

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: The *Public Utilities Act, RSNS 1989, c.380*, as amended

– and –

IN THE MATTER OF: NSEB Matter No. M12282 – EfficiencyOne – New Benefits Cost Analysis Test for Evaluating Demand Side Management (DSM) Plans

POSTERITY GROUP – OPENING STATEMENT

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this opening statement. I am pleased to attend today to speak in relation to evidence Posterity Group has developed on behalf of Eastward Energy.

Benefits of Hybrid Heating

In our filed evidence, Posterity Group recommended that “E1 specifically recognize the benefits of hybrid heating to reduce peak load impacts as part of the 2027-2031 DSM Plan.”

This recommendation is supported by Nova Scotia Power and E3’s acknowledgment of the ability of hybrid systems to reduce peak load impacts. Governments and utilities in Québec, Ontario, and British Columbia have also recognized the value of hybrid heating to the electricity system to ensure system reliability and cost-effective service.

The recommendation is also supported by illustrative examples developed by Posterity Group using the proposed BCA framework. These examples show substantial net benefits for hybrid heating systems in Nova Scotia compared to alternatives, including electric resistance heating.

E1’s response to Posterity’s evidence explicitly recognizes the value of hybrid heating and acknowledges that hybrid heating measures “can accurately be evaluated under the proposed BCA framework”.

The inclusion of hybrid heating within the 2027-2031 DSM Plan is consistent with analysis showing system benefits for Nova Scotia and other Canadian jurisdictions, and consistent with E1’s response to Posterity’s evidence.

Hybrid heating will provide substantial net benefits in Nova Scotia under the proposed BCA framework, and will provide Nova Scotians with a practical, cost-effective pathway in the province’s energy transition.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide this opening statement.