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October 8, 2024

Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities
Prince Charles Building
120 Torbay Road, P.O. Box 21040
St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

Attention: Jo-Anne Galarneau
Executive Director and Board Secretary

Re: Newfoundland Power Inc.'s 2025 Capital Budget Application – Requests for Information

Please find enclosed Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's requests for information NLH-NP-029 to NLH-NP-032 in relation to Newfoundland Power Inc.'s 2025 Capital Budget Application.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR HYDRO

Shirley A. Walsh
Senior Legal Counsel, Regulatory
SAW/rr

Encl.

ecc:

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Newfoundland Power Inc.
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IN THE MATTER OF the *Public Utilities Act*, (the “Act”), and

IN THE MATTER OF an application by Newfoundland Power Inc. (“Newfoundland Power”) for an Order pursuant to sections 41 and 78 of the *Act*:

- (a) approving its 2025 Capital Budget; and
- (b) fixing and determining its 2023 rate base.

Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro
Requests for Information
NLH-NP-029 to NLH-NP-032

October 8, 2024

1 NLH-NP-029 **Reference: NLH-NP-003.**

2 a) Newfoundland Power states that APT-02 was first energized in 2023. Please
3 reconcile this with the statement from the application:

4 Distribution feeder APT-02 serves 949 customers in Portugal Cove. A
5 1.6 kilometre section of distribution feeder extending Neary's Pond
6 Road is overloaded. Load growth on this two-phase line can be
7 attributed to customer connection growth and electrical service
8 upgrades in the area. The number of customers supplied by this two-
9 phase line has increased by 27% over the last 15 years.

10 b) Was the overloaded condition on the relevant section of APT-02 known at the time
11 of construction? If so, why was this condition not addressed at that time?

12 NLH-NP-030 **Reference: NLH-NP-004.**

13 a) Does Newfoundland Power believe that customers would continue to experience
14 reliability better than that of the Electricity Canada Region 2 average if the
15 Distribution Feeder Program were to be paused? If not, why not?

16 b) Does the Distribution Feeder Automation Program improve Newfoundland Power's
17 ability to rotate customer outages, for example, in the unlikely event of a supply
18 capacity shortfall?

19 c) Given the stated 52-week lead time for reclosers, has Newfoundland Power already
20 placed orders for reclosers for installation under this program in 2025?

21 NLH-NP-031 **Reference: NLH-NP-009 and NLH-NP-010.**

22 In its application, Newfoundland Power has stated that it has not considered repair of
23 GAN-T2 and PUL-T2 due to the reliability risk associated with committing a spare
24 transformer for an extended period of time while repairs are completed.

25 a) Without assessing the cost of repairing GAN-T2 and PUL-T2, how has Newfoundland
26 Power determined that repair does not constitute an appropriate balance between
27 cost and reliability?

28 b) Newfoundland Power states that it has multiple spares, in the form of spare
29 substation transformers or portable substations, for GAN-T2 and PUL-T2. How many
30 spares or backup options would be required for Newfoundland Power to consider
31 committing a spare to facilitate the repair of a transformer?

1 c) Has Newfoundland Power considered increasing the number of spares or portable
2 substations to enable the consideration of potential lower-cost options, such as
3 equipment repair rather than replacement? If not, why not?

4 NLH-NP-032 **Reference: NLH-NP-017.**

5 Newfoundland Power states that its voltage regulation methods ensure that customers
6 experience voltages within normal planning limits. In this context, please explain the
7 consequence of low incoming transmission voltages.

DATED at St. John's, in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador this 8th day of October, 2024.



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