

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

AND,

IN THE MATTER OF an Application by
Newfoundland Power Inc. for an Order pursuant to
Sections 41, 78 and 80 of the Act:

- (a) approving its 2005 Capital Budget of \$48,141,000; and
- (b) (i) fixing and determining its average rate base for 2003 in the amount of \$675,730,000;
(ii) approving its revised forecast average rate base for 2004 in the amount of \$713,072,000; and
(iii) approving its forecast average rate base for 2005 in the amount of \$740,142,000; and
- (c) approving revised values for rate base and invested capital for use in the automatic adjustment formula (the “Automatic Adjustment Formula”) for the calculation of return on rate base for 2004 pursuant to Order P.U. 19(2003).

INFORMATION REQUESTS

DISTRIBUTION

PUB 27.0 (B-31, B-33, B-35, B-37, B-39, B-41, B-44, B-49, and B-51)

- PUB 27.1 Provide the aggregate of all costs contained in above projects that are directly attributable to a growth in customers.
- PUB 27.2 Provide the aggregate of all costs contained in the above projects that are directly attributable to the growth in customers expressed as a unit cost per new customer.
- PUB 27.3 Provide a comparison of the cost figures in 27.1 and 27.2 with the same costs for each of the past five (5) capital programs, both actual and budgeted.
- PUB 27.4 Provide the growth in new customers expressed as:
 - a. The gross number of new customers forecast for 2005;
 - b. The net number of new customers forecast for 2005;
 - c. The net and gross growth in new customers expressed as a percentage of the existing customer base in the proceeding year.
- PUB 27.5 Provide the gross and net growth in new customers as well as the number of new customers expressed as a percentage of the existing customer base in the proceeding year, for each of the past five (5) years.
- PUB 27.6 Provide the aggregate of all costs contained in the above projects that are directly attributable to the growth in energy sales.

- PUB 27.7 Provide a comparison of the cost figures in 27.6 with the same costs for each of the past five (5) capital programs, both actual and budgeted.
- PUB 27.8 Provide the growth in energy sales expressed as a percentage of the actual energy sales from the proceeding year.
- PUB 27.9 Provide the aggregate of all costs directly attributable to the replacement or refurbishment of equipment due to damage.
- PUB 27.10 Provide the aggregate of all costs directly attributable to the replacement or refurbishment of equipment due to obsolescence.
- PUB 27.11 Reconcile the total of all aggregate costs per 27.1, 27.6, 27.9 and 27.10 to the total costs for 'Distribution'.

PUB 28.0 (RE: B-31, B-33, B-35, B-37, B-47)

- PUB 28.1 Provide working calculations for the "historical" based costs contained in each of the above projects.
- PUB 28.2 Provide a rationale for why a GDP Deflator for Canada is a better proxy for adjusting historical figures to take inflation in to account then using the:
- (a) CPI for Canada;
 - (b) GDP Deflator for Newfoundland; and
 - (c) CPI for Newfoundland.

PUB 29.0 (RE: B-31, B-35, B-41, B-44, B-47, B-49, B-51)

- PUB 29.1 Provide the number of feeders upgraded in the last five (5) years.
- PUB 29.2 Provide the number of feeders to be upgraded in the next five (5) years.
- PUB 29.3 Provide an explanation of the difference, if any, between the terms:
- (a) "distribution structures and electrical equipment" (B-44);
 - (b) "distribution lines" (B-47)
 - (c) "poles, conductor and hardware" (B-49);
 - (d) "feeder, equipment or conductor upgrade" (B-51);
 - (e) "primary and secondary distribution lines" (B-31); and
 - (f) "service wires" (B-35).

PUB 30.0 (RE: Volume II, Distribution Appendix 1, Attachment A)

- PUB 30.1 Provide a copy of the "2004 Corporate Distribution Reliability Review".

ENERGY SUPPLY

PUB 31.0 (RE: B-12, Wesleyville Gas Turbine Overhaul)

PUB 31.1 Explain why the conclusions of Rolls-Royce (Volume II, Energy Supply, Appendix 2, Attachment A, p. 2) were not followed.

“The gas generator was inspected prior to the move and the recommendation at that time was to have the unit sent to an approved overhaul facility for repair prior to running the unit.”

PUB 31.2 Confirm whether any of the costs incurred in the relocation of the Wesleyville Gas Turbine in 2004 will be negated, stranded or subsequently duplicated by the proposed overhaul.

PUB 32.0 (RE: B-14, Rattling Brook Refurbishment)

PUB 32.1 Does NP consider this project to be a multi-year project that, once approved by the Board, would be approved for subsequent years?

PUB 32.2 Confirm that it is not NP’s intention to replace the existing steel penstock.

SUBSTATIONS

PUB 33.0 (RE: B-19, Replacement and Standby Substation Equipment)

PUB 33.1 Confirm that the inventory levels of those items for which spares are to be acquired (“Corporate Spares and Replacements”, \$850,000, Volume II, Substations, Appendix 2, p.2) will not exceed the historical five (5) year average level of inventory for such items.

PUB 33.2 Explain how safety, or the reliability of the electrical system, has been negatively impacted by the lack of operating voltmeters at Twillingate and Garnish.

PUB 34.0 (RE: B-27, Feeder Additions)

PUB 34.1 Explain why this project would not fall under “Distribution”, and specifically why it would not be considered part of described project, B-51.

DATED at St. John’s, Newfoundland this 10th day of September 2004.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Per Original signed by
Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary