**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Public Utilities Act*, R.S.N.L. 1990, Chapter P-47, as amended, (the "Act"); and

IN THE MATTER OF a general rate application (the "Application") by Newfoundland Power Inc. ("Newfoundland Power") to establish customer electricity rates for 2013 and 2014.

## **APPLICANT'S ISSUES LIST** (Submitted December 5, 2012)

In the Applicant's Submission, the issues arising in this proceeding are as follows:

- A. Issues Affecting Revenue Requirements:
- 1. 2013 Forecast Revenue Requirements from rates of \$601,551,000; 2014 Forecast Revenue Requirements from rates of \$618,846,000.
- 2. 2013 and 2014 Test Year Operating Costs.
- 3. 2013 and 2014 Customer Energy and Demand Forecast.
- 4. Approval, with effect from January 1, 2013, of the calculation of depreciation expense by:
  - (a) use of the depreciation rates as recommended in the Depreciation Study filed with the Application; and
  - (b) adjustment of depreciation expense to amortize over the remaining life of the assets an accumulated reserve variance of approximately \$2.6 million identified in the Depreciation Study filed with the Application.
- 5. Approval, with effect from January 1, 2013, of:
  - (a) the calculation of defined benefit pension expense for regulatory purposes in accordance with U.S. GAAP; and
  - (b) the amortization over 15 years of the forecast defined benefit pension expense regulatory asset of approximately \$12.4 million.
- 6. Approval, with effect from January 1, 2013, of the deferral and amortization of annual customer energy conservation program costs over a seven year period.

- 7. Approval, with effect from January 1, 2013, of the annual disposition of prior year end balances in the Weather Normalization Reserve through the Rate Stabilization Account.
- 8. Approval, with effect from January 1, 2013, to:
  - (a) amortize the recovery over a three year period of certain cost recovery deferrals approved in 2011 and 2012;
  - (b) amortize the recovery over a three year period of an estimated \$1.25 million in Board and Consumer Advocate costs related to the Application;
  - (c) amortize over a three year period the outstanding year end balance for 2011 in the Weather Normalization Reserve of approximately \$5.0 million due to customers; and
  - (d) amortize the recovery over a three year period of a forecast 2013 revenue shortfall of an estimated \$980,000.

## B. Issues Affecting Return on Rate Base:

- 9. Approval of 2013 forecast average rate base of \$917,891,000 and of 2014 forecast average rate base of \$954,123,000.
- 10. Approval of an appropriate capital structure for ratemaking purposes.
- Approval of a return on average rate base for 2013 of 8.64% within a range of 8.46% to 8.82% and a return on average rate base for 2014 of 8.58% in a range of 8.40% to 8.76%.
- 12. Discontinuance of the use of the automatic adjustment formula to determine Newfoundland Power's allowed rate of return on rate base.

## C. Issues Affecting Rates:

13. Approval of rates, toll and charges effective for service provided on and after March 1, 2013, which result in average increases in customer rates by class as follows:

Rate Class	Average Increase
Domestic	7.2%
General Service 0-100 kW (110kVA)	0.6%
General Service 110-1000 kVA	6.0%
General Service 1000 kVA and Over	6.0%
Street and Area Lighting	6.0%

- 14. Approval of amendments to the Rate Stabilization Clause to:
  - (a) reflect changing fuel costs between test years for customers that benefit from the maximum monthly charges provided for in proposed Rate 2.1 and existing Rates 2.3 and 2.4;
  - (b) reflect the most recent energy consumption information for street and area lighting fixtures;
  - (c) permit recovery through the Rate Stabilization Account of customer energy conservation program costs; and
  - (d) permit credit, or recovery, through the Rate Stabilization Account of annual transfers to the Weather Normalization Reserve.

**DATED** at St. John's, Newfoundland, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2012.

## NEWFOUNDLAND POWER INC.

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