The Shoreline Journal Tid-Bits

Short reads of important stories.

Regulations to Securitized Utility Assets

The Province has approved regulations to enable Nova Scotia Power Inc. to apply to the Nova Scotia Energy Board to seek authority to securitize utility assets. Securitization is a financing mechanism that allows for the recovery of approved costs at a lower interest rate and longer time period, lowering costs for customers. *(also see Premier Tim Houston statement on page 2)*

Every aspect of an application to the energy board will be scrutinized to ensure that this approach is in the best interests of Nova Scotians.These regulations are another part of the government's plan to help shield Nova Scotian from sudden and significant rate increases.

Over the past five years, the Province has created the Independent Energy System Operator, advanced the clean power plan, restructured the Nova Scotia Energy Board, and introduced legislation to review performance-based regulation.The new regulations are at: **https://novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regsby-act.htm#pubut**

Christmas at the RECC

The RECC is seeking vendors for Christmas at the RECC 2026 to be held Saturday, December 5, 2026, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Rath Eastlink Community Centre, Truro, Nova Scotia. Applications will be reviewed, and selected vendors will receive confirmation and payment instructions after acceptance. Complete your vendor application here: **https://forms.gle/HVcdr1wTLn4E5DLW8**

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Plugged in and Ready to Roll

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the four fast charger's ports were occupied, with the remaining one incompatible with our car. We waited 45 minutes for a charger only to find the charge kept on stopping, charging only 7 minutes.A fellow EV driver had the same issue before they too gave up. We weren't off to the best start, but since we didn't need the charge, we continued on.

Our luck turned around next at a brand-new charger, installed this past July at the Auberge Bouctouche Inn off Route 11 in New Brunswick. Here, there was no wait for the four 100 kW fast chargers, all compatible with our car. A field next to the charger, perfect for a spontaneous soccer match, plus clean washrooms at the nearby hotel made for both fun and a necessary washroom break.

Things kept getting better once we crossed into Québec and accessed the Circuit électrique. Here coverage is extensive, with seemingly more EV chargers than poissoneries, which is saying something in Gaspésie. In Québec we charged up in Pointe à la Croix, Carleton-sur-Mer, Chandler, Percé, and Gaspé with virtually no issues nor wait times. Percé's fast chargers at Club Nautique, with views of the iconic pierced rock and a big marine-themed playground, was a clear winner.

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News from our Provincial Capital - Tom Taggart

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necessary on the transmission lines.Additionally, the green energy producer is required to pay NSP for the line usage even though they have invested in the line upgrades. So, in reality this is an income generator for NSP without the expense to upgrade the lines. Additionally, within this agreement is a clause that guarantees that if in the event that should NSP need electricity supply in an emergency situation that wind company must provide it to NSP first.

Water usage: Large facilities can consume millions of gallons per day.Again, there are cases where data centres, use a tremendous amount of water to cool the electronic equipment.There are two methods used.As I understand it one system involves taking fresh cool water from source, river, lake or aquifer and spraying a mist which cools the equipment resulting in steam which is dissipated into the atmosphere.

Once it is in the atmosphere it then returns to earth in the form of rain however there is no way of determining where that moisture gets returned. It could end up across the ocean for all we know.The second system is called a closed loop system where cool water is piped throughout the electrical equipment, the system then removes the heat and recirculates the water. In some operations the heat is then reused for some type of heating system.

I understand that the proposed plant in Port Hawkesbury is closed loop but I am not aware of specific use for the heat, I believe it is just released into the environment, but really, I am guessing at that

Environmental and emissions impact can occur if the electricity is produced by fossil fuels.

That is not a concern in N S as a data centre would never be approved using fossil fuels. However, we must not forget that there would be every expectation that there would have to be a back up in place and hat could very likely be powered by natural gas or diesel. l, again just guessing.

Limited permanent jobs. It is being reported publicly that when completed this project would create 200 full time jobs and that these jobs would return $20,million annually to the local economy.Additionally, the local Municipality would receive $400 million over 20 years.That $20,000 000 per year. I am not aware what the size of the Port Hawksbury Municipal annual budget would be, but if this plant was in Colchester County that would replace almost 50% of the required taxes to operate the Municipality in 2026.

If a project of this magnitude was proposed for Colchester North it would be very irresponsible for any elected official, Municipal, Provincial or Federal to just dismiss it without fully understanding the pros and the cons.

I have had some emails from those opposed. I honestly understand their concerns. I may agree with some concerns and disagree with others. However, my reality is that in my job I am very well aware of the challenges faced by residents of Colchester North. Ranging from seniors facing poverty, to food banks, families facing financial burdens, long term care or Health care. There is no getting around it, in most cases the only solution is more money!

This Province is currently operating with a projected $1.4 billion dollar deficit. This is not sustainable! We sure cannot tax people more. What is the answer? It will require ensuring that no opportunity is dismissed offhand. But that very careful prudent and fully informed decisions are made.

To close this off, I chair the Natural Resources and Economic Development standing committee.As we did with the Nova Scotia Power data breach, we are calling an emergency meeting to attempt to educate ourselves as well as get some answers to many of the questions our residents are asking.

We have invited witnesses from Everwind, Municipality of Port Hawkesbury, Provincial Deputy Minister of Environment, Provincial Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, representative of Membertou First Nation and representatives from the Federal Departments responsible for Natural Resources and Environment.

I am writing this on Friday October 23 and the meeting is scheduled for Tuesday Oct 27 so it is possible that the meeting will have taken place before the Shoreline goes to print. Regardless, should anyone be interested I will be posting the directions on my office Facebook account as to how to view that meeting.

Keep in mind that at this time this is a proposed project and I am sure there will be lots of new vital information in the days ahead.

Until next month, enjoy the fall, watch out for children at Halloween and please take time on Remembrance Day to those that gave so much so we could live in peace in such a wonderful Country and Province.

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Point Tupper Data Centre

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Everwind will be building 80 turbines and generate more than 650 MW of clean electricity through new wind farms.The data centre will be built in phases, with the first being 95 MW and will be fully disruptable. That means that if the Nova Scotia power energy grid encounters any situation where it is reaching capacity, the power to the Datacenter will be shut down long before there is any impact on any household.

In terms of water usage, the facility is being designed with a closed-loop cooling system that recirculates water and makes extensive use of air cooling, thanks to Nova Scotia's climate. For perspective, the water usage would be less water than a traditional fish plant. Even at full capacity, water usage will represent approximately 5% of the water currently withdrawn, on average, from the existing Point Tupper industrial water system. We will monitor this but as planned the impact is minimal.

Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change will work closely with Everwind to ensure rules under the Environment Act are met and followed.

The bottom line is that there is a process in place. The Department has a range of approvals and regulations to regulate industry on a case-by-case basis depending on the circumstances of each situation.They are stringent and serious and they will be followed. Regulatory decisions are made based using sound technical expertise and evidence, science and facts.

In terms of the misinformation that is being spread that your household power rate will go up, that is completely false. I have been very clear: protecting Nova Scotia ratepayers is an outright condition of our government's support. In fact, there are scenarios where adding a new customer can actually decrease rates. This will be built into any agreement that the company enters into with N.S. Power and the NSEB will have to approve these rates. I have been clear on our position.

There will always be those who will take every opportunity to oppose economic development in Nova Scotia. That is too often the very first reaction of some and that's ok. We accept that. But it's not realistic to protest budget reductions and protest economic development.The simple reality is that in order to be able to continue to invest in healthcare, homes, and roads, we can either grow our economy or raise taxes. While the NDP would prefer to raise your taxes our government will support opportunities that can meet world-class environmental safeguards to grow our economy.

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