

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: The Public Utilities Act, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.380, as amended
- and -

IN THE MATTER OF: NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED
2024 10-Year System Outlook Report

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: Nova Scotia Power, Inc. (NSPI)
From: NS SBA
Responses Due: Thursday September 19, 2024
Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)
Contact Person: Melissa P. MacAdam
Blackburn Law
Small Business Advocate
Phone (902) 835-8544
Nblackburn@blackburnlaw.ca

Issued at Bedford, Nova Scotia on this 28th day of August 2024

1 **Request IR-01**

2 Refer to the 10-Year System Outlook (the “Report”) Section 2.0 - Load Forecast, Page 7 of 67.

- 3 a. Please provide a comparison between the 2024 Load Forecast with the forecast used
4 in Evergreen IRP scenario CE1-E1-R2. Provide comparison for both energy and
5 peak demand.
6 b. Identify any needed changes in resource buildout to accommodate differences in
7 the updated Load Forecast, as compared to the Evergreen IRP load forecast.
8

9 **Request IR-02**

10 Refer to the Report Section 3.2.1 - Path to 2030 and Evergreen IRP, Figure 6, Page 17 of 67.

11 There are multiple discrepancies between the timing and capacity volume of resource additions in
12 this table and the expectations provided in NSPI’s Path to 2030 Report¹. See, e.g., Figure 1 on p.
13 6 in NSPI’s Path to 2030 Report including 373 MW of Rate Base Procurement capacity in 2025,
14 compared with 306 MW of Rate Base Procurement capacity in 2026/27 noted in Figure 6 of the
15 Report. Please reconcile the differences between the resource outlooks presented in the two
16 documents and provide a narrative description of whether NSPI will be able to achieve the 2030
17 clean energy targets.
18

19 **Request IR-03**

20 Refer to the Report Section 3.2.5 - Rate Base Procurement, noting that the Report assumes that the
21 energy and capacity from a withdrawn RBP project² will be assigned to the Green Choice Program
22 instead.

- 23 a. Is NSPI confident there will be sufficient interest in the Green Choice Program to
24 drive procurements for 416 MW?
25 b. If there is insufficient contracting for resources under the Green Choice Program,
26 does NSPI have an alternative plan to meet renewable energy requirements?
27

28 **Request IR-04**

29 Refer to the Report Section 5.3 - Anticipated Policy Changes – Clean Electricity Regulations. On
30 p. 42 of 67, NSPI notes that the ECCC has indicated there may be some flexibility to use emitting
31 resources to help integrate renewables.

- 32 a. Has NSPI analyzed the impact of the proposed rules/regulations on system
33 operations and planning? If so, please provide all related documentation and
34 analysis.
35 b. Has NSPI developed alternative plans in case the 2035 net-zero regulations do not
36 permit continued use of emitting resources? If so, please provide details.
37 c. Does NSPI expect the revised regulations to allow emitting resources to generate
38 at an average capacity factor of 40%, as currently anticipated for the Tufts Cove
39 resources (see the Report Figure 8, 2034 generation values, Page 22 of 67)?
40
41
42

¹ Filed under M11017

² See the Report page 21 of 67, Lines 4-14

1 **Request IR-05**

2 Refer to the Report Section 7.7 - Hydrogen Load Impact Studies, beginning at page 58 of 67, where
3 it states that:

4 NSPI is conducting Load Impact Studies and System Impact Studies for these projects
5 based on the assumption that the operation of the hydrogen/ammonia plants will be
6 scheduled by the customer based on scheduled generation output of their associated
7 generation resources.³
8

- 9 a. What is the basis of this assumption?
10 b. Have the potential customers provided information to NSPI regarding the potential
11 generation supply and/or the operating profile of the facilities? If so, please provide
12 this information.
13 c. Has NSPI identified any incremental system needs (e.g. peaking resources,
14 reserves, etc.) that would be required to meet the estimated 1,225 MW of peak load,
15 even if the customers develop sufficient generation resources to meet the energy
16 needs of the facilities?
17 d. What is the current development status of these projects?
18 e. Please provide any other analysis conducted by NSPI to evaluate how the addition
19 of these facilities will impact system reliability or the ability of NSPI to meet policy
20 requirements for renewable generation.
21

22 **Request IR-06**

23 Refer to the Report Section 7.8 - EMT Studies to Support Wind Integration, page 59 of 67, where
24 it states that “One of the findings is that Nova Scotia Power can incorporate inverter-based
25 resources (IBRs), such as wind, limited only by the load to be served and the best economic
26 dispatch to meet target metrics for renewables⁴.”

- 27 a. Does this conclusion impact NSPI’s conclusion on the need for the Reliability Tie
28 or the timing of the need for the transmission project?
29 b. Please identify any changes to IRP planning constraints resulting from these
30 conclusions.
31

³ M11764, the Report Page 59 of 67, Lines 1-3

⁴ M11764, the Report Page 59 of 67, Line 10-12