

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
46 Municipal Drive, Pictou, Nova Scotia, B0K 1H0
(Tel) 902-485-4311 (fax) 902-485-6475
(Email) brian.cullen@munpict.ca

October 18, 2023

Crystal Henwood
Regulatory Affairs Clerk
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
3rd Floor, Summit Place
1601 Lower Water Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3P6

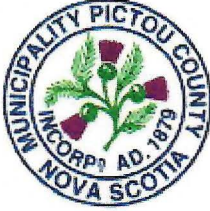
Dear Ms. Henwood:

The Municipal Council for the Municipality of the County of Pictou in recent months corresponded with Nova Scotia Power concerning its plans for decommissioned coal fire plants. I am enclosing the correspondence from the Municipality to Nova Scotia and the response we received back. The contents of the letter and position of the Municipality are that Nova Scotia Power should not rely on heavy fuels as replacement alternatives to coal if we are to mitigate the effects of climate change.

At a recent meeting of the municipal Council a motion was made that the Municipality should forward the correspondence to the regulator of electricity. I am not sure if there is a current matter before the Board that deals with this type of matter; if not, then the letters are simply for information purposes.

Sincerely,

Brian Cullen
Chief Administrative Officer



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August 14, 2023

Peter Gregg,
President and CEO
Nova Scotia Power
PO Box 910
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2W5

Dear Mr. Gregg:

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Council and our Climate Advisory Committee concerning recent reports that Nova Scotia Power plans to use heavy fuels (i.e., Bunker C) at its decommissioned coal fire plants such as the one in Trenton on or before 2030. The Council and Climate Change Committee have concerns that this plan seems counter to climate change initiatives that have meaningful impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

While we understand that a final decision or plan may not be fully developed, the Municipal Council and Climate Change Committee believe that all efforts should be made to reduce our carbon emissions, whether through renewables or other emerging technologies.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

Brian Cullen
Chief Administrative Officer

Cc Honourable Timothy Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

September 6, 2023

Brian Cullen
CAO Municipality of Pictou County
46 Municipal Drive, Pictou NS
BOK 1H0

Dear Mr. Cullen,

Thank you for your letter sent on behalf of the Municipal Council and the Climate Advisory Committee in response to the potential conversion of our coal fired generating units to heavy fuel oil (HFO). Peter Gregg asked that I respond to you as I, along with my team, manage the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) that oversees this transition.

The potential fuel conversion to HFO is just one small piece of the puzzle. It is an option being considered in our (IRP), a consultative process where we work with our partners, stakeholders, the energy community, and our regulator to plan for the long-term future of our electricity system. The output of the IRP process is our updated IRP Action Plan and Roadmap which provides the activities needed for NS Power to meet its 2030 decarbonization targets. The IRP concludes that fuel conversions and new natural gas and hydrogen capacity are required to meet a growing load due to electrification and population growth, integrate variable renewables like wind, and serve peak demand periods. We are exploring converting certain units to natural gas and adding new fast acting generation where there is proximity to natural gas infrastructure.

This will keep the electricity grid reliable and stable and keep the lights on when demand is highest, but the wind is not blowing. Having adequate firm generation during peak demand periods is critical to support the use of 80% renewables. It will take a mix of energy solutions, including wind and solar, battery storage, and other generation sources to get there.

Please reach out if you have any further questions and I would be happy to meet with you if that would be helpful.

Yours truly,



Dave Pickles
Chief Operating Officer
Cc: Honourable Tim Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change