



October 21, 2026

Dear Madam Chair,

Following tremendous public outcry over the past five days, I am writing to request an emergency meeting of the Public Accounts Committee to review Everwind's plan to build a massive AI data centre in Cape Breton.

The Premier has stated that the project is good for the province because it will generate jobs and revenue. Everwind has said that the data centre could generate \$1.5 billion in corporate income tax for the province over the span of 20 years. No evidence has been provided to Nova Scotians to support this claim, and no estimated annual breakdown has been provided.

What's worse, no agreement between the Province of Nova Scotia and Everwind or Anthropic AI has been made public. Without this, Nova Scotians don't have a full picture of what protections Premier Houston has or has not secured on their behalf.

From where Nova Scotians stand today, it looks like this data centre will end up costing them money. We know that everywhere data centers have been built, people have seen their power bills skyrocket. As of January 2027, families will be spending \$650 more per year on their power bills than they were in 2021 because of Nova Scotia Power rate increases.

As the Auditor General has reminded us throughout her reports, Nova Scotians deserve transparency and accountability from their government in how public dollars are generated and spent, and in the signing of contracts.

Members of the Public Accounts Committee have a duty to review financial matters respecting the public funds of the province. Right now, this Committee's job is to increase transparency for Nova Scotians by asking questions to better understand how Everwind's data centre will affect the province's finances, and to hold government accountable for ensuring protections are in place.

I am formally requesting that a poll be immediately sent out to all members of the Public Accounts Committee asking for unanimous consent to hold an emergency meeting on the establishment of data centres in the province of Nova Scotia, and that the witnesses for this meeting be the Deputy Minister of the Department of Energy, the Deputy Minister of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, and representatives from Everwind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lachance", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa Lachance
Official Opposition House Leader
MLA, Halifax Citadel-Sable Island

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