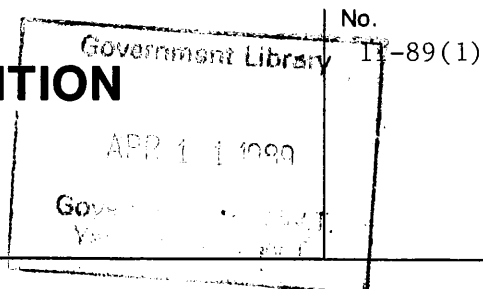


RESPONSE TO PETITION



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 92-89(1) TABLED ON APR 10 1989

Petition tabled by Mr. Kakfwi on March 9, 1989

Response by the Honourable Nellie Cournoyea
Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources



ELECTRICITY FOR COLVILLE LAKE

I have received a request to provide electrical generation and distribution facilities for Colville Lake, so that the community can benefit from a reliable supply of electricity.

The Northwest Territories Power Corporation is prepared to install and operate the necessary facilities in the community, however, there are problems that must be resolved before this can happen.

The generators, controls, power poles, wiring, and other equipment, are very expensive. The Power Corporation has provided a preliminary estimate that indicates that the total cost to purchase and install the equipment will be in the order of \$400,000.

The cost to operate this equipment, in terms of fuel, spare parts and maintenance, will also be very high due to the small number of consumers in the community.

The price in Colville Lake that would be necessary to pay for, and operate the equipment would be over \$2.00 a kilowatt-hour, far in excess of what most people can pay, even when they use very little electricity.

I will be raising these problems with my Cabinet colleagues on behalf of the community, to see if we can find solutions. I will report my progress to the community over the coming months.