

Opposition leader questions minister on IOC production cuts

St. John's —

Liberal Leader Yvonne Jones asked Natural Resources Minister Kathy Dunderdale Monday why she didn't tell the House of Assembly last week about production cuts at the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOC) in Labrador City.

During question period in the House, Jones asked Dunderdale when she found out about the cuts at IOC.

Dunderdale said when she gave the House an update on the company last week, she was going on information that was no more than 24 hours old.

Dunderdale said a conversation with IOC officials led her to believe there would be no changes at the mine.

"At that time it was steady as she goes," said Dunderdale.

Dunderdale said she found out later in the week that wasn't the case.

On Friday, IOC announced it was scaling back pellet production and reviewing its expansion plans.

Dunderdale said no permanent employees of the company are expected to be laid off at this time.



Kathy Dunderdale

*Kathy Dunderdale
— Photo by The
Canadian Press*