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January 15, 2014

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Via Electronic Mail and Courier

Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities 120 Torbay Road P.O. Box 21040 St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

Attention:

Ms. G. Cheryl Blundon, Director of Corporate Services

and Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Blundon:

Re: Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro - Application for approval of a capital project for the installation of diesel units at Holyrood for the purposes of blackstarting the generating units, and for the deferral of lease costs

Please find enclosed the original and eight (8) copies of the Requests for Information IC-NLH-1 to IC-NLH-15 of the Island Industrial Customers, Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited, North Atlantic Refining Limited and Teck Resources Limited, in the above Application.

We trust you will find the enclosed to be in order.

Yours truly,

Stewart McKelvey

Paul L. Coxworthy

PLC/kmcd

Enclosure

c. Geoffrey P. Young, Senior Legal Counsel, Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro

Thomas J. Johnson, Consumer Advocate Gerard Hayes, Newfoundland Power

Dean A. Porter, Poole Althouse

Thomas O'Reilly, Q.C., Vale Newfoundland and Labrador Limited

IN THE MATTER OF the Electrical Power Control Act, R.S.N.L. 1994, Chapter E-5.1 (the EPCA) and the Public Utilities Act, R.S.N.L. 1990, Chapter P-47 (the Act) and regulations thereunder;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (Hydro) for the approval, pursuant to Subsection 41(3) of the *Act* of infrastructure required for the installation of diesel units at Holyrood for the purpose of blackstarting the generating units, and pursuant to Sections 49, 78 and 80 of the *Act*, for the deferral of lease costs relating to the diesel units required for blackstart purposes.

ISLAND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION IC-NLH-1 TO IC-NLH-15

Issued: January 15, 2014

IN THE MATTER OF the Electrical Power Control Act, R.S.N.L. 1994, Chapter E-5.1 (the EPCA) and the Public Utilities Act, R.S.N.L. 1990, Chapter P-47 (the Act) and regulations thereunder;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (Hydro) for the approval, pursuant to Subsection 41(3) of the *Act* of infrastructure required for the installation of diesel units at Holyrood for the purpose of blackstarting the generating units, and pursuant to Sections 49, 78 and 80 of the *Act*, for the deferral of lease costs relating to the diesel units required for blackstart purposes.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OF THE ISLAND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS IC-NLH-1 to IC-NLH-15

In its 2011 Capital Budget Application, Hydro proposed a project to 3 IC-NLH-1 overhaul the Holyrood gas turbine, used for Holyrood black start. 4 but subsequently decided to defer the project. Provide detailed, 5 present-value comparison of the capital costs (and any other 6 applicable costs) that would have been incurred if the Holyrood gas 7 turbine overhaul had proceeded, in 2011, as originally proposed in 8 the 2011 Capital Budget application, on the one hand, as compared 9 to the capital costs, projected annual lease costs and other 10 projected costs for the lease, installation, maintenance and use of 11 the diesel units which are the subject of the present Application 12 until late 2015, or such later date as Hydro may now be projecting a 13 new combustion turbine to be installed and operational at Holyrood 14 (or at another site as may be applicable). 15 With reference to IC-NLH-1, provide a detailed comparison of the 16 IC-NLH-2 estimated present and future rate impacts for Hydro's customers 17 (as determined by what rates would be applied for by Hydro, and 18 assuming the applied for rates were approved by the Board) of 19 having proceeded with the Holyrood gas turbine overhaul in 2011, 20 as compared to the the lease, installation, maintenance and use of 21 the diesel units which are the subject of the present Application. 22 Provide the same comparisons as requested by IC-NLH-1, except IC-NLH-3 23 in this case between the capital costs, projected annual lease costs 24 and other projected costs for the lease, installation, maintenance 25 and use of the diesel units which are the subject of the present 26

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Application until late 2015, on the one hand, and Hydro having 1 2 applied in its 2014 Capital Budget application, and obtained approval, for the installation of a new combustion turbine at 3 Holyrood (60 MW, as identified by Hydro's August 5, 2013 4 correspondence to the Board), for operational status in late 2014 5 (instead of late 2015, as apparently planned by Hydro, and thereby 6 reducing by one year the need for the diesel units), on the other 7 8 hand. What changes does Hydro plan to implement, or does Hydro 9 IC-NLH-4 project, in relation to the maintenance and operation of the 10 Hardwoods gas turbine facility, once the installation of a new 11 12 combustion turbine at Holyrood (or at another site, as the case may be) is completed? Would the changes, and the cost consequences 13 14 15 16 17 IC-NLH-5 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 2015? 26 IC-NLH-6 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38

of those changes, be the same if the new combustion turbine at Holyrood (or at another site, as the case may be) had achieved operational status in late 2014 instead of late 2015? What changes does Hydro plan to implement, or does Hydro project, in relation to the maintenance and operation of generation facilities other than the Hardwood gas turbine, once the installation of a new combustion turbine at Holyrood (or at another site, as the case may be) is completed? Would the changes, and the cost consequences of thoses changes, be the same if the new combustion turbine at Holyrood (or at another site, as the case may be) had achieved operational status in late 2014 instead of late With reference to IC-NLH-3, IC-NLH-4, and IC-NLH-5, provide a detailed comparison of the present and future rate impacts for Hydro's customers (as determined by what rates would be applied for by Hydro, and assuming the applied for rates were approved by the Board) of having proceeded with installation of a new combustion turbine at Holyrood for operational status in late 2014 (including any associated changes in the operation of the Hardwoods gas turbine facility per IC-NLH-4 and of other generation facilities per IC-NLH-5), on the one hand, as compared to the lease, installation, maintenance and use of the diesel units which are the subject of the present Application until late 2015 and the installation of a new combustion turbine for operational status in late 2015, on the other hand. With reference to pages 7 and 8 of the Holyrood Black Start Analysis, as filed by Hydro with the Board and enclosed with the Board's November 25, 2013 correspondence to the parties, has Hydro further reviewed the Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) option, to determine whether its implementation would reduce the

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time period over which the diesel units need to be leased and 1 2 reduce the overall costs (capital and operational) of an interim black 3 start solution until such time as a new combustion turbine is installed at Holyrood (or at another site, as the case may be)? 4 5 IC-NLH-8 Does it remain Hydro's plan to install a new combustion turbine at 6 the Holyrood site (or at another site), to be operational by late 7 2015? By when would Hydro have to file an application with the 8 Board for approval of such a project, to assure reasonable timelines for its completion, in an operational state, by late 2015? If it is not 9 10 Hydro's current plan to install a new combustion turbine at the Holyrood site (or at another site), to be operational by late 2015, 11 what is the new projected operational date for such a new 12 13 combustion turbine? IC-NLH-9 14 If required to do so, what is the earliest possible date by which Hydro could file with the Board an application to install a new 15 combustion turbine at the Holyrood site (or at another site)? If such 16 application was filed, within what time period (months) could such a 17 project be completed, measured from the date of approval of such 18 19 project by the Board? 20 IC-NLH-10 Provide copies of all opinions, reviews, reports, studies and 21 assessments commissioned or obtained by Hydro internally, or commissioned or obtained by Hydro from external sources, which 22 address or discuss, in any respect, Hydro's capabilities for black 23 starting the Holyrood generating units. 24 IC-NLH-11 Provide copies of all opinions, reviews, reports, studies and 25 assessments commissioned or obtained by Hydro internally, or 26 commissioned or obtained by Hydro from external sources, which 27 address or discuss, in any respect, the Variable Frequency Drives 28 29 (VFD) option for assuring or enhancing black start capabilities at the Holyrood generation station. 30 31 IC-NLH-12 Provide copies of all opinions, reviews, reports, studies and 32 assessments commissioned or obtained by Hydro internally, or 33 commissioned or obtained by Hydro from external sources, which address or discuss, in any respect, the overhaul of the Holyrood 34 gas turbine, originally proposed in the 2011 Capital Budget 35 application. 36 IC-NLH-13 Provide copies of all opinions, reviews, reports, studies and 37 assessments commissioned or obtained by Hydro internally, or 38 commissioned or obtained by Hydro from external sources, which 39 address or discuss, in any respect, the installation of a new 40 combustion turbine at the Holyrood site (or at another site). 41

1 2 3 4 5 6	IC-NLH-14	Provide copies of all opinions, reviews, reports, studies and assessments commissioned or obtained by Hydro internally, or commissioned or obtained by Hydro from external sources, which address or discuss, in any respect, <u>any</u> option for assuring or enhancing black start capabilities at the Holyrood generation station.
7 8 9 10 11 12	IC-NLH-15	At paragraph 10 of Hydro's Application, Hydro states that if the lease costs for the diesel unit lease solution are expensed in the year they are incurred, those costs would cause an undue impact on Hydro's return. Provide a detailed explanation as to how the impact would be "undue" as compared to Hydro's annual returns since the last general rate application.

DATED at St. John's, in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, this 15th day of January, 2014.

POOLE ALTHOUSE

STEWART MCKELVEY

The Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities TO:

Suite E210, Prince Charles Building

120 Torbay Road P.O. Box 21040

St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

Attention: Board Secretary

TO: Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro

> P.O. Box 12400 500 Columbus Drive St. John's, NL A1B 4K7

Attention: Geoffrey P. Young,

Senior Legal Counsel

Thomas Johnson, Consumer Advocate TO:

> O'Dea. Earle Law Offices 323 Duckworth Street St. John's, NL A1C 5X4

Newfoundland Power Inc. TO:

> P.O. Box 8910 55 Kenmount Road St. John's, NL A1B 3P6 Attention: Gerard Hayes,

> > Senior Legal Counsel

TO: Cox & Palmer

Scotia Centre, Suite 1000

235 Water Street

St. John's, NL A1C 1B6

Attention: Thomas J. O'Reilly Q.C.