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Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 11:48 PM

To: Reception

Subject: MECL Energy Efficiency and DSM plan comment

To IRAC Commissioners:

On behalf of the Citizens' Alliance of P.E.I., I would like to make some brief comments re: docket UE21406 and Maritime Electric's efficiency and Demand Side Management plan.

I know MECL has very good intentions, but this plan is just a smidgen of what Islanders really need to be able to use electricity for what they require, but not waste it.

Rebates for lights -- OK, but people are really confused on what lightbulbs they are being encouraged to buy *now* and what potential side effects there are.

Turn off heat pumps during coldest days -- I understand why this is here to offset peak times, but it sounds so backwards. Didn't anybody crunch the numbers a few years ago that all the heat pump promotions would result in so much increased load? And did homes that got a heat pump get energy audits AND retrofits to be more heat-efficient BEFORE the heat pumps were installed? I wonder how many people will turn off their heat pumps and then find their oil furnace has no oil or needed cleaning and won't run?

We have to have a big discussion of electricity production -- a real long range discussion -- instead of expensive bandaids like new diesel generators and little nibbles like the lightbulbs and go-back-to-your-oil-furnace plans.

We appreciate all the opportunity to share comments but hope MECL, IRAC, the province and the public sit down and discuss the next 50 years of meeting energy needs through efficiency, renewable energy generation from all sorts of sources, and transitioning from fossil fuels.

Yours truly,
Chris Ortenburger,
chair, Citizens' Alliance of P.E.I.