

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: *The Public Utilities Act,*
 - and -

IN THE MATTER OF: a review of the 2025 Evergreen IRP Action Plan and Roadmap
 update of Nova Scotia Power Incorporated.

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: Mark Peachey, Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI)
From: Nova Scotia Small Business Advocate
Responses Due: July 15, 2025
Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)
Contact Person: **Melissa P. MacAdam**
 Blackburn Law Inc.
 Small Business Advocate
 Phone (902) 835-8544
 mmacadam@blackburnlaw.ca

Issued at Bedford, Nova Scotia on this 24th day of June 2025

Request IR-1:

Regarding NS Power's plans regarding the addition of thermal combustion turbines.

- a) Has NS Power had any conversations with CT suppliers to collect updated pricing and timelines for new thermal resources?
- b) If so, please provide a summary of those conversations, and identify whether the updated information would merit an update to NS Power's IRP analysis.

Request IR-2:

Please provide an updated rate impact analysis for the resource portfolio derived from the Evergreen IRP.

Request IR-3:

Please provide an assessment of the implication of the province's offshore wind objectives on NS Power's long-term resource plan and provide all analysis on the financial and operational impacts.

Request IR-4:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP Action Plan and Roadmap update (2025 Evergreen IRP) page 10 of 42, regarding the Renewable Electricity Standard (RES).

Please provide an update on NS Power's compliance with RES requirements and a forecast of future compliance.

Request IR-5:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, pages 11-12 of 42, regarding the Annual Emissions Limits (AEL) under the Clean Electricity Regulations (CER).

- a) Please provide a summary of how NS Power's existing and planned emitting resources will be classified under the CER for AEL compliance (i.e. as "New Units," "Planned Units," etc.).
- b) Please provide an accounting of the emissions rate of NS Power's thermal units, and whether they meet any of the standards listed on slide 11.
- c) Please provide any forecast of offset purchases developed by or for NS Power for compliance with the CER AEL rules.

Request IR-6:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page 13 of 42, regarding the provisions for banking and pooling emissions.

Please describe how these rules have been, or will be, incorporated as constraints in NS Power's IRP planning models.

Request IR-7:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page 16 of 42, referring to the “proxy used in the Evergreen IRP.”

- a) Please provide a comparison of the constraint parameters used in the proxy with the final CER rules.
- b) Would the differences between the proxy and the final CER rules result in different capacity expansion portfolios if the analysis was updated?
- i) Please provide any analysis supporting this response.

Request IR-8:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page 16 of 42, which states that “The use of emitting generation beyond 2035, which was demonstrated to be part of the low-cost resource plans in the Evergreen IRP, continues to be permitted under the CG2 CER.”

- a) Was the cost of emissions offsets or other compliance specifics included in the modeling constraints used in the Evergreen IRP?
- b) If so, please provide details on the values and the representation as modeling constraints.

Request IR-9:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page. 16 of 42, stating that “NSP anticipates incremental system costs associated with meeting the CER’s targets compared to current policy.”

Please provide additional detail regarding the drivers of these additional costs and provide all analysis quantifying these incremental system costs over time.

Request IR-10:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP page 20 of 42, stating that “NS Power will continue to monitor opportunities for near-term firm imports over existing and planned transmission infrastructure.”

Please provide an update on the status of this monitoring and specifically identify any expected opportunities for firm imports.

Request IR-11:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP page 22 of 42, stating that “... the annual load forecast has also been used to better understand system peak on a more granular level by reallocating the load at the feeder level.”

Please provide additional detail on the data has been used, and what the potential implications are for long-term resource planning.

Request IR-12:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page. 23 of 42, referring to three areas of corrective action plans identified as a result of the NERC TPL assessment.

- a) Please provide additional detail on the implications of these issues and provide the status of the development of the corrective action plans.
- b) If plans have been developed, please provide them.

Request IR-13:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page. 23 of 42, noting that modified/reconfigured/upgraded Remedial Action Schemes are required to accommodate “Path to 2030” generation.

Which specific generation additions require the additional/updated schemes?

Request IR-14:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page. 23 of 42, stating that “More detailed studies to support the NERC TPL and NPCC Area Transmission Review requirements were completed in 2024.”

Please provide these studies.

Request IR-15:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP page 26 of 42, listing six new projects selected under the Green Choice Program (GCP): Yellow Birch; Melvin Lake; Rhodena; Blueberry Acres; Sugar Maple and Eigg Mountain.

- a) Please provide the expected in-service dates for each of these resources.
- b) Please provide a comparison of the schedule of capacity addition resulting from these projects with the GCP capacity development assumptions used in the Evergreen IRP.

Request IR-16:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page. 33 of 42, regarding the development of the hydrogen tariff.

- a) What is the current status of the hydrogen tariff?
- b) Has NS Power collaborated with hydrogen project developers on the tariff?
 - i) If so, please describe the nature of the collaboration and the companies involved.
- c) Please provide any draft tariff materials developed by NS Power.
- d) Please provide any memos, reports, or other materials summarizing the progress made in the development of a hydrogen tariff.

Request IR-17:

Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page 41 of 42, regarding the Net Zero Atlantic study.

- a) Please provide an update on the status of that study and the expected completion date.

- 1 b) Did the assessment of the “hybrid heating electrification profile” result in any
2 implications for NS Power’s resource planning process?
3 i) If so, please explain the implications.
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5 **Request IR-18:**

6 Refer to Exhibit N-1, 2025 Evergreen IRP, page. 42 of 42, regarding the transition of IRP
7 responsibilities to NSIESO.

- 8 a) Please provide an update on the status of this transition.
9 i) Has NSIESO initiated the IRP process to date?
10 b) Has NS Power been in communication with NSIESO regarding the requirements of the
11 IRP process?
12 i) If so, please describe those communications.
13 c) Please provide any materials exchanged between NS Power and NSIESO regarding the
14 transition of IRP responsibilities to NSIESO.
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