



New Release

Government of Nunavut to establish Nunavut Power Corporation in 2001

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 24, 1999) – The Government of Nunavut has decided to set up Nunavut’s own power corporation by 2001.

Having examined the Ikuma working group’s recommendations, the Government has decided that establishing an independent Nunavut Power Corporation is the best option for the supply and delivery of electrical power in Nunavut.

The Ikuma working group brought together individuals with expertise from the Nunavut Government, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the utilities sector to analyze the range of options available.

“After reviewing the research we have done, the Government believes that a Nunavut Power Corporation will enable us to ensure safe, reliable and – most importantly – affordable electrical energy to Nunavummiut.” said Ed Picco, Minister Responsible for the Power Corporation in Nunavut. He added, “Setting up our own power corporation fits into this Government’s plan to develop self-reliance and build healthy communities in Nunavut.”

The Ikuma Report demonstrates that an independent Nunavut Power Corporation will not cost the territory any more to run than it does to share NTPC. The Nunavut Power Corporation will be directed and controlled by Nunavummiut for Nunavummiut. Inuit and local employment at representative levels will be a priority of the new utility, as will staff training. These initiatives will create economic opportunities in Nunavut.

“This is a very exciting step for Nunavut. We have studied this issue very carefully and we are confident that a Nunavut Power Corporation is the best option”, said Minister Picco.

Based on the transition agreement signed before division between the Office of the Interim Commissioner and the Government of the Northwest Territories, Nunavut’s electrical power needs will be served by NTPC until March 31, 2001.

A summary of the Ikuma Report is available upon request.

-30-

For more information, contact:

Wende Halonen
Manager, Communications
Government of Nunavut
Tel.: (867) 979-5822
Fax: (867) 979-5833
Email: whalonen@gov.nu.ca

Marianne Demmer
Executive Assistant
Minister Responsible for the Power Corporation
Government of Nunavut
Tel.: (867) 975-5090
Fax: (867) 975-5095
Email: mdemmer@gov.nu.ca