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April 28, 2017

VIA EMAIL

28096

Ms. Doreen Friis

Regulatory Affairs Officer/Clerk

Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor

Halifax, NS B3J 3S3

Dear Ms. Friis:

Re: M07540 – Nova Scotia Power Inc. 2016 10-Year System Outlook Report (P-194)

The Consumer Advocate attended the recent Technical Conference and was particularly interested in discussions related to NSPI's ongoing operation of its full fleet of thermal coal units.

As stated at the Technical Conference, the most important component for ratepayers is a consideration of the funds *not yet spent* on maintaining the full fleet of thermal coal units.

In addition, it was also noted during the Technical Conference that the most recent IRP did not have the benefit of data sourced from Plexos. That Plexos data, which is now available, may provide a more in-depth consideration of the planning options available relating to the continued maintenance of the thermal coal units.

Based on the presentation and discussions at the Technical Conference, it is the view of the Consumer Advocate that a focussed and detailed study aimed at determining whether NSPI should continue to maintain its full slate of thermal coal units is required. The design and administration of this study would benefit from the direct involvement of Synapse.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "W L Mahody".

William L. Mahody, Q.C.

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WLM:dlb

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