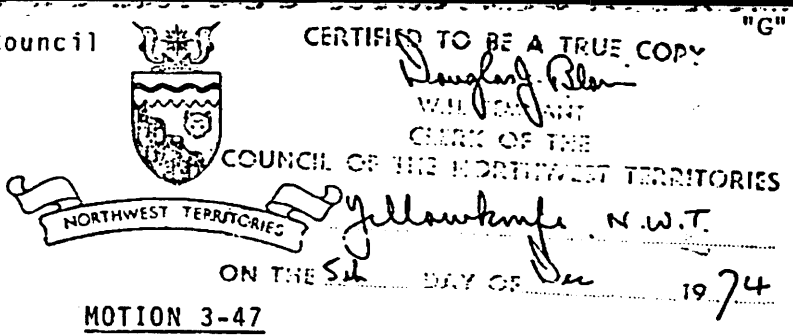
Carried:

Lost:

Ruled Out of Order:

Certified Motion adopted by Council  
46th Session, June 26, 1972

*Douglas J. Blain*  
Douglas J. Blain  
Clerk Assistant



Northwest Territories Electric Power Commission

WHEREAS at the 46th session of Council a recommendation was placed before the Minister that action be initiated to effect the establishment of a N.W.T. Electric Power Commission in the Territories. This is to be accomplished by transferring the necessary elements and staff from the Northern Canada Power Commission presently located in Ottawa. The reasons given for such a request were fully outlined;

AND WHEREAS the Council has not been favoured with the courtesy of a reply to this recommendation, although it has been reported in the Edmonton Journal that the Northern Canada Power Commission is being transferred to Edmonton;

AND WHEREAS it appears that various reasons as follows are being given for such transfers:

(a) That there is an advantage in being close to suppliers. This may be an advantage but completely ignores the requirement that an organization which serves the public should be located in their proximity. This is elementary. All provinces in Canada have their power commissions located within their boundaries. If the report in the Edmonton Journal is correct, Alberta will have two power commissions in their province.

(b) That other Federal Government agencies have established their headquarters in Edmonton. This completely contravenes the policy of the Government, enunciated in 1967, that the capital of the Northwest Territories is to be and now has been established in Yellowknife. It is completely unacceptable to the residents of this territory to have a second capital of the Territories established in Edmonton, and

(c) The cost factor in that it is more economical to establish in Edmonton rather than in the N.W.T. The cost factor was recognized when the decision was taken to establish the capital in Yellowknife and the responsibilities associated with a capital. It is an economic fact;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that a new communication be sent to the Minister to the effect that this Council still feels strongly that the original request and motion will provide the only satisfactory answer. i.e. the establishment of a N.W.T. Electric Power Commission in the Territories and that any interim step as reported in the Edmonton Journal is a stop-gap operation.

The telex to include the preceding "whereas" clauses and additionally read as follows:

"Mr. Minister the Council request that you initiate urgent action to establish within the Northwest Territories a N.W.T. Electric Power Commission by:

- (a) passing the necessary amendments to existing federal legislation,
- (b) transferring from the Northern Canada Power Commission the necessary elements to form the nucleus of a Northwest Territories Electric Power Commission with its headquarters office located within the Northwest Territories,

(c) such additional legal and administrative actions as may be necessary to achieve the objective of this motion, and

(d) that any stepping stone by way of Edmonton is not satisfactory to the Council."

Date of Notice: June 23, 1972

Moved by: Mr. Kaeser

Date for Introduction: June 26, 1972

Seconded by:

Disposition:

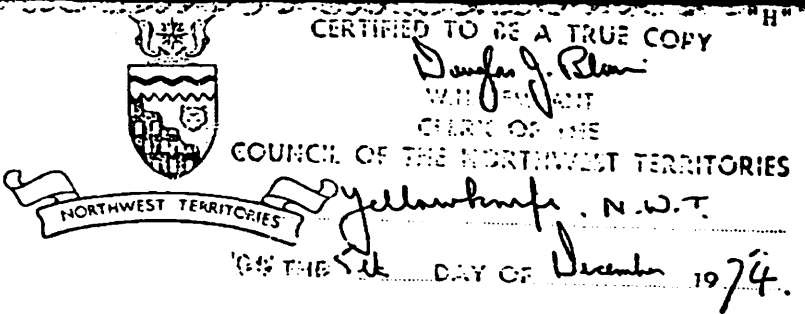
Carried:

Lost:

Ruled Out of Order:

Resolution adopted  
by Council, 48th Session  
February 9, 1973.

*Douglas J. Blain*  
Douglas J. Blain  
Clerk Assistant



MOTION 36-48

Northwest Territories Electric Power Commission

WHEREAS this Council made representation to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development that action be taken to establish within the Northwest Territories a N.W.T. Electric Power Commission in January 1972;

AND WHEREAS the Council had not received a reply by the time of the June Session opening;

AND WHEREAS the Council restated their position in June;

AND WHEREAS the reply from the Department appearing under Information Item 2-48 is not satisfactory to this Council;

AND WHEREAS it has been the announced policy of the Federal Government to have a government based in the Northwest Territories. This, in our opinion, includes such servicing organizations as an Electric Power Commission;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that you, Mr. Commission, communicate with the Minister as follows:



(a) Request that all action on the proposed transfer of N.C.P.C. Headquarters from Ottawa to Edmonton be cancelled until such time as the Council can have an opportunity of discussing it with the Minister personally.

(b) That the N.C.P.C. and proposed N.W.T. Electric Power Commission be added to the Agenda for our next meeting with the Minister.

Date of Notice: February 8, 1973      Moved by: A/M Campbell

Date for Introduction: February 9, 1973      Seconded by:

Disposition:

Carried:

Lost:

Ruled Out of Order:

(I)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce indicate its opposition to the proposed creation of rate zones pursuant to Bill C-13 and our support for the establishment of a Utility Board appointed from within the Northwest Territories by the Commissioner in Counsel to whose jurisdiction N.C.P.C. would be subject.