

_____, MP
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Greetings,

I am writing as a concerned employee. In July 2014, the then Conservative federal government announced that we would be managed under a Government-owned, Contractor-operated (GoCo) model. The transition to a GoCo model involved the creation of a privately owned and operated organization, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL), as a subsidiary of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), a federal Crown corporation.

It troubles me that the Government at the time decided that we should be administrated by a private enterprise. We are the first and only GoCo in Canada. Canada has no expertise regarding this operational model; we do not know if the GoCo model will be successful in Canada. And yet, the Conservative government thought that we would be the ideal testing ground for whether GoCos work in this country. I think using a GoCo model in Canada is just asking for problems.

What concerns me most on a personal level is the future status of CNL and what that status would mean for our pension plans. Starting in September 2015 we were given notice, without any consultation, that we would no longer be able to contribute to our public service pension plans following a transitional period of three years. New employees were to be given no such coverage at all. By excluding new hires from the transitional coverage entirely, the message we've been given is that any future alternative pension plan will not be equivalent, comparable, or for that matter, negotiable.

Our greatest concern is that as of September 2018 we will no longer be able to participate in the public service pension plan. As part of the GoCo contractual agreement, another pension plan must be developed and put in place for all employees to participate in before transitional coverage ends. This plan must be put in place by the 2018 deadline. This new pension plan, directly or indirectly, will rely on the successes and failures of a private entity. We will no longer have the secure backing that was found in the public service pension plan. The public service pension plan is and will always be far superior to any plan proposed by a private entity.

Since taking office over a year ago, the Liberal government has reversed many decisions made by the previous Conservative government. I hope that trend continues. I personally believe that we should not be operated as a GoCo; and I hope the Government reverses that decision. If this is not possible, I ask that you take the steps necessary to allow us to remain in the public service pension plan.

Thank you,

Signature

Name (Print) _____
Address _____
City _____
Province _____
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