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Sent: March 4, 2025 8:30 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Submission

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Standing Committee on Public Bills March 4, 2025
Submission re Bill 6: An Act Respecting Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources

Hello members of the Legislature.

My name is Leslie Robinson. I live in Yarmouth, N.S., and am a retired minister of the United Church of Canada, (40 years of service) and a grandfather.
Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts.

The bans on fracking and uranium mining in Nova Scotia were established for good reasons. They were both the result of extensive research by the appropriate experts and were reviewed by potential stakeholders and the general public. In both cases, the risks to public health and safety, now and for the long-term, were considered too high. Short-term job creation was not considered a sufficient benefit considering the potential long-term harm to public health.

Any proposal to now lift these two bans will, logically, require the same kind of rigorous scientific study and public input to determine if the originally identified risks still exist. Only following such a re-examination of the present risks to public health can any bill in the legislature include the lifting of a ban. This has not been done. Clearly, bill 6 is an example of "putting the cart before the horse". Therefore it should be withdrawn immediately.

By acting in this premature way, the Premier is demonstrating another example (like his attempt to control the Auditor General) of trying to push major decisions through the legislature, without allowing the public the significant time to thoroughly participate in the process. Even independent experts in these fields have not been given the time and opportunity to offer up-to-date research and evidence of the present-day risks involved. Another cause of public alarm and distrust of the government.

In addition, both of these resources, natural gas and uranium, have no part in the reduction of carbon emissions which is so desperately needed to slow-down climate change. Natural gas is a fossil fuel producing carbon emissions into the atmosphere and uranium for nuclear energy is an extremely expensive fuel to mine and process. It would be many years before any energy resulted from such mining and too late to slow-down the carbon emissions necessary today. It would be far better for the government to invest in speeding-up the development of known sustainable energy production, such as solar and wind power.

Thank you for reviewing my concerns and helping to preserve a true democracy in our beautiful Province.

Yours truly,

Leslie Robinson



One Planet. One People.