Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

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To: P-882, P-883, P-884, P-886

From: Nancy McNeil,
Regulatory Affairs Officer/Clerk

Date: February 19, 2007

Re: Rate Hearing Future Filing Requirements

The Board's February 5, 2007 Decision in the 2007 NSPI Rate Hearing (P-886) included the following:

"7.5 Future Filing Requirements

[72] Item 13 on the Final Issues List was "development of standard filing requirements and other changes such as timing of information request responses". Dr. Stutz, in his Direct Evidence (Exhibit N-12), stated as follows:

> Q. IN [IS] THERE ANY WAY TO AVOID OR AT LEAST MINIMIZE SUCH DEFICIENCIES IN THE FUTURE?
>
> A. Yes. I recommend that the Board direct Staff to work with NSPI and other interested parties, to develop standard filing requirements which NSPI will be required to meet when it files its evidence in any subsequent General Rate Proceeding. The requirements developed by Staff should be submitted to the Board within three months of the decision in this proceeding.
>
> (Exhibit N-12, pp. 22-23)

[73] The Board agrees with that recommendation and will so direct Staff. "

This letter outlines the process and timetable to enable Board Staff to meet the above Board Directive. The three month timeline directed by the Board means the Board Staff report will be filed by May 5, 2007.

The Board has established a separate process on the potential establishment of a Fuel Adjustment Mechanism ("FAM") for Nova Scotia Power Inc. This Future Filing Requirements process will assume a continuation of the present regulatory rate application filing system. The impact of a FAM upon the filing requirements will be dealt with, if and when a FAM is established.

The following timetable will apply to this process:

1.	Parties file their intention to participate in this process	February 26, 2007
2.	Board Clerk issues a list of registered participants	February 28, 2007
3.	Parties file their list of future filing requirements	March 12, 2007
4.	NSPI files a response to the parties list	March 26, 2007
5.	Board Staff prepares and circulates a "strawman proposal"	April 12, 2007
6.	All parties file comments on the "strawman proposal"	April 24, 2007
7.	Board Staff files its report with the Board	May 4, 2007

The following provides additional guidance to the parties on Items 1 and 3 in the above timetable.

Item 1: Parties are requested to inform the Board Clerk of their intention to be a participant in this process. The Board Clerk's address is:

Nancy McNeil
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3rd Floor, 1601 Lower Water Street
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Item 3: Comments are to be sent to the Board Clerk at the above address with a copy to all other registered participants. As part of this process, Board Staff plans to file its own list of suggested future filing requirements. This will enable NSPI, under Item 4, to comment on Board Staff's list as well as the list of all other participants.

The list of future filing requirements should clearly state the specific information required and the reasons why this information is required. If this information has been requested through an Information Request in a NSPI rate hearing, please provide the particulars of that request. As an example, Board expects to include UARB IR-49 from the P-881 case. (The same information was asked for in P-882, SEB IR-195 and in P-886, UARB IR-84). This IR provides the monthly Strategist output backup for the total NSPI fuel budget, including each generating unit's fuel usage, delivered price per mmbtu for each fuel, and total fuel costs. Board Staff considers this essential information in order for it to review NSPI's fuel budget forecast.