The impact of elasticity Volume 1, Section 3 – Finance

Q. Please confirm that impact on NP's net income due to the elasticity impact is the net decline in revenue as opposed to the gross decline in revenue; hence, the appropriate price elasticity offset in Exhibit 11 should be equal to the decline in revenue at the proposed rates resulting from the decline in demand minus the decline in costs due to the elasticity impact on demand.

A. The impact of elasticity on Newfoundland Power's net income is equal to the decline in revenue offset by the decline in cost.

 Exhibit 11 1st Revision shows that the effect of elasticity on revenue (including RSA and MTA charges), assuming existing rates apply before and after the elasticity effects take place, is \$1,460,000. Table 16 on page 23 of the Amended Application shows that the elasticity effect on purchased power costs is \$1,646,000. The net effect of these two impacts is an increase in net income (before tax) of \$186,000¹.

Exhibit 11 does not show the impact on the Company's *net income* due to elasticity effects. It shows the effect on the Company's *revenue* due to elasticity effects. Exhibit 11 was intended to show the proposed average increase in customer *rates*.

It is not appropriate to show a *net* impact of elasticity in Exhibit 11. Table 4 in response to CA-NP-182 1st Revision shows the impact of elasticity on net income (i.e., the decline in revenue less the decline in cost) with the impact on revenue based on proposed rates.

To determine the proposed increase in customer rates it is necessary to compare revenue under existing rates to revenue under proposed rates using the same load forecast. The most relevant forecast to use is the 2008 load forecast with elasticity effects included. Table 1 shows the 2008 average rate increase in a slightly different format which may be helpful.

Decline in cost less decline in revenue (\$1,646,000 - \$1,460,000).

Table 1 2008 Average Rate Increase (\$000s)

	Existing Rates applied to Forecast without Elasticity Effects ¹	Elasticity Effects on Revenue ² B	Existing Rates applied to Forecast with Elasticity Effects ³	Proposed Rates Applied to Forecast with Elasticity Effects ⁴	Effect of Increase in Rates ⁵	Percent Increase ⁶ F
Revenue From Rate	==	-1,460	484,232	498,226	13,994	2.9%
RSA Charges	8,151	-27	8,124	8,124	-	0.0%
MTA Charges	12,214	-36	12,178	12,524	346	2.8%
Total	506,057	-1,523	504,534	518,874	14,340	2.8%

¹st Revision Note: Updated for "Settlement Agreement" and revised forecasts for 2008.

¹ Revenue from existing rates from Exhibit 11 1st Revision.

² Elasticity Impact on Revenue at Exisiting Rate from Exhibit 11 1st Revision.

³ Sum of Column A and B.

⁴ Revenue from proposed rates from Exhibit 11 1st Revision.

⁵ Column D less Column C.

⁶ Column E expressed as percentage of Column C.