

May 17, 2019

Doreen Friis
Regulatory Affairs Officer/Clerk
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M"
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Re: NS Power 2020 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) – Pre-IRP Workshops

In its letter dated October 5, 2018, the Board directed NS Power to undertake an IRP process for completion by mid-2020, and to aim to complete the pre-IRP analyses (recommended by the Generation Utilization and Optimization Synapse report and the Bates White report dated July 24, 2018 from its audit of the Fuel Adjustment Mechanism for 2016-2017) by July 31, 2019.

NS Power's pre-IRP deliverables as set out in the Board's letter include the following:

1. Completing loss of load expectation (LOLE) study to establish planning reserve margin, capacity value of wind, and battery storage duration requirements [related to Bates White items].
2. Developing resource options assumptions for new supply-side options (including initial investment capital, ongoing operating costs, sustaining capital, performance capabilities, etc.) [related to Synapse recommendation #3 and Bates White items] and develop cost and performance projections for existing fleet [related to Synapse recommendation #4, 7, 8 and Bates White items].
3. Developing assumptions for demand response resources [related to Synapse recommendation #2] including estimated program cost and peak load impact.
4. Conducting study of transmission requirements for increased levels of renewables on the Nova Scotia system [related to Synapse recommendation #5, 6]

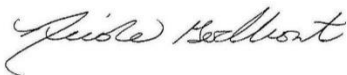
The Company also anticipates that Synapse recommendation 1 will be addressed by E1's Potential Study (Synapse recommendations 6, 8, and 9 will be addressed in the broader IRP analysis process (e.g. during assumptions development or in the modeling phase itself).

NS Power has been providing Board staff with regular updates on these items and confirms the Company is on-track to have them completed by July 31, 2019.

The Company would like to begin engaging with interested parties prior to this date, and is planning a series of workshops to discuss the IRP process, key issues, and the status of its pre-IRP deliverables. Specifically, NS Power will be holding an initial Webex conference on Friday, May 24, 2019 at 10:00am where the Company would provide an overview of the pre-IRP deliverables as well as an outline of the intended pre-IRP workshops with interested parties. The Company is currently anticipating two pre-IRP additional workshops (one June and one in July) to provide interested parties with background IRP information, discuss key issues and changes in the planning environment, and present updates on the draft deliverables for discussion.

NS Power respectfully requests that the Board circulate this update to the appropriate distribution lists with the request that recipients confirm their interest in participating in the Company's pre-IRP workshops, to Regulatory.Affairs@nspower.ca, in order to better enable the Company to move forward with this engagement process.

Yours truly,



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Director, Regulatory

c. Judith Ferguson
Mark Sidebottom
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