

1 **IN THE MATTER OF** the
2 *Public Utilities Act*, (the “*Act*”)

3
4 **AND,**

5
6 **IN THE MATTER OF** an Application by
7 by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for
8 an Order approving: (1) its 2007 capital budget
9 pursuant to s.41(1) of the *Act*; (2) its 2007
10 capital purchases, and construction projects
11 in excess of \$50,000 pursuant to s.41(3) (a)
12 of the *Act*; (3) its leases in excess of
13 \$5,000 pursuant to s. 41(3) (b) of the *Act*;
14 and (4) its estimated contributions
15 in aid of construction for 2007 pursuant to
16 s. 41(5) of the *Act* and for an Order pursuant to
17 s. 78 of the *Act* fixing and determining its average
18 rate base for 2005.
19
20

21 **INFORMATION REQUESTS**

22 23 **B-24 Gas Turbine Assessments**

24 25 **PUB 149.0 NLH**

26
27 Provide outage statistics and data as to trips and failure to start for both Stephenville and
28 Hardwoods for the last ten years, showing impacts on service with details as to the scheduled
29 maintenance or down time.

30 31 **PUB 150.0 NLH**

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33 When were these units last refurbished?
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35 **PUB 151.0 NLH**

36
37 What would the impact be on system reliability and ability to meet peak demand requirements of
38 removing the generation capacity in Stephenville or Hardwoods?

1 **PUB 152.0 NLH**

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3 Given the age and condition of the gas turbine plants, the failure to start rates, unavailability of
4 technical support, lack of replacement parts, hoarding of spare parts by other operators of similar
5 plants, obsolescence of the engine and relatively few similar engines in service, is it necessary to
6 undertake a condition assessment of the gas turbine units?

7 **B-14 Holyrood Assessment**

8

9 **PUB 153.0 NLH**

10

11 Provide a breakdown of the costs with respect to each of the two principal components of the
12 assessment referenced in PUB 11.0 NLH, providing details for each of the related feasibility
13 studies.

14

15 **PUB 154.0 NLH**

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17 Provide details of the similar assessment done at the other utility that formed the basis of the cost
18 estimate as referenced in PUB 11.0 NLH, setting out the EPRI level of assessment conducted on
19 major components.

20

21 **PUB 155.0 NLH**

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23 Provide details of the scope of work that was communicated to the engineering company that
24 held discussions with NLH in relation to the costing of this project as referenced in PUB 11.0
25 NLH.

26

27 **PUB 156.0 NLH**

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29 Provide a detailed explanation of the scope of work proposed in this project, setting out the type
30 of assessment that is going to be performed on the major components of each of the generating
31 units and the costs that will be associated with each, setting out whether an EPRI Level 1, 2 or 3
32 will be conducted.

33

34 **PUB 157.0 NLH**

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36 If a detailed scope of work is not currently available how long would it take to prepare one?

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38 **PUB 158.0 NLH**

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40 Why can't the assessment wait until the scope of work has been detailed?

1 **PUB 159.0 NLH**

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3 What would be the costs associated with the preparation of the detailed scope? What would be
4 the results of approval of only expenditure associated with determining the scope in 2007?

5
6 **PUB 160.0 NLH**

7
8 What would be the pitfalls and benefits associated with the approval of an assessment of one of
9 the units this year with NLH applying in subsequent years for approval of expenditures related to
10 the assessment of the other units in a later year if it was deemed necessary?

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12 **PUB 161.0 NLH**

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14 In the same way that NLH references the condition of the Hardwoods plant to assess the
15 condition of the Stephenville fuel pipes, could a condition assessment of one unit at Holyrood
16 serve to inform as to the condition of the other units, especially in relation to units 1 and 2?

17
18 **PUB 162.0 NLH**

19
20 What would be the estimated cost of an assessment of each of the units individually?

21
22 **PUB 163.0 NLH**

23
24 Is it planned that there will be a request for proposals to conduct this assessment? Can any firms
25 be identified as likely being qualified?

26
27 **PUB 164.0 NLH**

28
29 Provide the Holyrood DAFOR data annually from the earliest date that this information is
30 available.

31
32 **PUB 165.0 NLH**

33
34 Can the Holyrood DAFOR data be segregated for each generation unit? If not, can it be
35 determined from other information sources if the DAFOR information is subject to a
36 disproportionate number of equipment failures related to a single generation unit?

37
38 **PUB 166.0 NLH**

39
40 As a measure of determining how the results shown in the DAFOR data flow through to the
41 customer, provide historical data showing annual impacts on service for each of the three units
42 over the last 15 years.

43

1 **PUB 167.0 NLH**

2

3 Provide the rationale for NLH's previous decision to defer life assessments of the units based on
4 operational hours though at the time the decision was made units 1 and 2 were approaching the
5 calendar end of life.

6

7 **PUB 168.0 NLH**

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9 In light of the comments in PUB 15.0 NLH, why does this assessment have to be completed in
10 2007?

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12 **PUB 169.0 NLH**

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14 What is the impact of delaying the assessment for 1, 2,3, 4 or 5 years?

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16 **PUB 170.0 NLH**

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18 Can the assessment wait until the information referenced in PUB 13 NLH is available? Why or
19 why not?

20

21 **PUB 171.0 NLH**

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23 Can NLH's own staff, with a proactive maintenance and capital program, maintain the plant to
24 allow this assessment to be put off? Why or why not?

25

26 **PUB 172.0 NLH**

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28 Provide a timeline for the completion of any resulting changes to the plant.

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30 **PUB 173.0 NLH**

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32 What will be the estimated remaining useful life of the units at the end of the assessment and at
33 the end of the estimated resulting changes to plant?

34

PUB 174.0 NLH

Provide a copy of the report titled: "Prime Thermal Asset Remaining Life Assessment".

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland this 11th day of September 2006.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Per *Original signed by*
Barbara Thistle
Assistant Board Secretary