

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION by Nova Scotia Power Incorporated ("NSPI")
for approval of the following capital project: CI# 38819 - 51V
Tremont Circuit Breaker & Bus

To: Ms. Nicole Godbout
Regulatory Counsel
Nova Scotia Power Inc.
Email: Nicole.godbout@nspower.ca

From: Board Staff
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

Responses Due: November 22, 2010

Copies: 4 and an electronic copy (pdf searchable)

Contact Person: **Mr. Ross Young**
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Issued at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 8th day of November, 2010.


Elaine Wagner, Clerk of the Board

The following IRs are for CI#38819 – 51V Tremont Circuit Breaker and Bus

IR-1:

Reference the capital approval sheet

- a) The reference to CI#33525 on page 2 shows a capital cost of \$9,148,573, but the present requested approval amount for this work order is \$8,016,435. Please explain.
- b) Under “why do this project” on page 5, it states that loss of selected elements causes the voltage on the 69 KV system to drop below acceptable levels. What are acceptable levels? Please provide a copy of the appropriate NSPI design criteria document.
- c) Under “why do this project now” on page 5, it states that low voltages could occur during the 2010/2011 peak load. However, the project in-service date is December 2011. This means the project will not be available for the 2010/2011 peak.
 - i) Is the above statement correct?
 - ii) If so, then NSPI is in violation of its system design criteria for the 2010/2011 peak period? If not, please explain why not.
 - iii) Why wasn't this project put forward earlier in order to meet this winter's peak period?

IR-2:

Please provide a copy of the Tremont substation single line diagram as it presently exists and one that shows the configuration when this project is complete. Indicate clearly the changes resulting from this work order.

IR-3:

Reference Response to ACE Plan IR-T2, Attachment 1, page 2 of 35

- a) This page provides transformer ratings as 30/40/50/56 MVA. Please provide details on what the operating assumptions are for each rating, e.g. assumed ambient temperature.
- b) What rating is used to compute the overload condition referred to on page 3 of 35?

IR-4:

Reference Response to ACE Plan IR-T2, Attachment 1, page 3 of 35

- a) For the 2010 peak period, with the loss of the Canaan Road to Tremont 138 KV circuit, the two 138/69 KV transformers at Canaan Road are overloaded. What is the MVA rating of these transformers and what is the percentage overload?

IR-5:

Reference Response to ACE Plan IR-T2, Attachment 1, page 4 of 35

- a) NSPI proposes to establish a 138 KV ring bus? What is the incremental cost to establish a ring bus?
- b) Please describe more fully the reasons for establishing a ring bus at this time, including any impact on customer reliability.
- c) NSPI proposes to reconfigure the 69 KV bus. What is the incremental capital cost of this work?
- d) Please describe more fully the reasons for reconfiguring the 69 KV bus at this time, including any impact on customer reliability.
- e) Please provide more details on the alternative transmission route examined, e.g. from where to where?
- f) Would this alternate route provide better, the same or lower reliability to the area? Was this factored into the decision on which alternative to recommend? If not, why not?

IR-6:

Reference Response to ACE Plan IR-T2, part c

- a) Table 1 shows tender close dates of July 2010 for three of the tender documents. Please provide an update on the status of these tenders. Include in your response any impact the actual tender price may have on the capital cost of the three work orders submitted.

IR-7:

Reference Response to ACE Plan IR-T2, part d

- a) Is the Gantt chart provided in the response to IR-T2 still reasonably accurate? Please provide comments on any major changes and, in particular, comment on the in-service date.

IR-8:

Reference the capital approval sheet, capital cost accounts

Please provide detailed support for the estimate shown under Account 028, Consulting. Include in your response a description of the items being designed.