

## **Resolution 20A**

### **POINT LEPREAU NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (PASSED)**

⇒ County of Kings

**WHEREAS** the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station is located approximately 64 kilometres from the shores of Nova Scotia and from the gateway to the Annapolis Valley which is home to the Atlantic Province's major food production and agricultural lands; and

**WHEREAS** during the original construction in the 1970's this nuclear generating station was reported to have experienced approximately one billion in overruns and major delays due to labour disputes; and

**WHEREAS** in November 2010, it was understood that the present refurbishment of the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station will incur two to three year time overruns and the cost overruns will be approximately one billion dollars; and

**WHEREAS** during the past three decades, the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station experienced a number of shutdowns and so-called contained radiation leaks; and

**WHEREAS** Point Lepreau is located on the shores of the Bay of Fundy which is home to a vibrant fishing industry and to whales; and

**WHEREAS** any major radiation leak into the Bay of Fundy would contaminate the entire Bay and the powerful Fundy Tides would push the contamination throughout the region and into the Minas Basin; and

**WHEREAS** even though the risk of a major accident is considered to be low, it takes only one tragic event to contaminate the environment of Nova Scotia and in particular, the Annapolis Valley; and

**WHEREAS** the recent and ongoing disaster surrounding Japan's nuclear industry clearly provides indication of what could happen to Nova Scotia and the entire Maritime Region in the event of a major radiation leak; and

**WHEREAS** several earthquakes have been reported or recorded in the Province of New Brunswick over past years and the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station is built near an earthquake fault line; and

**WHEREAS** the nuclear crisis that followed Japan's massive earthquake is giving rise to new concerns about the safety of the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station; and

**WHEREAS** it is expected that a major source of our province's future electrical energy will be produced by Newfoundland and Labrador hydro through an undersea electrical cable, along with Fundy tidal and wind;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the UNSM write to the Premier of Nova Scotia requesting the following:

1. A list of the safeguards in place at Point Lepreau which would protect Nova Scotians should a major accident occur;
2. What the potential impacts would be if a major nuclear accident occurred; and
3. Assurance from the Premier that all safeguard issues have been addressed.

Forwarded to:  
*Minister of the Premier's Office*

**RESPONSE:**

*Thank you for providing a copy of the resolution on ferry service and Point Lepreau from the November Annual Conference of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities.*

*I respect the concerns expressed in the resolution regarding the Point Lepreau nuclear generating station. However, as you may be aware, the Government of Nova Scotia has no jurisdiction over electricity generation in the province of New Brunswick, or any other jurisdiction outside of our provincial boundaries. Nova Scotia Power is prohibited from building a nuclear energy generation facility within the province, as stipulated in the Nova Scotia Power Privatization Act.*

*I suggest that you direct your questions and concerns to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, and to the Honourable Craig Leonard, Minister of Energy for New Brunswick. For your reference, the contact information is as follows:*

*Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
280 Slater St  
P.O. Box 1046, Station B  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9  
Telephone: 800-668-5284  
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca>*

*New Brunswick Department of Energy  
Brunswick Square  
1 Germain St. Suite M100*

*Saint John, NB E2L 4V1  
Telephone: 506-658-3180 <http://www.gnb.ca/energy>*

*Thank you for taking the time to write and sharing this information on behalf of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, and for providing me with an opportunity to respond.*

*The Honourable Darrell Dexter  
Premier  
January 31, 2012*