



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
Newfoundland and Labrador
Jim Dinn, M.H.A.
St. John's Centre

Tony Wakeham, Premier
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
PO Box 8700
Confederation Building
St. John's, NL
A1B 4J6

August 18, 2026

Dear Premier,

Re: Special Debate on Churchill Falls DCIA

Last week I wrote to advise you to hold a special debate in the House of Assembly on the new 2026 Churchill Falls MOU, or as it is now titled, "Definitive Cooperation and Implementation Agreement (DCIA)." I am pleased to see you followed that advice and announced the opening of the House of Assembly on September 14, to allow for a special debate. We would have supported a referendum if it had been accompanied by an extensive public information and engagement process, but that did not appear to be the case. As a result, a special debate in the HOA is the logical and next preferred alternative.

In the absence of a referendum, it is important that MHAs are able to ask the important questions on behalf of their constituents as this deal will affect the province for the next 50 plus years.

At this point, we would like to know the format of the debate. To debate the 2024 MOU the House of Assembly was opened for four days in January 2025. Three of those days were taken up with questioning of the negotiating team, and officials from NL Hydro, JP Morgan, Power Advisory and others who were part of the negotiations, either directly or indirectly.

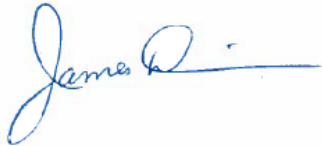
1. Will format be the same as the January 2025 debate; three days of expert testimony and answering questions followed by a debate?
2. Who will be called to the chamber to answer questions from MHAs? We suggest: the Negotiating Team, NLH officials, members of the Independent Review Committee, expert consultants such as JP Morgan and other consultants who provided input.
3. Will we be granted funding to engage our own experts to help analyse the deal as we were able to do with the last deal?
4. Once a final definitive agreement is reached, will the HOA vote on it? This was a commitment from the previous administration.

Thank you for the briefing on the DCIA. I would like to make note that the DCIA was available on the Quebec Hydro website since the press conference on Monday, August 17 however we did not receive a copy of the 71-page document. Your team said it would be posted shortly. This was not a fulsome briefing and the DCIA has not been shared.

Transparency must be paramount. Any deal must benefit Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. We need to ask questions and receive the necessary information. If the House of Assembly is to open for a special debate, it is important that Members have access to all those involved directly or indirectly with negotiating the DCIA.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Dinn", with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Dinn, M.H.A.
St. John's Centre
Leader, NL NDP

Cc. John Hogan, Leader, Official Opposition
Eddie Joyce, M.H.A., Humber - Bay of Islands