

MAY 03 2023

Honourable Kelly Regan
Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts
c/o Legislative Committees Office
2nd Floor, One Government Place
1700 Granville Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3P7

Received LCO
May 3, 2023

Dear Honourable Kelly Regan:

Re: Standing Committee on Public Accounts April 12, 2023 – Accountability Report and Business Plan

Further to our appearance at the above noted committee meeting, Public Works has compiled the attached additional information in response to the following committee requests:

1. The amount associated with the Lindsay Construction contract for their construction and management services. What is the management consultant fee for Lindsay to manage this project? How much of that \$15 million is for management fees? (See page 5 and page 21 of transcript)
2. The province identified around a hundred public buildings that could have had small-scale wood-heat systems installed. What is the progress of that project? How many wood-heat systems have been installed? How many will be this year? When will all 100 be installed? What is the budget for this? (See page 13/14 of transcript)
3. The dates dictated by the federal and provincial governments when work (brush clearing) can be done relative to major projects. (See page 26 of transcript)
4. Table a breakdown of current timelines and costs for each of the health care infrastructure projects. (See page 26 of transcript)

I trust you will find the information satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,



Peter Hackett, P.Eng.
Deputy Minister

Enclosure

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Additional Information requested from April 12, 2023, meeting of the Public Accounts Committee:

1. The construction management fee for Lindsay is \$67,300 plus HST per Month.
2. The Department of Natural Resources and Renewables is leading the wood heat-systems initiatives and have provided the information below:
 - In 2020/2021 a first phase of this project was successfully implemented and consist of 9 buildings (at 6 sites) including 2 district heat systems were selected for conversion from oil to wood chip heating systems The sites are as follows:

Site	Location	Proponent
Memorial High School	Sydney Mines	Mira Forestry
Riverview High School	Sydney River	Mira Forestry
Perennia (3 buildings)	Bible Hill	Wood-4-Heat
East Hants High School	East Hants	Wood-4-Heat
Centre of Geographic Science	Lawrencetown	Spectacle Lake Resources
Bridgewater NSCC and Court House	Bridgewater	ACFOR

- In Fall of 2020 40+ sites put forward for a possible Phase 2; initial assessments completed. List narrowed to 20+ candidate sites shortlist. Mostly Department of Health facilities (Hospitals, Senior Homes) in-review.
 - Presently, NRR Wood Heat Initiative is on hold pending allocation of capital.
3. For Major Construction Projects, DPW limits vegetation clearing to occur outside of the bird breeding season, which in NS typically ranges end of March/early April to end of August.
 - Hwy 107 Sackville-Bedford Burnside Environmental Assessment – Condition of Approval:
 - 4.6 The Approval Holder must clear vegetation outside of the breeding season for most bird species (April 15 to August 15), unless otherwise authorized in writing by NSE. Vegetation clearing shall be recorded in a
 - Hwy 102 Aerotech Connector EA Condition of Approval:
 - 8.5 The Approval Holder shall clear vegetation outside of the breeding season for most bird species (April 15 to August 31), unless otherwise authorized in writing by Lands and Forestry. Clearing during the breeding season may require additional surveys and mitigations as directed by the Department. Vegetation
 - The season varies across Canada as shown by information at this link on Environment and Climate Change Canada site:
 - <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods/nesting-periods.html#toc2>

4. Department of Public Works Healthcare Infrastructure Projects:

Project Name	Project progress/status	Approved project funding to date
Abbie J Lane - Floors 6 & 7 - fixture & washroom upgrades	Detailed project scope refinement	\$ 200,000
Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre: Emergency Department & Renal Dialysis Unit	Request for Proposal for Collaborative Design Building Teams closes on April 21, 2023	\$ 2,700,000
Dartmouth General Hospital: Fit-up, supply & installation of new MRI	Construction Tender awarded on April 14, 2023. Project Substantial Performance date is March 1, 2023.	\$ 6,690,000
IWK: Emergency Department Redevelopment	Construction underway, final Tender Package to be advertised early summer 2023. Substantial Performance date is December 31, 2025. Final budget still being finalized.	\$ 101,966,000
North Cumberland Memorial Hospital	Construction underway, Substantial Performance date of July 12, 2023	\$ 25,500,000
South Shore Regional Hospital: Expansion & Renovation	Emergency Department, Endoscopy, Renal Dialysis Substantial Performance date is late-Fall 2025. Day Surgery Substantial Performance date is Summer 2027.	\$ 130,591,900
Yarmouth Regional Hospital: Emergency Department	Design Development completed; R & R being drafted to request full project funding for June 2023 submission to Treasury Board.	\$ 2,500,000
Digby General Hospital: Dialysis	Project Complete, operational since March 2021.	\$ 7,700,000
Valley Regional Hospital: Dialysis	Project Complete, operational since March 2021.	\$ 9,142,000
Glace Bay Hospital: Dialysis	Project Complete, operational since October 2020.	\$ 7,738,500
Modular Dialysis additions to existing healthcare facilities (3 locations: Springhill, Shelburne, Port Hawkesbury)	Preliminary design underway, Schematic Design completion end of June 2023	\$ 847,000

Build Nova Scotia Healthcare Infrastructure Projects:

Active Project	Status	Approved project funding to date (\$M)
Bayers Lake Community Outpatient Centre	(On track) In construction, nearing substantial completion Aug '23.	259.4 (incl. 30 yr. operating term)
Halifax Infirmary Expansion	(On track) In RFP procurement period	Project not yet awarded.
Halifax Infirmary Renal Dialysis Renovation	(On track) In construction	Not provided to maintain the integrity of tendering activities.
Halifax Infirmary Robie Street Entrance Services Redevelopment	(On Hold) Scope under review	
Halifax Infirmary Summer Street Entrance Redevelopment	(On track) In construction	
Halifax Infirmary MRI/DI Department Redevelopment	(On track) Design / Build Contract RFP Evaluations nearing completion, Construction to follow.	
Summer Street Parkade	(Substantial Completion Achieved) Construction complete. Parkade is operational.	34.6
Cape Breton Regional Hospital Redevelopment -Energy Centre -Cancer Centre -Clinical Services Building -Internal Renovations	(On track) Multicomponent project, each new build progressing through various stages of construction.	Not provided to maintain the integrity of tendering activities.
New Waterford Hub Complex -Health / Long Term Care Ctr -Breton Education Centre	(On track) Multicomponent project. Education Centre progressing through construction. Health / Long Term Care Centre construction start pending completion of education centre.	
Northside Health Complex -Health / Long Term Care Ctr -Laundry Facility	(On track) Multicomponent project, each progressing through various stages of construction.	
Glace Bay Hospital Redevelopment	(On track) Progressing through concept design and design development.	

JUN 01 2023

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RECEIVED JUN 05 2023

Dear Honourable Kelly Regan:

Re: Standing Committee on Public Accounts April 12, 2023 – Accountability Report and Business Plan

Thank you for your correspondence dated May 24, 2023, requesting follow up regarding the wood heat system installation pilot.

Public Works has confirmed that currently the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables does not have the budget or mandate to execute this initiative. The ultimate decision currently resides with functional Departments (owner, builder, and/or operator) who would have to secure capital funding and that timetable is unknown at this time.

I trust you will find the information satisfactory.

Regards,



Peter Hackett, P. Eng
Deputy Minister