



NEWS RELEASE

City of Yellowknife
March 14, 2011

Yellowknife Residents Vote “No” in Con Mine Community Energy System Referendum Vote

The City of Yellowknife has released results of the referendum held on March 14th, to authorize borrowing of up to \$49 million to continue work on the proposed Con Mine Community Energy System. The total number of votes submitted was 2359. The results, tallied by the Returning Officer after the polls closed on March 14, 2011 were as follows:

YES	997
NO	1362

“We were pleased to see such a strong turnout from the community, after a healthy debate on this project,” said Mayor Gordon Van Tighem. “Of course we’re disappointed to see such a worthy project halted now, especially when we have had strong interest from private sector partners and \$14.1 million in federal grant funding.”

The project, which would see a community or district energy system created to heat buildings in the downtown core using mainly geothermal energy from Con Mine, will now be reviewed by Mayor and Council. Future options include abandoning the project altogether, offering the opportunity to operate the system to the private sector, and reviewing options and interest from other levels of government.

“We know that residents were engaged in this decision process and we believe they had enough information to make an informed decision,” said Robert Long, senior administrative officer for Yellowknife. “We only hope that this outcome truly represents the desire of the whole community.”

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