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August 27, 2014

Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities Prince Charles Building 120 Torbay Road, P.O. Box 21040 St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

**ATTENTION:** 

Ms. Cheryl Blundon

**Director of Corporate Services & Board Secretary** 

Dear Ms. Blundon:

Re: Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro - 2013 General Rate Application – Innu Nation Application for Interim Costs – Hydro's Comments

This is further to the Application of the Innu Nation seeking an interim cost order for its participation in Hydro's General Rate Application. Hydro acknowledges that this proceeding has been extended over a longer period of time than is usual for these matters and understands that its pending Amended Filing could require some Intervenors to incur additional expert and legal expenses.

Under subsection 90 (1) of the Public Utilities Act, matters as to hearing costs are within the Board's discretion. Hydro would point out that the established practice of the Board (see for example Orders No. P.U. 7(2003) and P.U. 8(2007)) in exercising its discretion is to take into consideration factors such as: the length and complexity of the hearing; the Intervenor's ability to pay; whether other Intervenors could properly represent the applicant Intervenor's interests before the Board; and the degree to which the Intervenor contributed to an understanding of the matters before the Board in the proceeding. The Innu Nation has asked a number of Requests for Information in this proceeding but Hydro observes that the Board may not have yet had an ample opportunity to assess the degree to which its intervention has assisted the Board and the process. For this reason, Hydro submits that the Board may deem that it is premature at present to make any award of intervenor costs in this matter.

Should you have any further questions about this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR HYDRO

Geoffrey P. Young

GPY/cp

cc:

Gerard Hayes – Newfoundland Power
Paul Coxworthy – Stewart McKelvey Stirling Scales
Thomas J. O'Reilly, Q.C. – Cox & Palmer
Senwung Luk – Olthuis, Kleer, Townshend LLP

Thomas Johnson – Consumer Advocate Yvonne Jones, MP Labrador Ed Hearn, Q.C. – Miller & Hearn