

Resolution 7A

LED STREET LIGHTING INITIATIVE (PASSED)

⇒ Town of Mahone Bay

WHEREAS the Premier of Nova Scotia announced that Nova Scotia Power Inc. and the municipal electric utilities in the Province shall convert all highway lighting in the province to LED Street Lights over a five (5) year period; and

WHEREAS the capital cost and yearly usage costs along with no recovery on the value of the existing street lights would result in higher Street Lighting costs to municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities request that the Province of Nova Scotia contribute appropriate funding towards the capital costs of the replacement of LED Street Lights to ensure that savings accrue to municipalities.

Forwarded to:
Minister of the Department of Energy

RESPONSE:

I would also like to use this time to respond to your letter from November 21, 2011, in reference to the two Resolutions that were passed at the November Annual Conference of the UNSM. I have forwarded your letter to the Honourable Sterling Belliveau, Minister of Environment to respond to Resolution 6A, Ecotrust Funding, because this fund is administered by his Department.

We are aware of the pressure that the capital costs will place on the municipalities and understand it will be one of the major factors driving your recommendation for the longer implementation period. We also understand there are concerns surrounding the use and supply of qualified technical personnel. During our next meeting we will discuss both of your concerns, as well as any additional concerns you may have.

Bruce Cameron, the Executive Director of the Sustainable and Renewable Energy Division has informed me he is arranging a meeting between the UNSM, HRM, NSPI and the Nova Scotia Department of Energy for early December. The purpose of this meeting will be to examine all costs associated with the conversion, including the implications of a 5 or 10 year implementation period. Our objective will be to come to a consensus on which implementation period is the most appropriate, from the ratepayers' perspective.

We would expect to achieve this consensus through the creation of a committee that will oversee the implementation plan and strategy for the conversion to LED streetlights. We think this committee will be very important for the successful

implementation of the conversion to LED streetlights. We appreciate your support for this effort.

Thank you again for writing, and I hope that at the December meeting we will make progress on moving forward, together. Our objective and yours is the same, to create the best conversion plan possible, to the benefit of ratepayers.

The Honourable Charlie Parker

Minister

December 6, 2011