

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 2006 Capital Budget of \$49,258,000; and
- (b) fixing and determining its average rate base for
2004 in the amount of \$715,111,000.

INFORMATION REQUESTS

GENERATION HYDRO

PUB 59.0

B-4 Plant Refurbishment – Petty Harbour \$1,829,000

Board Order P.U. 35(2003), p. 8, states, in referring to discussions between the utilities regarding the upgrade of generation facilities, that "...the Board finds it appropriate that a utility undertake such discussions and document the results as part of the application." Please provide evidence of any such discussions that have taken place regarding the refurbishment of the Petty Harbour Hydroelectric Generating Plant or explain why such discussions did not take place.

PUB 60.0

Under what circumstances would NP consider a hydroelectric plant to be unworthy of refurbishment and incapable of providing further service?

DISTRIBUTION

PUB 61.0

B-25 Extensions (Pooled) \$6,766,000

IR PUB-11.0 NP (2006 NP Capital Budget), Tables 1 and 2 indicate that in each year from 2001 to 2005F the expenditures for extensions and the number of new customer connections have been consistently under-forecast, Table 1 by an average of 44%, Table 2 by an average of 33%. Why, given the variances between budget and actual, does NP continue to use the same methodology of estimating costs relating to the connection of new customers?

PUB 62.0

B-40 Rebuild Distribution Lines (Pooled) \$3,190,000

B-45 Distribution Reliability Initiative (Pooled) \$3,114,000

B-48 Feeder Additions and Upgrades to Accommodate Growth (Pooled) \$266,000

Please explain the distinctions between these three projects.

GENERAL PROPERTY

PUB 63.0

B-57 Standby Diesel Generators – Duffy Place & Clarenville (Pooled) \$665,000

In light of the listing provided in Volume II, Section 5.1, p. 3, what is the plan to install backup generation at sites other than Duffy Place, Carbonear and Clarenville?

PUB 64.0

Why is there benefit in deferring the installation of backup generation at sites other than Duffy Place, Carbonear and Clarenville?

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland this 23rd day of September 2005.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Per

Original signed by _____

Barbara Thistle

Assistant Board Secretary