IN THE MATTER OF an application by Efficiency Nova Scotia Corporation
for approval of its Electricity Demand Side Management Plan for 2013
NSUARB-E-ENSC-R-12
Consumer Advocate Information Requests to ENSC

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Request IR-1:

Please provide details of how ENSC plans to obtain the stakeholder views on program design and implementation that was formerly provided by the Program Development Working Group.

Request IR-2:

Please describe the terms of reference for the DSM Advisory Group, including objectives, membership, meeting frequency, and potential agenda items.

Request IR-3:

Please provide a breakdown, including investment, targets, TRCs and PACS for each sub-program within each of the major program area such as the Green Heating Program and Low Income Program within the Existing Residential Program area.

Request IR-4:

Please provide specific examples of program design and delivery modifications that ENSC plans for 2013-15 that would not be possible under a series of one year programs.

Request IR-5:

Please provide ENSC's views of the impact of a three year program versus a one year program on projected Total Resource Cost Test and Program Administration Cost Test numbers for 2013-15.

Request IR-6:

Please provide any recent load forecasts for the years 2013-2013, either ENSC's own or those of others, and a comparison with those in the 2007 IRP and 2009 IRP update.

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Request IR-7:

Please provide a copy of NSPI's preliminary review that confirms that ENSC's five-year DSM target projection is within range of the load sensitivities evaluated in the 2009 IRP.

Request IR-8:

Please provide ENSC's views on whether experience with DSM in Nova Scotia since the 2007 indicates that the forecast level of savings in the 2007 IRP cannot be can be achieved at the projected costs in the 2007 IRP.

Request IR-9:

Please provide ENSC's view on whether a review of the 2007 IRP is warranted before any increase in investment levels and targets over and above what has been proposed for 2013-2017.

Request IR-10:

Please provide information on alternative levels of investment and savings for 2013-2015 that ENSC may have considered in preparing the 2013-15 DSM plan and reasons why any alternative levels of investment and savings targets were not requested.

Request IR-11:

Please provide rationale for why solar domestic water heating was not considered within the Green Heating Program?

Request IR-12:

Please provide ENSC's plan for ongoing tracking and evaluation of Energy Savings Actions and specifically the Home Energy Report

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Request IR-13:

Please provide specific examples from each program area where recommendations made by Econoler have or will be implemented.

Request IR-14:

Please provide an update on the status of progress regarding development of evaluation plans and improvements to manuals as recommended by Econoler.

Request IR-15:

Please provide an estimate of free ridership for the Green Heating Program and what steps, if any, have been taken by ENSC to reduce free ridership levels from that reported with respect to the Fuel Substitution Pilot.

Request IR-16:

Please provide a list of program changes ENSC plans to ensure the 2013-15 energy savings targets for business, non-profits and institutions are met given the significant underachievement in 2011 for these classes of customers.

Request IR-17:

Please indicate whether ENSC is prepared to re-evaluate the Low Income Home target of 19 GWh for the three year period 2013-2015 in light of the fact that the 2011 evaluation indicated savings of 12.4 GWh for one year.

Request IR-18:

Please provide ENSC"s evaluation plan for Enabling Strategies.

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Request IR-19:

Is ENSC planning to include evaluation of Enabling Strategies in future third part program evaluations and, if not, why not?

Request IR-20:

Please provide an update on the implementation Econoler's recommendation that evaluation plans be prepared for each program as part of program design phase.

Request IR-21:

Please explain whether ENSC has adopted and agrees with the cost-allocation recommendations Elenchus presents in Appendix C.

Request IR-22:

Please provide as detailed and realistic as possible an example of the allocation of costs between taxpayer and ratepayer components, based on the proposed budget for 2013 or anticipated program activity.

a. Wherever possible, please identify the allocation method for each activity or expenditure category.

Request IR-23:

Please provide all available information on the planned allocation of the costs of enabling strategies.

Request IR-24:

Please provide the attachments to Appendix C as Excel spreadsheets with all formulae intact.

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Request IR-25:

Please explain exactly how ENSC proposes to update the 3 CP kW Demand allocator and the MWh Energy Requirement in Attachment 1-1 of Appendix C in actual cost-recovery filings.

a. What sales values would be used in the adjustment in note 2?

b. What source or reference date will be used the MWh requirement?

Request IR-26:

Appendix C (p. 5) states that Elenchus supports "25% of costs being allocated on the basis of system benefits," yet the allocation of this portion of costs is entirely on the generation plant portion of rate base (Attachment 1-1, note 1).

a. Please explain why this allocator does not reflect the system benefit of avoided fuel and variable O&M costs (including variable pollution-control costs).

b. Please provide Elenchus's estimate of the fuel-related fraction of total system benefits, as reflected in the avoided costs used by ENSC in screening measures and programs.

c. Please provide Elenchus's estimate of the fuel-related fraction of NSPI's total generation costs.

Request IR-27:

The bill-impact tables in Appendix C, Attachment 3, do not appear to reflect either the reduction in supply costs due to the energy-efficiency programs, or the reduction in the average usage by class due to the programs.

a. If either supply benefits or the change in usage is reflected in those tables, please explain how they are reflected.

b. Please provide the equivalent of these tables, reducing kWh and kW billing determinants as expected for the average class member (e.g., class savings ÷ customer number ÷ 12).

c. Please provide the equivalent of these tables, reducing rates by the costs avoided by the energy-efficiency programs.

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