	Page 1			Page 3
1	(9:45 a.m.)	1		Labrador Hydro and with me is Kevin Fagan,
2	REPORTER:	2		Vice-president Regulatory and Stakeholder
$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 3 \end{vmatrix}$	Q. We are back on the record. Thank you.	3		Relations.
	CHAIR:		CHAIR	
4		4		
5	Q. No worries, Glenda, thank you so much, and	5	~	Thank you, and a warm welcome to everybody.
6	with everybody's indulgence, here I go	6		Newfoundland Power's General Rate
7	again. Good morning and welcome everybody	7		Application was filed with the Board on May
8	to the public hearing for Newfoundland	8		27th, 2021. A notice of application pre-
9	Power's 2022-2023 General Rate Application.	9		hearing conference was published in papers
10	My name is Darlene Whalen, I'm chair and CEO	10		across the province starting on June 12th,
11	of the Public Utilities Board and for this	11		2021. Intervenor submissions were received
12	public hearing I will serve as chair of the	12		from the Consumer Advocate and Newfoundland
13	panel of Commissioners who have the	13		and Labrador Hydro. A pre-hearing
14	responsibility to hear this particular	14		conference was held on July 6th and on July
15	application. My colleagues joining me on	15		19th the Board issued procedural order No.
16	the panel are Vice Chair Dwanda Newman;	16		26-2021 identifying the registered
17	Commissioner John O'Brien; and Commissioner	17		intervenors and setting out the schedule and
18	Christopher Pike. Assisting us with the	18		rules of procedure for the matter. Over the
19	hearing for the Board we have Maureen	19		intervening months, since the pre-hearing
20	Greene, hearing counsel; Jackie Glynn, Board	20		conference, a schedule for the proceeding
$20 \\ 21$		20 21		allowed for intervenors and the Board to
	Counsel; Cheryl Blundon, Director of			
22	Corporate Services and Board Secretary; and	22		request information from Newfoundland Power.
23	Sara Kean, our Assistant Board Secretary	23		There was also an opportunity for
24	there at the back. We also have with us	24		information requests on expert evidence
25	Glenda Gibbons from Discoveries Unlimited	25		filed by the parties. Over 500 information
	Page 2			Page 4
1	and Whitney Noel from Newfoundland Power,	1		requests have been asked and answered on the
2	assisting with document retrieval. I'd ask	2		evidence filed to date. A notice of hearing
3	that persons seated at the tables	3		and invitation to participate was published
4	representing the Applicant and the	4		in papers across the province on November 6th
5	Registered Intervenors to please introduce	5		setting out the start date of the hearing.
6	yourself and your representatives for	6		This notice also set out the procedures for
7	purposes of the record and for persons in	7		the hearing, including the measures in place
8	the room who may not know who is who, and we	8		due to COVID health measures, as well as
9	will start with the Applicant.	9		information on how interested persons can
10	MR. O'BRIEN:	10		participate, either by presenting before the
11				
	O. Thank you, Madam Chair. Liam O'Brien.	11		Board in this hearing, or filing a letter of
117	Q. Thank you, Madam Chair. Liam O'Brien, outside counsel for Newfoundland Power and	11 12		Board in this hearing, or filing a letter of comment. The notice also set out that an
12	outside counsel for Newfoundland Power and	12		comment. The notice also set out that an
13	outside counsel for Newfoundland Power and with me is Lindsay Hollett, inside counsel	12 13		comment. The notice also set out that an audio live stream of each day's proceedings
13 14	outside counsel for Newfoundland Power and with me is Lindsay Hollett, inside counsel for Newfoundland Power.	12 13 14		comment. The notice also set out that an audio live stream of each day's proceedings will be available through the Board's
13 14 15	outside counsel for Newfoundland Power and with me is Lindsay Hollett, inside counsel for Newfoundland Power. CHAIR:	12 13 14 15		comment. The notice also set out that an audio live stream of each day's proceedings will be available through the Board's website.
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13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	<ul> <li>outside counsel for Newfoundland Power and with me is Lindsay Hollett, inside counsel for Newfoundland Power.</li> <li>CHAIR:</li> <li>Q. Thank you. Consumer Advocate?</li> <li>MR. FITZGERALD:</li> <li>Q. Good morning, Madam Chair. Steve Fitzgerald representing the Consumer Advocate, Denis Browne, Q.C. who is present here.</li> <li>CHAIR:</li> <li>Q. Thank you, sir. And Hydro?</li> </ul>	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22		comment. The notice also set out that an audio live stream of each day's proceedings will be available through the Board's website. As part of the proceeding, the Board requested the parties to participate in a Board facilitated negotiation process. This negotiation process began in early November. The purpose of this process was to see if the parties could settle some non- contentious issues prior to the start of the

	Page 5		Page 7
1	hearing costs, which are ultimately passed	1	reaching this point, so—and I would like to
2	on to customers. A settlement agreement was	2	thank the parties for their participation in
$\overline{3}$	filed as part of the record on November 18th,	3	this process and we believe the result of
4	2021. I want to acknowledge all the parties	4	that is a good balance for the utility's
5	for your efforts and cooperation in reaching	5	customers and the utility itself and it gets
6	this stage of the proceeding. These are my	6	to a point where there would be a decrease
7	introductory remarks to this point. I'd	7	in base rates of 1.1 percent verses what the
8	like to ask Board counsel if there are any	8	initial application, as filed, as an average
9	preliminary matters that need to be	9	increase in rates of .8 percent, so we've
10	addressed before I would move on to any	9 10	got a significant difference there. So with
10		10	your leave, I'll just walk through it
11	further housekeeping. MS. GLYNN:	12	briefly, the settlement agreement itself.
12		12	CHAIR:
	•		
14	going to speak to a new settlement agreement	14 15	
15	that has been recently reached.		MR. O'BRIEN:
16	CHAIR:	16	Q. And if you have any questions along the way,
17	Q. Okay, and I understand that was just filed	17	please feel free to interject. I'll do my
18	this morning.	18	best to answer them and if I can't, we will
19	MR. O'BRIEN:	19	certainly undertake to provide whatever
20	Q. That's correct, Madam Chair. If you'd like,	20	answers you require in terms of satisfying
21	I can just provide some comments on that new	21	yourself that this is a reasonable
22	settlement agreement.	22	settlement agreement for ratepayers.
23	CHAIR:	23	CHAIR:
24	Q. Absolutely. MR. O'BRIEN:	24 25	Q. Thank you. MR. O'BRIEN:
25	MIK. U BRIEN:	27	
		20	
	Page 6		Page 8
1	Page 6 Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms.	1	Page 8 Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement
1 2	Page 6 Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations	1 2	Page 8 Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals
1 2 3	Page 6 Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing	1 2 3	Page 8 Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially
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1 2 3 4 5	Page 6 Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each	1 2 3 4 5	Page 8 Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice
1 2 3 4 5 6	Page 6 Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each of you Commissioners have a copy of that	1 2 3 4 5 6	Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice to any positions the parties may take on
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$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\ 2\\ 3\\ 4\\ 5\\ 6\\ 7\\ 8\\ 9\\ 10\\ 11\\ 12\\ 13\\ 14\\ 15\\ 16\\ 17\\ 18\\ 19\\ \end{array} $	Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each of you Commissioners have a copy of that there. What I will do at this stage is point out that there is not a recital in this settlement agreement to indicate that there was a prior settlement agreement, so we would ask that we would be able to remove the prior settlement agreement from the record and replace it with this all encompassing one at this stage, that would be the plan. So in terms of background, as you've mentioned in your comments, Madam Chair, we did have some discussions in early November and the parties did reach some agreement on some noncontentious issues, but	$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\end{array} $	Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice to any positions the parties may take on these issues in further proceedings. So for the purposes of this proceeding, the Settlement Agreement applies to this proceeding only at this time. As far as the intention of calling any witnesses, the parties don't have any such intention at this time or entering any further evidence or having argument at this point, so that's covered in the Terms of Agreement as we go through the first page, into the second page, and the rate implementation date, the rate decrease of 1.1 with an implementation date of March 1st,
$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\end{array} $	Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each of you Commissioners have a copy of that there. What I will do at this stage is point out that there is not a recital in this settlement agreement to indicate that there was a prior settlement agreement, so we would ask that we would be able to remove the prior settlement agreement from the record and replace it with this all encompassing one at this stage, that would be the plan. So in terms of background, as you've mentioned in your comments, Madam Chair, we did have some discussions in early November and the parties did reach some agreement on some noncontentious issues, but the parties did work quite hard at getting	$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\end{array} $	Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice to any positions the parties may take on these issues in further proceedings. So for the purposes of this proceeding, the Settlement Agreement applies to this proceeding only at this time. As far as the intention of calling any witnesses, the parties don't have any such intention at this time or entering any further evidence or having argument at this point, so that's covered in the Terms of Agreement as we go through the first page, into the second page, and the rate implementation date, the rate decrease of 1.1 with an implementation date of March 1st, 2022 is what we're looking at with this
$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\end{array} $	Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each of you Commissioners have a copy of that there. What I will do at this stage is point out that there is not a recital in this settlement agreement to indicate that there was a prior settlement agreement, so we would ask that we would be able to remove the prior settlement agreement from the record and replace it with this all encompassing one at this stage, that would be the plan. So in terms of background, as you've mentioned in your comments, Madam Chair, we did have some discussions in early November and the parties did reach some agreement on some noncontentious issues, but the parties did work quite hard at getting to where we are now since that point in time	$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\end{array} $	Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice to any positions the parties may take on these issues in further proceedings. So for the purposes of this proceeding, the Settlement Agreement applies to this proceeding only at this time. As far as the intention of calling any witnesses, the parties don't have any such intention at this time or entering any further evidence or having argument at this point, so that's covered in the Terms of Agreement as we go through the first page, into the second page, and the rate implementation date, the rate decrease of 1.1 with an implementation date of March 1st, 2022 is what we're looking at with this agreement. The settled issues themselves,
$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\\22\end{array} $	Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each of you Commissioners have a copy of that there. What I will do at this stage is point out that there is not a recital in this settlement agreement to indicate that there was a prior settlement agreement, so we would ask that we would be able to remove the prior settlement agreement from the record and replace it with this all encompassing one at this stage, that would be the plan. So in terms of background, as you've mentioned in your comments, Madam Chair, we did have some discussions in early November and the parties did reach some agreement on some noncontentious issues, but the parties did work quite hard at getting to where we are now since that point in time and I do apologize for the late filing of	$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\\22\end{array} $	Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice to any positions the parties may take on these issues in further proceedings. So for the purposes of this proceeding, the Settlement Agreement applies to this proceeding only at this time. As far as the intention of calling any witnesses, the parties don't have any such intention at this time or entering any further evidence or having argument at this point, so that's covered in the Terms of Agreement as we go through the first page, into the second page, and the rate implementation date, the rate decrease of 1.1 with an implementation date of March 1st, 2022 is what we're looking at with this agreement. The settled issues themselves, if we turn to those, first of all
$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\\22\\23\end{array} $	Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each of you Commissioners have a copy of that there. What I will do at this stage is point out that there is not a recital in this settlement agreement to indicate that there was a prior settlement agreement, so we would ask that we would be able to remove the prior settlement agreement from the record and replace it with this all encompassing one at this stage, that would be the plan. So in terms of background, as you've mentioned in your comments, Madam Chair, we did have some discussions in early November and the parties did reach some agreement on some noncontentious issues, but the parties did work quite hard at getting to where we are now since that point in time and I do apologize for the late filing of the settlement agreement, but the parties	$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\\22\\23\end{array} $	<ul> <li>Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice to any positions the parties may take on these issues in further proceedings. So for the purposes of this proceeding, the Settlement Agreement applies to this proceeding only at this time. As far as the intention of calling any witnesses, the parties don't have any such intention at this time or entering any further evidence or having argument at this point, so that's covered in the Terms of Agreement as we go through the first page, into the second page, and the rate implementation date, the rate decrease of 1.1 with an implementation date of March 1st, 2022 is what we're looking at with this agreement. The settled issues themselves, if we turn to those, first of all "Depreciation Expense", under this heading</li> </ul>
$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\\22\end{array} $	Q. Thank you very much. So as indicated by Ms. Glynn, we have furthered our negotiations and we've come to an all encompassing settlement agreement and I will walk you through that just briefly. I believe each of you Commissioners have a copy of that there. What I will do at this stage is point out that there is not a recital in this settlement agreement to indicate that there was a prior settlement agreement, so we would ask that we would be able to remove the prior settlement agreement from the record and replace it with this all encompassing one at this stage, that would be the plan. So in terms of background, as you've mentioned in your comments, Madam Chair, we did have some discussions in early November and the parties did reach some agreement on some noncontentious issues, but the parties did work quite hard at getting to where we are now since that point in time and I do apologize for the late filing of	$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\\21\\22\end{array} $	Q. So if you look at page 1 of the Settlement Agreement, we just have some basic recitals here, but the parties have essentially agreed this covers all issues which arose in the application and it's without prejudice to any positions the parties may take on these issues in further proceedings. So for the purposes of this proceeding, the Settlement Agreement applies to this proceeding only at this time. As far as the intention of calling any witnesses, the parties don't have any such intention at this time or entering any further evidence or having argument at this point, so that's covered in the Terms of Agreement as we go through the first page, into the second page, and the rate implementation date, the rate decrease of 1.1 with an implementation date of March 1st, 2022 is what we're looking at with this agreement. The settled issues themselves, if we turn to those, first of all

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November 2	,		Verbatim Court Reporter	
	Page 9		Page 11	
1	are agreed on the calculation of the	1	different peak demand forecast for	
2	depreciation expense with a couple of	2 3	Newfoundland Power could be appropriate for	
3	3 amendments there. The first being an		Newfoundland, for Hydro in its next General	
4	amendment to correct the appropriate service	4	Rate Application, so we've acknowledged that	
5	life of the customer information system and	5	difference there. And the parties also	
6	that amendment was recognized early on and a	6	agree that the CED forecast as proposed in	
7	letter was sent to the Board in August of	7	the application will not be revised for	
8	this year and the parties accept that as an	8	price elasticity effects, that's something	
9	amendment to the depreciation study, as well	9	that had generally been done but we	
10	as to remove electric vehicle charging	10	recognize that and with Muskrat Falls costs	
11	stations from plant investment, I'll talk	11	coming into play relatively soon after the	
12	about that just a little bit more because	12	March 1st implementation date there might be	
13	it's touched on later on in the agreement.	12	a shift in terms of price elasticity, a	
13	Other than that, there were no issues with	13	large shift the other way, so we figured at	
15	the depreciation expense.	15	this point it was reasonable not to allow	
16	Operating costs, the parties are	15	for price elasticity at this stage, and that	
10	agreeable that the operating cost as	10		
	<b>e</b> 1 <b>e</b>		would be in the compliance filing.	
18	proposed for 2022 and 2023 test years should	18	Moving on to the cost of capital, the	
19	be approved with the following amendments.	19	capital structure as Newfoundland Power has	
20	The first being that there's a cashflow	20	proposed in its application has been	
21	component of the corporate target of	21	accepted by the parties and approved for	
22	Newfoundland Power's short-term incentive	22	ratemaking purposes and one of the big	
23	plan, only 50 percent of that cashflow	23	differences here with the initial	
24	component will be recovered in rates, verses	24	application is that the parties have agreed	
25	what was proposed as 100 percent, and the	25	that return on equity would remain status	
	Page 10		Page 12	
1	second revision being that, again, all	1	quo at 8.5 percent verses the 9.8 percent	
2	electrification infrastructure and program	2	that is requested in the application, and	
3	costs will be removed from the proposed	3	all parties also agree with the continued	
4	revenue requirement and rate base and	4	suspension of the automatic adjustment	
5	charged to a deferral account, which is	5	formula for setting the allowed rate of	
6	defined in Schedule A to this Settlement	6	return and that's something that's been	
7	Agreement. And that would be subject to	7	agreed in the last few General Rate	
8	Board approval for any of those costs down	8	Applications and it's also something which	
9	the road.	9	was consistent with the opinions of the	
10	And finally there will be a \$300,000.00	10	experts who provided evidence in this	
11	reduction in the forecast 2023 operating	11	matter.	
12	costs to reflect operating efficiencies. We	12		
			As far as rate base is concerned, if we	
			As far as rate base is concerned, if we turn to page 4. so the forecast average rate	
13	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that	13	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate	
13 14	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did	13 14	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's	
13 14 15	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty	13 14 15	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to	
13 14 15 16	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed	13 14 15 16	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement	
13 14 15 16 17	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed that the forecast that's been proposed for	13 14 15 16 17	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement agreement, so there's some changes from what	
13 14 15 16 17 18	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed that the forecast that's been proposed for the 2023 and 2022 test years were reasonable	13 14 15 16 17 18	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement agreement, so there's some changes from what was proposed in the applications there.	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed that the forecast that's been proposed for the 2023 and 2022 test years were reasonable for Newfoundland Power's application, but	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement agreement, so there's some changes from what was proposed in the applications there. Again, we'll file updated exhibits for you	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed that the forecast that's been proposed for the 2023 and 2022 test years were reasonable for Newfoundland Power's application, but they also do recognize that the methodology	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement agreement, so there's some changes from what was proposed in the applications there. Again, we'll file updated exhibits for you to have a look at and if you need to have	
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13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed that the forecast that's been proposed for the 2023 and 2022 test years were reasonable for Newfoundland Power's application, but they also do recognize that the methodology used by Newfoundland Power differs from that of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro as there	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement agreement, so there's some changes from what was proposed in the applications there. Again, we'll file updated exhibits for you to have a look at and if you need to have Grant Thornton review them to confirm those figures are accurate, we can do that in	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed that the forecast that's been proposed for the 2023 and 2022 test years were reasonable for Newfoundland Power's application, but they also do recognize that the methodology used by Newfoundland Power differs from that of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro as there are different purposes for those forecasts	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement agreement, so there's some changes from what was proposed in the applications there. Again, we'll file updated exhibits for you to have a look at and if you need to have Grant Thornton review them to confirm those figures are accurate, we can do that in compliance. General expense is capitalized,	
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	move forward to the CED forecasts, so that on the next page, page 3, so the parties did acknowledge that there was some uncertainty with the forecast, but ultimately agreed that the forecast that's been proposed for the 2023 and 2022 test years were reasonable for Newfoundland Power's application, but they also do recognize that the methodology used by Newfoundland Power differs from that of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro as there	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	turn to page 4, so the forecast average rate base and the return on rate base, there's some modifications in the numbers there to reflect the figures in this settlement agreement, so there's some changes from what was proposed in the applications there. Again, we'll file updated exhibits for you to have a look at and if you need to have Grant Thornton review them to confirm those figures are accurate, we can do that in	

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1	Page 13	1	Page 15
$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	application with the amendment that a deferral account would be used to offset the	1	Settlement Agreement, and I would like to
$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$		2	thank the parties again for their resolve
3	proposed change in capitalized pension costs	3	throughout this process.
4	and that would be amortized over a five-year	4	CHAIR:
5	period verses a one-year period at the time	5	Q. Will Newfoundland Power be filing a revised
6	without the amortization. And the next	6	package or revised application.
7	section under "Amortization" a fair number	7	MR. O'BRIEN:
8	of these are similar to what has been	8	Q. We will do that, yes.
9	proposed in the application but some differ,	9	CHAIR:
10	so I will just briefly run through those	10	Q. Any questions? Consumer Advocate, would you
11	with you. In paragraphs 18 and 19 you will	11	like to make any comments at this point?
12	note the parties agreed that the customer	12	BROWNE, Q.C.:
13	CDM program costs would be amortized over	13	Q. Yes, we have some comments. We're content
14	ten years, as proposed, with a revision to	14	with this agreement which we have signed on
15	clause 2.7 of the RSA to allow for that.	15	to, we're content in particular with the
16	Equally though the remaining CDM program	16	\$300,000.00 reduction in operating costs.
17	costs from prior years are proposed now to	17	Costs are the flavour of the day and
18	be amortized over the same timeframe of 10	18	controlling costs at Newfoundland Power will
19	years for some consistency there in those	19	be a continuing objective, both in their
20	costs, so that's new. Paragraph 20,	20	capital expenditures and their operating
21	amortizations related to electrification	21	expenditures. We were quite prepared to go
22	costs as described earlier will be removed	22	into a hearing on these matters until we had
23	from the calculation of revenue requirement.	23	the announcement from the Provincial
24	21, actual Board and consumer costs related	24	Government on Thursday that they were
25	to the application are proposed to be	25	launching a review of the Public Utilities
	Page 14		Page 16
1	removed from the revenue requirements and	1	Act consistent with the requirements of the
2	recovered through the RSA, rather than	2	Muskrat Falls Inquiry and the Commissioner's
3	directly from revenue requirement as they're	3	recommendations to review the mandate of the
4	expected to be significantly lower now than	4	PUB, something which had begun with the
5	what was initially estimated now that the	5	Power Advisory recommendations, but which
6	matter is settled. Paragraph 22, the	6	had fallen off due to Muskrat Falls issues.
7	amortization of the forecast 2022 revenue	7	The Power Advisory recommendation suggested
8	shortfall will be as proposed over a 34	8	that the Board be granted the right to apply
9	month period, but the figures themselves do	9	
10		-	a public interest test, among other things.
10	differ from the initial proposal as a result	10	We are particularly in tune with what is
11	of the revenue requirement changes arising	10 11	We are particularly in tune with what is going on with the government, with this at
11 12	of the revenue requirement changes arising from the Settlement Agreement. And finally	10 11 12	We are particularly in tune with what is going on with the government, with this at this particular time. The minister, John
11 12 13	of the revenue requirement changes arising from the Settlement Agreement. And finally you will see a summary there on page 5 of	10 11 12 13	We are particularly in tune with what is going on with the government, with this at this particular time. The minister, John Hogan, was counsel to the consumers at the
11 12 13 14	of the revenue requirement changes arising from the Settlement Agreement. And finally you will see a summary there on page 5 of the revenue requirement impacts and the	10 11 12 13 14	We are particularly in tune with what is going on with the government, with this at this particular time. The minister, John Hogan, was counsel to the consumers at the public inquiry. It was our recommendation
11 12 13 14 15	of the revenue requirement changes arising from the Settlement Agreement. And finally you will see a summary there on page 5 of the revenue requirement impacts and the numbers there will change—are changed from	10 11 12 13 14 15	We are particularly in tune with what is going on with the government, with this at this particular time. The minister, John Hogan, was counsel to the consumers at the public inquiry. It was our recommendation voiced through Mr. Hogan that performance
11 12 13 14 15 16	of the revenue requirement changes arising from the Settlement Agreement. And finally you will see a summary there on page 5 of the revenue requirement impacts and the numbers there will change—are changed from the initial application, but there's a	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	We are particularly in tune with what is going on with the government, with this at this particular time. The minister, John Hogan, was counsel to the consumers at the public inquiry. It was our recommendation voiced through Mr. Hogan that performance based regulation be studied. The
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	of the revenue requirement changes arising from the Settlement Agreement. And finally you will see a summary there on page 5 of the revenue requirement impacts and the numbers there will change—are changed from the initial application, but there's a summary of how you get to that point with	10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	We are particularly in tune with what is going on with the government, with this at this particular time. The minister, John Hogan, was counsel to the consumers at the public inquiry. It was our recommendation voiced through Mr. Hogan that performance based regulation be studied. The Commissioner throughout the hearings brought
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1	Page 17	1	Page 19
$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	conclude that PBR could be beneficial." The	1	MS. WALSH:
$\begin{vmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	government, in announcing its review, really	2	Q. Sure, thank you. Newfoundland Power is
3	brings this full circle, the minister	3	Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's largest
4	announcing the review was in fact the	4	customer. All of Hydro's rural customers
5	minister who suggested that performance	5	serve from the island interconnected grid
6	based regulation should be studied and in	6	and its customers in the Labrador Straits
7	his media briefings following his	7	area pay the same rates as those approved by
8	announcement he said, "everything is on the	8	the Board for Newfoundland Power's
9	table". With this announcement we see that	9	customers. As well, Hydro's non-government
10	this particular hearing will probably be the	10	customers served from its isolated diesel
11	last hearing under this Public Utilities	11	systems are charged the same rates for their
12	Board Act. We envision in the coming	12	lifeline consumption as those charged by
13	months, particularly given the problems from	13	Newfoundland Power. It is for these reasons
14	Muskrat Falls costing, that the government	14	that Hydro intervened in Newfoundland
15	will move with all haste to employ experts	15	Power's GRA. Hydro has been a participant
16	to complete a study of a new act following	16	in the process in this application to date,
17	consultations with all the stakeholders in a	17	including the discussions that have taken
18	similar process which was undertaken by	18	place to arrive at the Settlement Agreement
19	Midguard for the capital budget guidelines.	19	that was put forth today. Hydro is
20	With this announcement we sign on to this	20	satisfied with the agreements that have been
21	agreement because things are changing and we	21	made and believe that it is a good agreement
22	would want to put our focus on the	22	for all parties and in the best interest of
$\begin{vmatrix} 22\\23 \end{vmatrix}$	government announcement and the way that	23	customers. Thank you.
24	should be carried out at this particular	23	CHAIR:
25	time.	25	Q. Thank you. Mr. O'Brien, is there anything
25	time:	25	Q. Thank you. Will o Brien, is there anything
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1 still the opportunity for interested persons	
2 to provide their views, either with respect	
3 to this Settlement Agreement or any other	
4 issues in this matter as set out in the	
5 notice issue. The deadline for submitting	
6 letters of comment is Wednesday, November	
7 30th, and I guess at this point all that's	
8 left is to say thank you and the hearing is	
9 now adjourned and with the call of the	
10 Chair, as always, the Board Secretary or	
11 Assistant Board Secretary remain available	
12 to answer any questions or provide	
13 clarification with respect to any aspect of	
14 this proceeding and thank you again,	
15 especially thank you again.	
16 Upon concluding at 10:14 a.m.	
17	
18	
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CERTIFICATE	
I, Judy Moss, hereby certify that the foregoing is a	
true and correct transcript of a public hearing into	
Newfoundland Power Inc. 2022-202 General Rate	
Application, heard on the 23rd day of November, 2021 at	
the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, St.	
John's, Newfoundland and Labrador and was transcribed	
by me to the best of my ability by means of a sound	
apparatus.	
Dated at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador this	
23rd day of November, 2021.	
Judy Moss	

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