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"I would compare NP with the following Canadian electric utilities, which vary in size but have similar common equity ratios." Dr. Booth then compares Newfoundland Power to ATCO Electric, FortisBC Inc., Maritime Electric and Nova Scotia Power.

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Please confirm that Maritime Electric's most recently approved ROE was 9.75% for test year 2011.

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A. Correct. The 9.75% was based on a comparison with Nova Scotia Power which was then at 9.35% and the BCUC award of 9.50%. The BCUC is reviewing its ROE at the moment and NSPI settled at 9.0% (September 13, 2012). So the same current comparison would cause that allowed ROE to be 9.40%.

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Further Dr. Booth recommended a premium ROE for MEC over his benchmark recommendation since MEC is an above average risk utility as reflected in its premium ROE.