

**KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE**

**Net Metering**

**Committee of the Whole—2016-2017 Operating Budget Review**

**Dept. of Executive—June 2, 2016**

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. I do hope that they correct the diagram and future documents. But it's my understanding that the Public Utilities Board has the ability to regulate net metering. This is where householders and businesses would have the ability to put energy back into the grid and receive some remuneration for that. The problem with the current systems is that you can build up credits, but they expire as of April 1<sup>st</sup> each year. So there seems to be a problem in -- you know, there's even one fellow in Inuvik who might be able to put more energy back into the system than he can ever use. So we need to change the way that net metering is done. Providing some direction to the Public Utilities Board or even putting this into legislation might be the way to do that. So when does the Minister expect that that sort of direction is going to be -- or better policy or direction on net metering is going to change so that we can encourage more renewable energy development in the Northwest Territories? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Blake):** Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister McLeod.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. The PUB applied the cabinet-approved principles to a February 2016 decision regarding Northland Utilities 2014-15 Phase Two General Rate Application. The PUB is developing a clear publicly-accessible set of guidelines on net metering. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Blake):** Thank you, Minister McLeod. Any further questions, Mr. O'Reilly?

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes. When can we expect that those guidelines would be available for public comment? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Blake):** Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister McLeod.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll write to the Chairperson and ask for that information. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Blake):** Thank you, Minister McLeod. Any further questions, Mr. O'Reilly?

**MR. O'REILLY:** Great, thanks. Would the Minister copy us on that correspondence and ensure that we get a copy of the response from the Public Utilities Board as well? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Blake):** Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister McLeod.

**HON. BOB MCLEOD:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll commit to doing that. Thank you.