



August 14, 2020

Tabled Document

301-5(2) DCI 22/20

The Honourable Jeannie Ehaloak, MLA
Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation
Office of the Minister
Legislative Assembly Precinct
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

The Honourable Lorne Kusugak, MLA
Minister of Community and Government Services
Office of the Minister
Legislative Assembly Precinct
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

Dear Ministers:

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Member of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut for Iqaluit-Manirajak.

As you will recall, the Qulliq Energy Corporation announced on April 10, 2018, that it had begun to accept applications for its Net Metering Program, a praiseworthy initiative that reflects our collective commitment to implementing renewable energy initiatives across the territory.

Yesterday, the Qulliq Energy Corporation issued a Public Service Announcement warning residents that:

“Any renewable energy systems connected to the power grid without authorization from the Qulliq Energy Corporation and the Office of the Chief Electrical inspector may be served with an Order to Disconnect.”

I am concerned that the Office of the Chief Electrical Inspector is not adequately mandated and resourced to conduct the required inspections and authorizations under the Net Metering Program in a timely manner.

As you are aware, the territorial *Electrical Protection Act* was inherited by Nunavut on division in 1999. Responsibility for the administration of the statute falls under the Department of Community and Government Services. Section 3 of the statute provides for the appointment of electrical inspectors.

In 2002, a new *Technical Standards and Safety Act* was passed during the 5th Session of the 1st Legislative Assembly. This legislative initiative repealed and replaced a number of statutes, including the *Electrical Protection Act*.

However, although it has been almost two decades since the passage of the *Technical Standards and Safety Act*, it has not yet come into force.

Consequently, **I ask that your reply to my correspondence clarify**, in detail, the reasons for the delay in the coming into force of the *Technical Standards and Safety Act* and the government's current timeline for bringing it into force.

I also ask that your reply provide a detailed update on the status of the implementation and administration of the Net Metering Program, including a community-by-community breakdown and description of approved applications to date.

As I noted earlier, I am concerned that the Office of the Chief Electrical Inspector is not adequately mandated and resourced to conduct the required inspections and authorizations under the Net Metering Program in a timely manner. **I also ask that your reply provide** a detailed description of how the Office is working with the Qulliq Energy Corporation to conduct the required inspections and authorizations under the Net Metering Program in a timely manner, and that you commit to giving consideration to introducing appropriate amendments to territorial legislation that would provide for the appointment of additional electrical inspectors who would fall under the responsibility of the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends across the page.

Adam Arreak Lightstone, MLA
Iqaluit-Manirajak

c.c. Minister of Justice
Chair, Standing Committee on Legislation
Iqaluit MLAs

3) Collaboration between QEC and the Office of the Chief Electrical Inspector (OCEI)

OCEI works with QEC as part of the net metering approval process. Prospective customers applying under the program must demonstrate their installation design, equipment and plan is electrically safe and code compliant prior to obtaining a wiring permit from OCEI before installing renewable energy equipment. As part of the plan review, the OCEI requires that parties interested in installing renewable energy systems intended to be connected to the distribution grid, provide a copy of a letter of acceptance for connection to the utility, from QEC. Once the installation is complete and verified as code compliant by OCEI, a connection authorization is granted to QEC and the renewable energy system installer. At this point, the installer's system can be connected to the electrical grid.

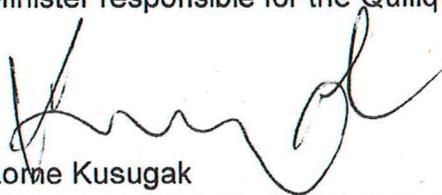
The OCEI is mandated to ensuring that electrical systems in Nunavut are installed and operate in a safe manner. This includes renewable energy systems.

Once again, thank you for your interest in this program. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,



Jeannie Ehloak
Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation



Lorne Kusugak
Minister of Community and Government Services

Attachment (1)

CC: Mr. John Main, Chair – Standing Committee on Legislation

Iqaluit MLA's

Appendix A – Net Metering Applications by Community

Community	Applications Received	QEC-Approval	Application Status
Arctic Bay	Municipal Customer	No	Under review
Baker Lake	Institutional Customer	No	Does not qualify under Net Metering
Cambridge Bay	Residential Customer	Yes	Connected to the electrical grid
	Institutional Customer	No	Does not qualify under Net Metering
Coral Harbour	Municipal Customer	Yes	Connected to the electrical grid
Gjoa Haven	Municipal Customer	Yes	Connected to the electrical grid
Igloolik	Municipal Customer	No	Under review
Iqaluit	Residential Customer #1	Yes	Acceptance letter sent
	Residential Customer #2	Yes	Acceptance letter sent
	Residential Customer #3	Yes	Acceptance letter sent
	Residential Customer #4	No	No progress update from customer
Kinngait	Municipal Customer	Yes	Connected to the electrical grid
Kugaaruk	Municipal Customer	Yes	Acceptance letter sent
Kugluktuk	Municipal Customer	Yes	Connected to the electrical grid
Qikiqtarjuaq	Municipal Customer	Yes	Application Accepted

