

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE *PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT*

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF an investigation pursuant to s.19 of the *Public Utilities Act* into certain matters arising from a **Joint Use Agreement** between **NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED** and **BELL ALIANT**

BEFORE:  Richard J. Melanson, LL.B., Member

AMENDED HEARING ORDER

The Board received a complaint from Clarence Felderhof about the application of rebates related to pole installations under the Joint Use Agreement between NS Power and Bell Aliant dated March 31, 1993 [M11835].

The Board received a complaint from Seneca Shores Living Inc. in part about delay in the installation and removal of poles covered by the Joint Use Agreement [M11838].

The Board found that a review of these issues had potential ramifications that go beyond the interest of individual complainants.

The Board has, therefore, determined that an investigation pursuant to s.19 of the *Public Utilities Act* should be made into the following two issues:

- 1) Whether the Joint Use Agreement is unreasonable, insufficient, or unjustly discriminatory because there are different rebate schemes depending on whether an area is serviced by joint-use poles owned by NS Power or Bell Aliant.
- 2) Whether the provision of electric service connections and the disconnection and removal of service connections are being delayed or impacted by the processes used under the Joint Use Agreement.

This matter is to be considered in a paper hearing.

The Board received a letter from NS Power on May 8, 2025, attaching a signed Letter of Intent between NS Power and Bell, effective March 3, 2025, setting out test changes in

procedures for the poles owned by Bell. Board staff required more time to prepare Information Requests to address this filing, therefore, the March 21st Hearing Order has been amended.

The following amended timetable will apply to this matter:

Board staff Information Requests (IRs) to NS Power	Monday, May 26, 2025
NS Power IR Responses	Monday, June 16, 2025
Evidence by NS Power	Tuesday, July 8, 2025
IRs from Intervenors to NS Power	Tuesday, July 29, 2025
IR responses from NS Power	Wednesday, August 20, 2025
Evidence from Intervenors	Thursday, September 11, 2025
IRs from NS Power and Board staff to Intervenors (if any)	Thursday, October 2, 2025
IR responses from Intervenors	Friday, October 24, 2025
Letters of Comment	Friday, October 24, 2025
NS Power's Rebuttal Evidence and Final Submissions	Monday, November 17, 2025
Submissions by Intervenors	Monday, December 8, 2025
Reply submissions by NS Power	Monday, December 22, 2025

The *Board's Regulatory Rules* will apply to this proceeding, including Rules 7(3) with respect to filing by 2:00 p.m. on any date a document is due; and,

The Clerk of the Board shall distribute the Amended Notice of Paper Hearing to the parties that intervened in this matter; to the Board's social media account and publish on the Board's website.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 26th day of May, 2025.


Clerk of the Board