

1 **IN THE MATTER OF**

2 the *Electrical Power Control Act*, RSNL 1994,
3 Chapter E-5.1 (the “*EPCA*”) and the
4 *Public Utilities Act*, RSNL 1990,
5 Chapter P-47 (the “*Act*”), as amended;

6
7
8 **AND**
9

10
11 **IN THE MATTER OF**

12 an Application by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for an Order:

- 13 1) approving its 2011 capital budget, pursuant to s.41(1) of the *Act*;
14 2) approving its 2011 capital purchases, and construction projects in excess of \$50,000,
15 pursuant to s.41(3)(a) of the *Act*;
16 3) approving its leases in excess of \$5,000 pursuant to s. 41(3) of the *Act*;
17 4) approving its estimated contributions in aid of construction for 2011, pursuant to
18 s. 41(5) of the *Act*; and
19 5) fixing and determining its average rate base for 2009, pursuant to s. 78 of the *Act*.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD
REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

PUB-NLH-1 to PUB-NLH-17

Issued: September 9, 2010

1 **2011 Capital Plan, p. 13**

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

PUB-NLH-1 NLH refers to a report summarizing the findings and recommendations of a review of the condition of the older plants submitted to the Board on December 18, 2009 (the “Hatch” report), and used to develop a long-term replacement and renovation plan for diesel plants over the next two years. Please state which projects in the 2011 Capital Budget are identified by the Hatch report as required projects.

10 **PUB-NLH-2** Please provide a listing of the projects planned for 2012 that will be proposed as a
11 result of the recommendations of the Hatch report.
12

13

14 **2011 Capital Plan, p. 14**

15
16
17
18
19

PUB-NLH-3 Please provide the most recent information that NLH has with regard to the planned sanction date for the Lower Churchill project.

20 **B-5, Upgrade Stack Breaching Unit 1, \$3,553,400**

21
22
23
24
25
26

PUB-NLH-4 In the report entitled “Upgrade Unit 1 Stack Breaching” located at Tab 2 of Volume 1, at page A-7, there is a significant gap in inspection and maintenance records identified for the operating period 1992 –2000. Please provide reasons why this information has not been provided for this period.

27 **PUB-NLH-5** If the gap in information results from a decrease in the amount of inspection and
28 maintenance work over this period, please explain how this relates to normal
29 inspection and maintenance procedures in effect over that period of time.
30

31 **PUB-NLH-6** In the information provided it is stated that the 1990 replacement of the stack
32 breaching cost \$656,777. Please provide the reasons for the variance between the
33 cost of the 1990 project and the proposed 2011 project.
34
35

36 **B-15, Overhaul Gas Turbine, Holyrood, \$1,291,400**

37
38
39
40
41

PUB-NLH-7 Please provide data used in calculating the Utilization Forced Outage Probability (UFOP) for the Holyrood Gas Turbine and for All Hydro Gas Turbine Units, and used in calculating the Failure Rate for the same two categories.

42 **PUB-NLH-8** Please provide details which will explain why the failure rate for the Holyrood
43 gas turbine (2005-2009), at 803.76, is so much higher than for All Hydro Gas
44 Turbine Units, at 41.82.

1 **B-24, Replace Relay Panels Unit 3, 2011 – \$271,100, 2012 –\$553,600**

2
3 **PUB-NLH-9** Please provide a detailed description of the condition of the relay panels for Units
4 1 and 2.

5
6 **PUB-NLH-10** Please provide the most recent dates of inspections of the relay panels for Units 1
7 and 2.

8
9 **B-79, Replace Battery Banks and Chargers, \$978, 400**

10
11
12 **PUB-NLH-11** Please provide the criteria used by NLH to determine whether batteries will be
13 replaced with flooded or VRLA type batteries.

14
15
16 **B-81, Replace MDR 6000 Microwave Radio West, 2011 – \$72,000, 2012 \$683,300**

17
18 **PUB-NLH-12** Please confirm that over the long-term it is the intention of NLH to replace the
19 MDR 6000 Microwave Radio with another microwave radio system and not an
20 alternative.

21
22
23 **C-130, Replace Disconnects, \$295,000**

24
25 **PUB-NLH-13** Included in the description of the project is a brief discussion of problems
26 experienced with the disconnect switches in Farewell Head and Bottom Brook,
27 but the planned replacement dates of these disconnect switches are 2014 and 2013
28 respectively. Please provide the criteria used by NLH to determine the priority of
29 replacing the disconnect switches.

30
31
32 **D-62, Purchase Portable Dissolved Gas Analysis Unit, \$51,600**

33
34 **PUB-NLH-14** Please explain how base line data for transformer gas levels are established and
35 whether NLH intends to use this equipment to determine this information.

36
37
38 **General**

39
40 **PUB-NLH-15** Please advise of any safety protocols that NLH has implemented to deal with the
41 advancing age of the majority of NLH equipment and assets.


42
43 **PUB-NLH-16** Please provide details on how NLH classifies and prioritizes projects that raise
44 safety concerns.

45

1 **PUB-NLH-17** Please provide details of the overall policy used by NLH to set schedules of
2 inspection and maintenance for NLH equipment and assets, including any general
3 schedules that have been established.

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland this 9th day of September 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Per 

Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary