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April 15, 2015

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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 2013 Amended General Rate Application Requests for Information IC-NLH-178 to IC-NLH-198

Please find enclosed one original and twelve copies of the Requests for Information of the Island Industrial Customers Group in relation to the above noted Application.

We trust you find the foregoing satisfactory.

Yours truly,

Stewart McKelvey

Paul L. Coxworthy

PLC/kmcd

**Enclosures** 

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

Edward M. Hearn Q.C., Miller & Hearn Nancy Kleer, Olthuis, Kleer, Townshend LLP

Yvonne Jones, MP, Labrador

IN THE MATTER OF the Public Utilities Act, RSNL 1990, Chapter P-47 (the "Act")

AND IN THE MATTER OF a General Rate Application (the Amended Application) by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for approvals of, under sections 70 and 75 of the Act, changes in the rates to be charged for the supply of power and energy to Newfoundland Power, rural customers and industrial customers; and under section 71 of the Act, changes in the rules and regulations applicable to the supply of electricity to rural customers

ISLAND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS GROUP
REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION
IC-NLH-178 to IC-NLH-198

**Issued: April 15, 2015** 

IN THE MATTER OF the Public Utilities Act, RSNL 1990, Chapter P-47 (the "Act")

AND IN THE MATTER OF a General Rate Application (the Amended Application) by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for approvals of, under sections 70 and 75 of the Act, changes in the rates to be charged for the supply of power and energy to Newfoundland Power, rural customers and industrial customers; and under section 71 of the Act, changes in the rules and regulations applicable to the supply of electricity to rural customers

## REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OF THE ISLAND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS IC-NLH-178 to IC-NLH-198

3 4 5 6	IC-NLH-178	Please reconcile total energy requirements for Island Interconnect System for 2015 Test Year in Regulated Activities, Schedule II [at 7,235.1 GW.h] and Regulated Activities, Schedule V [7,239.0 GW.h].
7 8 9 10	IC-NLH-179	Please explain why Hydro is not proposing a +/- \$500,000 threshold for the proposed Holyrood Conversion Rate Deferral Account as it was proposed for Energy Supply Cost Variance Deferral Account.
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	IC-NLH-180	On page 2.74 of the Amended 2013 GRA Hydro notes that "[t]he decline in fuel conversion performance in recent years is primarily due to changes external to the operation of the Holyrood thermal generating station". Please explain what are the changes external to the operation of the Holyrood noted by Hydro. Is there any impact from running Holyrood in summer for Avalon transmission support?
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	IC-NLH-181	Further to CA-NLH-086 (Rev 1): During the review of Hydro's application for approval of changes in depreciation methodology and asset service lives Hydro filed a rate impact analysis showing that there would be minimal rate impacts for Newfoundland Power, a decrease of approximately 12% for Rural Labrador Interconnected customers, and an increase of approximately 2% for Industrial customers. Please update the rate impact analysis associated solely with depreciation methodology/rate

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1 changes for each customer group based on the 2015 Test 2 Year, showing supporting details and calculations. 3 IC-NLH-182 Further to V-NLH-111, Attachment 1: Please confirm that in 4 COS Schedule 2.4A the Specifically Assigned Operating and 5 Maintenance costs are calculated based on the share of total 6 cost of plant in service per COS Schedule 2.2A, Column 2 7 not Column 5, and therefore Line 9 under Step 2 of V-NLH-8 111 Attachment 1 should use plant in service per COS 9 Schedule 2.2A, Column 2. 10 IC-NLH-183 Further to V-NLH-111. Attachment 1: Please confirm that in 11 Column H of V-NLH-111, Attachment 1 the total 12 transmission plant in service [Line 9] should stay at 100% as per 2015 COS and should not be adjusted downwards as 13 14 there is no change in total cost [i.e. the exercise is only to 15 reduce the O&M amount allocated to specifically assigned]. 16 IC-NLH-184 Further to V-NLH-111, Attachment 1: Please confirm that the 17 calculation will need to be done separately for transmission 18 lines and terminal stations as some customers share 19 terminal station related costs, but not transmission line 20 related costs. 21 IC-NLH-185 Further to V-NLH-111, Attachment 1: Please confirm that the reduced amount of Specifically Assigned Operating and 22 23 Maintenance costs will be reallocated among customers as 24 common cost, and provide a revised version of V-NLH-111, 25 Attachment 1 with revisions to calculations noted in IC-NLH-26 181, 182, 183 and 184 above, including total rate impact 27 after reallocation of reduced amount of Specifically Assigned 28 Operating and Maintenance costs as common. 29 IC-NLH-186 Further to CA-NLH-295: Please confirm that the Frequency 30 Converter provides benefit to all customers and Island 31 Interconnected System when capacity assistance is provided 32 by CBPP or during system outages as experienced in 33 January 2014. 34 IC-NLH-187 Further to CA-NLH-295: Please provide dollar and 35 percentage impacts to each customer class based on the 36 2015 COS assuming the CBPP Frequency Converter is 37 assigned (a) 50% common and 50% specifically assigned, 38 and (b) 100% as common.

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1 IC-NLH-188 Further to IC-NLH-99 (Rev 1) Attachment 1: Please confirm 2 that the capital spending provided on page 6 for 2008 is all 3 and only capital work related to "upgrade work on the rotor and stator" noted in Hydro's 2013 Capital Budget 4 5 Application, pages D-164 to D-165. If not, please indicate 6 which items are for this capital project and which items are 7 for other capital projects and indicate the project to which 8 they relate. 9 IC-NLH-189 Further to IC-NLH-188 above, Hydro's 2013 Capital Budget 10 Application, pages D-164 to D-165 notes that "[w]hen 11 upgrade work on the rotor and stator was performed in 2008, 12 maintenance staff noticed that the upstairs rail would vibrate 13 when the unit was on line. This was a condition that was not 14 present prior to the refurbishment work." Please provide 15 details of the 2008 capital project in question, including the 16 nature of the work, who performed the work (Hydro or an 17 outside contractor), who prepared the design, scope and specifications for the work (Hydro or an outside contractor). 18 If an outside contractor or supplier was used for any 19 20 component of the design, materials or installation, please 21 provide a detailed explanation of all efforts Hydro pursued 22 (including claims against the contractor, lawsuits, retention of holdbacks or bonds, or other performance guarantee 23 24 mechanisms) to address the substandard job performance 25 resulting in a new vibration issue. Please indicate the value 26 of any recoveries from the contractor related to this 27 performance issue. 28 IC-NLH-190 Further to IC-NLH-189 above, please confirm that, effectively, Hydro is proposing that any substandard work 29 30 performed on the Frequency Converter, which resulted in 31 any required added capital spending by Hydro to address 32 new issues from the substandard work, will result in both the 33 original capital project cost and the secondary project capital 34 spending (to rectify issues arising from the substandard 35 work) being charged directly to CBPP. 36 IC-NLH-191 Further to IC-NLH-188 above, please provide the capital cost 37 that was incurred (if any) related to the referenced rotor pole 38 failure, which resulted from vibration caused by "upgrade 39 work on the rotor and stator". 40 IC-NLH-192 Further to IC-NLH-99 (Rev 1) Attachment 1: Please provide 41 list of spending by CBPP to Frequency Converter, including 42 for capital and maintenance work.

1 2 3 4 5	IC-NLH-193	Further to IC-NLH-99 (Rev 1) Attachment 1: Please provide list of disposals and associated asset values related to the Corner Brook Frequency Converter since 2012 to date, including any disposals (transformer and other) related to the fall 2014 outage.
6 7 8	IC-NLH-194	Further to IC-NLH-162: Please provide the frequency converter maximum loading (MW) imposed by Hydro since 2007 (showing dates).
9 10 11	IC-NLH-195	Further to IC-NLH-162: Please provide a list of any CBPP requests to run the Frequency Converter at higher capacities, and any Hydro response to those requests.
12 13 14	IC-NLH-196	Further to IC-NLH-162: Please provide a list of dates and durations since 2012 when Frequency Converter was not available, and reason for unavailability.
15 16 17 18 19 20	IC-NLH-197	Further to IC-NLH-162: Please confirm that if the Frequency Converter could be operated at a higher capacity closer to the nameplate rating, more Deer Lake hydro output could be delivered at 60 Hz, less power would be required to be produced at Holyrood, and the total costs to serve system loads would be reduced.
21 22 23 24 25 26	IC-NLH-198	Further to PUB-NLH-390: For clarity please confirm that when calculating all Loss of Load Probability calculations, as well as Peak Load Carrying Capabilities, wind resources are ignored or provided a value of 0 MW. If not correct, please distinguish which calculations consider wind to have any capacity value (and provide the value) and which do not.

 $\underline{\textbf{DATED}}$  at St. John's, in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

POOLE ALTHOUSE

Per:

Dean A. Porter

STEWART MCKELVEY

Per:

Paul L. Coxworthy

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Attention: Board Secretary

TO: Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro

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