

1 **Volume 2, Tab 8 – Customer, Energy and Demand Forecast**

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3 **Q. Please indicate whether NP is using the same sources for its economic assumptions**  
4 **in preparing its customer and energy sales forecasts as it did in NP’s last GRA**  
5 **resulting in Order No. P.U. 19 (2003). If not, please explain any differences and**  
6 **their effects.**

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8 A. Newfoundland Power used the same source for its economic assumptions in preparing its  
9 customer and energy sales forecasts as it did in its 2003 GRA. Newfoundland Power’s  
10 primary provider of economic information is the Conference Board of Canada.

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12 The only change in forecasting methodology since Newfoundland Power’s last GRA has  
13 been the inclusion of Canada Mortgage and Housing’s (CMHC) forecast of housing  
14 starts. In preparing its domestic customer forecast, the Company uses the average of the  
15 housing starts forecasts provided by the Conference Board of Canada and CMHC. This  
16 change was implemented to improve the accuracy of the domestic customer forecast.