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MEDIA STATEMENT

BIGSTONE CREE NATION HAS NOT CONSENTED TO ARMADA-NOWLIT ENERGY LTD. FOR THE HOOLE NATURAL GAS POWER GENERATION FACILITY AND WABASCA AI DATA CENTRE

Treaty No. 8 Territory, October 23, 2026: Bigstone Cree Nation makes our position clear that Armada Nowlit Energy Ltd. and Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 did not obtain our Free, Prior and Informed Consent to develop the proposed Hoole Natural Gas Power Generation Facility and Wabasca AI Data Centers. The Nation has formally notified all appropriate parties, including the relevant governments, regulators, the Municipal District, and the proponent, by letter that it has not consented to the Project.

Bigstone Cree Nation did not receive any notifications from Armada Nowlit Energy Ltd., MD of Opportunity, Alberta Utilities Commission, and Alberta Government, et al, Alberta Consultation Office.

Bigstone Cree Nation is a sovereign, self-determining Nation. We are Sakaw Nêhiyawak, with our own Constitution, laws, and governance and a direct Nation-to-Nation relationship with the Crown under Treaty No. 8. We are rights holders. Decisions affecting our lands and waters must respect our rights and Treaty relationship.

Bigstone Cree Nation has constitutionally protected Inherent Rights and Treaty Rights including to be consulted on the use of our lands yet, this First Nation learned about this proposed project through a Media Release. This area is within Bigstone Cree Nation traditional territory and such development has direct impacts to our inherent way of life, our Treaty Rights, our lands, waters, ecosystem, and ambient conditions being within close proximity to people's homes, culture and way of life.

Bigstone Cree Nation reiterates an official written "Statement of Concern" has been submitted to the governments, regulators, Municipal District of Opportunity, and the proponent with respect to Bigstone Cree Nation and their peoples' collective rights.

The Honor of the Crown and its representatives must uphold its Treaty obligations and engage with Bigstone Cree Nation on a genuine Nation-to-Nation basis. This includes potential cumulative impacts within the traditional lands of Bigstone Cree Nation in Treaty No. 8 territory.

"These lands and waters are our home. This is about our way of life. Bigstone Cree Nation has not consented to this Project and remains committed to protecting its rights, territory, and way of life for present and future generations."

(for) Chief Margo Auger
Bigstone Cree Nation

For media inquiries, please contact Lorna Auger – Bigstone Executive Director: 780-319-9697 lorna.auger@bigstone.ca

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