

# Comments on the Muskrat Falls Reference

**Presentation to the Public Utilities Board of  
Newfoundland and Labrador**

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**For Grand Riverkeeper Labrador Inc.**

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# Optimality

- « How did you ensure that ... you were dealing with the optimal scenario under each one? »
  - > Technical optimization vs. planning processes
  - > Iterative process seeking robust solutions
  - > Real time (evolutive) versus planning exercise
  - > Avoiding irrevocable choices that would turn out badly in certain possible futures
  - > Scenario versus plan



## PPA payment options

- “Does the 2035 ratepayer have to pay more so that the 2017 ratepayer can pay less?”
  - > Nominal LUECs vs. escalating prices
  - > Same present value, but different reality
  - > Consumers unlikely to prefer escalating prices

## PPA vs COS

- Simulate annual costs for Muskrat Falls under COS
  - > Higher than PPA in early years
  - > Drastically lower in later years
- Prices post 2067
  - > PPA: maintaining 2067 price levels (\$400/MWh)  $\Rightarrow$  windfall profits
  - > COS: continue to decline ( $< \$20/\text{MWh}$ )



# CDM

## ■ MHI

- > model CDM like generation
- > End-use modelling

## ■ Nalcor's approach

- > Integrate into load forecast through technological change variable
- > No measure-by-measure or program-by-program analysis

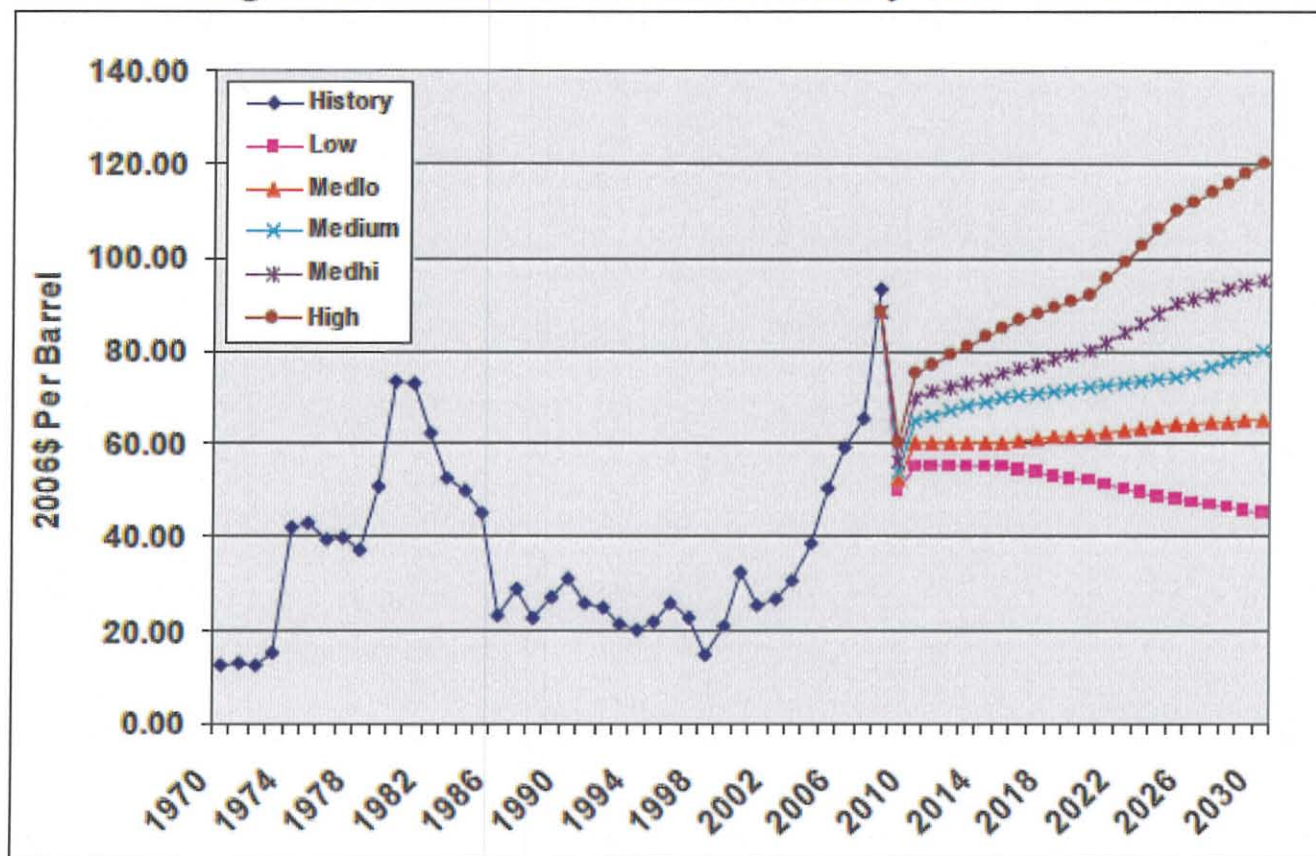
## ■ Objectives to date not met

## ■ Sensitivities

- > Far less than Marbek scenarios
- > At low demand (= high CDM) scenarios, CPW preference for Muskrat drastically reduced

# Fuel price forecasts

Figure A-9: World Oil Prices: History and Forecast



NWPPC fuel forecast 2009



# EIA Retrospective Review

**Table 4. World Oil Prices, Projected vs. Actual**  
(Percent difference)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
AUD 1982	0.0	146.7	126.5	220.0	107.2	171.4																			
AUD 1983	7.4	110.0	80.2	170.0	154.8	94.8																			
AUD 1984	3.7	110.0	20.8	130.2	105.9	87.8																			
AUD 1985	0.0	84.7	26.9	70.9	64.2	55.1																			
AUD 1986	7.4	4.1	-12.5	10.0	4.3	-5.2																			
AUD 1987			-0.1	11.0	-4.8	-8.4																			
AUD 1988*				1.0	-17.4	-24.9																			
AUD 1989					-2.1	-19.8																			
AUD 1990							1.1																		
AUD 1991							1.8																		
AUD 1992							1.8																		
AUD 1993							3.6																		
AUD 1994							5.7																		
AUD 1995							10.9																		
AUD 1996							11.7																		
AUD 1997							-1.8																		
AUD 1998							0.1																		
AUD 1999							0.1																		
AUD 2000							0.8																		
AUD 2001							0.8																		
AUD 2002							1.8																		
AUD 2003							4.5																		
AUD 2004							4.5																		
AUD 2005							4.5																		
AUD 2006							4.5																		
AUD 2007							4.5																		
AUD 2008							4.5																		
AUD 2009							4.5																		
AUD 2010							4.5																		

# Wind power assessment

## ■ 2004 NLH study

- > Sole source for Strategist inputs
- > 80 MW limits primarily economic
  - Based on minimizing spill
  - Fails to take into account cost of wind, net of curtailment or spills
- > « preliminary »
- > Government RFP shows that higher penetration remains an objective



# Conclusions

## ■ Reference question

- > Verify that the costs attributed to each scenario are correct?
- > Verify that each scenario makes sense?

## ■ Analyses of MHI and others

- > Results highly dependent on assumptions
- > Great uncertainties
- > Little confidence that the Isolated Island scenario would play out as defined

## ■ If Muskrat Falls does not go forward

- > planning process will continue
- > May lead to solutions very different from IIS

## ■ Thus Reference Question largely academic