

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: IN THE MATTER OF an application by NOVA SCOTIA
POWER INCORPORATED (NS Power) for approval of an
Authorization to Overspend (ATO) in the amount of \$8,201,086 on
capital application project CI 50518 – HYD Ruth Falls Main Dam
Refurbishment, increasing the Company’s request for Board
approval of a total project capital cost of \$15,445,508

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: Nova Scotia Power, Inc. (NSPI)
From: NS SBA
Responses Due: December 3, 2024
Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)
Contact Person: **Melissa P. MacAdam**
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Small Business Advocate
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Issued at Bedford, Nova Scotia on this 12th day of November, 2024

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2 **Request IR-1:**

3 Refer to Exhibit N-1, NSPI's application for approval of CI 50518 HYD Ruth Falls Main Dam
4 Refurbishment ATO Non-Confidential (N-1 ATO) and section titled "Why do the project this
5 way?" on page 2 of 10 that presents Options 1 through 5 and respond to the following:
6

- 7 a) Please provide the principal characteristics of each option considered that underpinned the
8 conclusion that the each option reviewed was less desirable than the option that was
9 ultimately chosen, # 4.
10 b) In addition, please describe what investigation, if any, NSPI has conducted regarding any
11 changes to the characteristics of each option and conclusions reached.
12

13 **Request IR-2:**

14 Refer to N-1 ATO, page 2 of 10, Reason for Variance – ATO, para 1., Environmental Permitting
15 Requirements, and answer the following:
16

- 17 a) What requirements did Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), and the Nova Scotia
18 Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSECC) ask of NSPI during the
19 environmental permit process?
20 b) Please provide copies of correspondence from the agencies and the responses by NSPI,
21 including reports and studies filed.
22

23 **Request IR-3:**

24 Refer to N-1 ATO page 3 of 10, para 2. Extended Construction Timeline, in which the Company
25 concluded that the extended timeline led to increased project costs, associated with Contracts and
26 Consulting detailed on page 5 of 10 and answer the following:
27

- 28 a) Please explain how the variance amounts set out for the Contracts and Consulting
29 categories are allocated between the following sub-categories:
30 a. the extended timeline;
31 b. delay in work; and
32 c. additional work scope.
33 b) Please describe the type of work that is responsible for the increased scope identified above.
34 c) Please describe the reasons NSPI believes the increases are reasonable considering today's
35 labor costs.
36

37 **Request IR-4:**

38 Refer to N-1 ATO, page 3 of 10, para 2. Extended Construction Timeline, in which the Company
39 concluded that the extended timeline led to increased project costs, including increased material
40 costs, and answer the following:
41

- 42 a) What were the drivers of the material costs increase?
43 b) Please identify which material cost changes corresponded to a change in scope since 2018?
44