
From: Bruce Strum <bstrum@strum.com>
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 10:43 AM
To: Office
Cc: Premier
Subject: [PROBABLE-SPAM] Opposition to Bill 6

October 24, 2014

To Whom it May Concern

Re: Concerning Bill 6, Law Amendment

Dear Sir/Madame

I am forwarding to you a letter of concern regarding the planned legislation Bill 6. I am the owner of a Professional Consulting firm, Strum Consulting of Bedford, Nova Scotia. Strum employs 45 professional engineers, hydrogeologists and environmental scientists along with technical staff on a wide range of commercial and industrial projects across Nova Scotia. Our clients include commercial land developers, manufacturers, builders, mining entities, waste handlers and industrial processors to name a few.

Among other restrictive covenants, Bill 6 proposes a moratorium on High Volume Fracturing associated with On Shore Shale Gas Development. My personal view and that of most if not all of my clients is that this legislation will result in loss of local business opportunities as well as discourage outside investors from coming here to explore and develop our clean energy resources.

My thoughts are as follows:

Bill 6 Sends Message That We Don't Want On Shore Energy Investment: Currently, the potential for production of Shale Gas in Nova Scotia is largely unexplored. Exploration is needed to ultimately determine whether commercially viable resources exist here. Bill 6 sends the message from the Nova Scotia political arena that discourages exploration companies from coming to Nova Scotia. The loss of this exploration activity in and of itself, likely to be caused by Bill 6 will result in the loss of millions of dollars to local service providers, such as Strum and other in addition to taxes, employment and lost product sales.

Bill 6 Suggests Nova Scotia Hasn't Done Our Homework: Around the globe, development of Shale Gas resources has been very successfully implemented through Industry driven protocols and Best Management Practices. The role of resource development rests with that of industry through development of safe, environmentally sustainable Industry

Practices. The best use of legislation should be to place the mantle of that responsibility on a willing and safety driven development industry, not to stand in its way by closing its doors to the arrival of that investment. Without the support of a Government that encourages safe development practices, sustainable investment, rural employment and the resulting benefits we see enjoyed elsewhere through existing "Industry Best Management Practices" Nova Scotia sends the message that we have ignored scientific and fact based decision making process.

Bill 6 Will Undermine Investment Confidence in Nova Scotia Energy Projects: Recently, in discussions with Oil Industry developers, it was indicated that Off Shore Oil and Gas producers also feel threatened. Off Shore benefits, totaling in the billions have flowed into Nova Scotia coffers for years through safe, sustainable Off Shore Industry Practices. If On Shore development is strongly discouraged such as by Legislation like Bill 6, confidence in Off Shore producers will suffer as well. No company wants to invest millions and billions in infrastructure, building the local economy and supporting Nova Scotian employment if they think the local Government is closed to business as suggested by Bill 6.

Bill 6 Ignores Sustainable Development Recommendations From the Wheeler Report: The Wheeler report is a lengthy and complex document but as clearly stated, Shale Gas Development can be undertaken in a clean, safe, sustainable and economically rewarding fashion. In Alberta, of the tens of thousands of well drilled and fractured, few if any cases of well damage has been shown to have occurred. Through responsible exploration and development well construction practices, the people of Alberta and Saskatchewan have benefited greatly. Those wells have since been connected to pipelines ensuring safe and sustainable delivery to markets. The placement of that infrastructure has benefited the people of western Canada tremendously! Nova Scotia has an opportunity to share in that prosperity but by developing initiatives that ensure responsible and sustainable practices are implemented. Those benefits will take place in rural Nova Scotia where drill sites might exist, where pipelines might transport Gas safely and where our sons and daughters, the pipefitters, truckers, welders and government inspectors currently can only dream about being able to live near their parents and where they grew up!

Bill 6 Flies in the Face of the Ivany Report: Even the Ivany Report challenged Nova Scotians to action. Ivany tells us to stand up, look for opportunities, develop them sustainably and challenge government to assist if not even lead in these initiatives; not stand in the way and act as an impediment. Here lies a tremendous opportunity for development of Best Industry Practices that will ensure safe sustainable clean energy developments, not curtail them! We can't afford to lose this opportunity!

In closing, an opportunity for all Nova Scotians exists through exploration and valuation of our resources, to develop best management practices that ensure safe sustainable development and to take advantage of an excellent source of clean energy to help replace dirtier fuels.

We don't need legislation that discourages and acts as a disincentive to energy developers, but rather a committed effort by our political leaders to take those steps that support economic development in clean, sustainable manner that will make us all proud to be Nova Scotians.

Please consider this carefully as your ruminations proceed.

Thank you

A Bruce Strum, President

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A. Bruce Strum, P. Geo.
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