



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
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2019-11-21

Mr. Geoff Young
Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro
P.O. Box 12400
Hydro Place, Columbus Drive
St. John's, NL A1B 4K7

Dear Mr. Young:

Re: Investigation and Hearing into Supply Issues and Power Outages on the Island Interconnected System - Phase Two - The Liberty Consulting Group Eighth Quarterly Monitoring Report on the Integration of Power Supply Facilities to the Island Interconnected System - Further Information and Continued Quarterly Monitoring Reports in 2020

The Eighth Quarterly Monitoring Report on the Integration of Power Supply Facilities to the Island Interconnected System (IIS), dated November 15, 2019, prepared by Liberty (the Report) raises a number of issues of concern on which the Board requires further information at this time as follows:


- (1) Independent third parties have been retained to monitor and report on performance by General Electric on the control and protection software for the Labrador Island Link (LIL) which has experienced significant problems and delays. To ensure a full understanding of the extent of the problems, the proposed remedial actions and the implications for the adequacy of supply and the reliability of the IIS, the Board requires that copies of the written reports provided to date by these third parties be immediately provided to the Board and its consultants. Future reports should be filed with the Board as they become available.
- (2) The delivery of interim bipole software has been further delayed from October to December, 2019 with delivery of final software scheduled for delivery in June 2020. Please confirm by November 29, 2019 whether this is still the current schedule for delivery of the software. The Board also requires that Hydro immediately advise of any future changes to this schedule, the reason for the change and the implications of any delay for delivery of power and energy to the IIS over the LIL.

- (3) A potentially serious converter station control software issue related to the firing angle range is discussed on pages 6-8 of the Report. Please provide by December 13, 2019 a report that fully describes the problem, the status of the investigation into the issue, and the plan and schedule for addressing it.
- (4) Vibration issues with Unit 3 Synchronous Condenser and binding issues with Units 1 and 2 Synchronous Condensers are identified on page 8 of the Report. While we understand that investigation to determine the root cause of these issues is in the early stages, given the serious potential consequences of both these issues, the Board requires that Hydro provide a report by December 13, 2019 on these two issues related to the synchronous condensers that fully describes the problems, the status of the investigation into the root causes and the plan and schedule to address the issues.
- (5) Page 9 of the report refers to the RFI-025 Common PSCAD Dynamic Performance Study Report completed by General Electric which Liberty has requested be provided to them. Nalcor also agreed to provide to Liberty an overview of the Phase II Overhead Transmission Lines Emergency Response Plan by the end of November. Please ensure that these reports are provided as they become available.

In light of the continuing schedule delays for the full in-service of the LIL, the ongoing software issues and new concerns with respect to the synchronous condensers, the Board has decided to retain Liberty for continued quarterly monitoring reports in 2020.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary

CB/cj

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