

Resolution 11A

HST REBATE ON WELL AND SEPTIC EXPENSES FOR PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS (PASSED)

⇒ District of Lunenburg

WHEREAS private home owners in Nova Scotia now pay 15% HST on all costs for installation and maintenance of their well and septic treatment systems; and

WHEREAS Municipalities are able to claim back a portion of HST paid on water and sewage provision for their residents who have these services; and

WHEREAS Municipalities do not charge HST on sewer area rates billed to residents hooked up to a sewer; and

WHEREAS residents with on-site services should be afforded the same treatment with respects to the application of HST on sewer and water services; and

WHEREAS the percentage of HST paid back to Municipalities by the Province of Nova Scotia is 57.14%; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UNSM work with the Province of Nova Scotia to provide a similar rebate to those private homeowners who currently pay HST for their water and sewage installation and maintenance on their own property, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this rebate will not apply to any part of the property that is used for either commercial, or seasonal commercial use.

Response from:

Nova Scotia Finance and Treasury Board

RESPONSE:

HST rebates provided by Nova Scotia are generally broad-based and are available to the general population of the province. GST/HST treatment based upon geographic or urban/rural differences would be contrary to this principle.

There are many instances where the application of the GST/HST leads to unintended consequences.

The Province endeavors to bring these points forward in discussions with our federal colleagues in an attempt to reduce the incidence of these situations.