

**NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

AN ORDER OF THE BOARD

NO. P.U. 24(2020)

1 **IN THE MATTER OF** the *Electrical Power*
2 *Control Act, 1994*, SNL 1994, Chapter E-5.1 (the
3 “*EPCA*”) and the *Public Utilities Act*, RSNL 1990,
4 Chapter P-47 (the “*Act*”), as amended, and regulations
5 thereunder; and
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7 **IN THE MATTER OF** an application by
8 Newfoundland Power Inc. for consent to
9 abandon a part of its transmission line
10 infrastructure pursuant to section 38 of the *Act*.
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13 **WHEREAS** Newfoundland Power Inc. (“Newfoundland Power”) is a corporation duly organized
14 and existing under the laws of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, is a public utility
15 within the meaning of the *Act*, and is also subject to the provisions of the *EPCA*; and
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17 **WHEREAS** Newfoundland Power’s customers in the Central Newfoundland area between Grand
18 Falls-Windsor and Gander are supplied by a 60-year-old 66 kV transmission system consisting of
19 transmission lines 101L and 102L and related substation equipment, and a newer 138 kV
20 transmission system; and
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22 **WHEREAS** inspections had identified that the 66 kV lines were in a deteriorated condition and
23 had reached end of life; and
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25 **WHEREAS** the Central Newfoundland System Planning Study (the “Study”) filed by
26 Newfoundland Power in its 2019 Capital Budget Application addressed the least-cost replacement
27 of the 66 kV transmission lines 101L and 102L and recommended reconfiguration of the newer
28 138 kV system to serve all customers and the subsequent dismantling of the bulk of the 66 kV
29 system; and
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31 **WHEREAS** on July 23, 2020 Newfoundland Power filed an abandonment of plant application
32 with the Board for approval to remove from service certain Newfoundland Power 66 kV
33 transmission line infrastructure in Central Newfoundland (“the Application”); and
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35 **WHEREAS** the reconfiguration of the 138 kV system is ongoing and will result in the dismantling
36 of i) transmission line 101L operating between Grand Falls Substation and Rattling Brook
37 Substation; (ii) 37 kilometres of transmission line 102L operating between Rattling Brook

1 Substation to Roycefield Substation; and (iii) associated 66 kV transmission line breakers and
2 switches at the Grand Falls, Rattling Brook, Notre Dame Junction, Lewisporte and Roycefield
3 substations; and

4
5 **WHEREAS** Newfoundland Power stated that all customers now served by the 66 kV transmission
6 system infrastructure to be removed from service will be served by the reconfigured 138 kV
7 transmission system and that no customers of Newfoundland Power will have their service reduced
8 or adversely affected by the removal from service of the 66 kV transmission line infrastructure in
9 Central Newfoundland; and

10
11 **WHEREAS** Section 38 of the *Act* provides that the written consent of the Board to abandon part
12 of a line or works shall only be given after notice is provided to an interested incorporated
13 municipal body; and

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15 **WHEREAS** all of the interested incorporated municipal bodies have been provided with notice of
16 the Application and none of those incorporated municipal bodies have objected to Newfoundland
17 Power's proposal; and

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19 **WHEREAS** the Application was copied to: Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") and
20 the Consumer Advocate, Dennis Browne, Q.C.; and

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22 **WHEREAS** the Board issued requests for information which were answered by Newfoundland
23 Power on August 10, 2020; and

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25 **WHEREAS** on August 14, 2020 Hydro advised that they had no comments regarding the
26 Application; and

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28 **WHEREAS** no other comments were received by the Board; and

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30 **WHEREAS** the Board is satisfied that the 66 kV infrastructure set out in the Application will no
31 longer be used and useful upon the completion of the 2020 and 2021 capital work identified within
32 the Study and that its removal will not adversely affect service reliability.

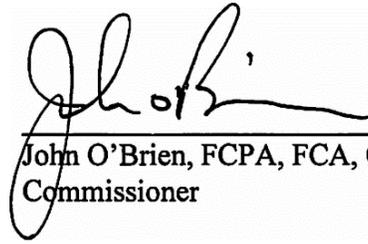
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34
35 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

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37 1. The removal from service of transmission line 101L, the 37-kilometer section of transmission
38 line 102L and the associated substation equipment, subsequent to the completion of the
39 necessary 2020 and 2021 capital works, is approved.
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41 2. Newfoundland Power shall pay all expenses of the Board arising from this Application.

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 27th day of August, 2020.



**Darlene Whalen, P. Eng., FEC
Chair and Chief Executive Officer**



**John O'Brien, FCPA, FCA, CISA
Commissioner**



**Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary**