

News Release

Qulliq Energy Corporation Enhances Accountability

IQALUIT (**February 21, 2005**) – Energy Minister Edward Picco is moving on several fronts to strengthen the management structures and public accountability of Qulliq Energy Corporation.

The Minister is strengthening the QEC Board of Directors with the appointment of chartered accountant Philip Clark. Clark was a managing partner at Mackay Landau Chartered Accountants in Iqaluit for 12 years and has worked with businesses and municipalities across Nunavut.

"The Board has a number of Nunavummiut with strong experience in business and management. Phil Clark's appointment will compliment that experience with his accounting background. The Board has also strengthened the role of its Audit Committee, which Mr. Clark will chair," Picco said.

Celia White, recently manager of an Iqaluit chartered bank, has been hired by QEC to work with the audit committee on quality enhancement within the corporation.

Consumers will also soon be able to better understand their monthly electricity bill. A redesigned bilingual monthly bill will be introduced in April 2005. In addition to English and Inuktitut text on the front, there will be French and Inuinnaquun guides on the reverse.

The Gavamakkut Aulalinginnut (Government Operations) Standing Committee had expressed concern with the timing of the transfer of the government's Petroleum Products Division to the Qulliq Energy Corporation that was planned for April 2005. Agreeing with the committee on the need to first complete the significant issues currently being dealt with by QEC, the Energy Minister has deferred the transfer until April 2006.

"As a government we remain committed to building an energy corporation that can manage our energy needs in a transparent and financially sustainable manner. In order for the transfer of employees and assets to proceed smoothly, for the benefit of Nunavummiut, I agree that the corporation needs to be able to give this structural change its full attention," said Picco.

The Final Report of the Utility Rates Review Council on the corporation's General Rate Application will be released on Feb. 28, 2005. Picco will table the report and the government's response in the legislature on the same day, including the announcement of new electricity rates.

-30-

For more information: Laurie-Anne White, Minister Picco's Office

Phone: (867) 975.5003