M12394

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:	The *Public Utilities Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.380, as amended
	- and -
IN THE MATTER OF:	an application by NSP Maritime Link Incorporated (NSPML) for approval of its 2026 revenue requirement and cost assessment

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: NSP Maritime Link Incorporated (NSPML)

From: Small Business Advocate

Responses Due: Tuesday September 9th, 2025

Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)

Contact Person:
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Small Business Advocate
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Issued at Bedford, Nova Scotia on this 19th day of August, 2025

Request IR-1:

Refer to M12394, Exhibit N-1, NSPML's application for approval of its 2026 revenue requirement and cost assessment, (the "Application"), page 10 of 29 and respond to the following:

a) Please provide a detailed calculation and reconciliation showing how each component in Table 1 sums to the total of $198.7 million, with references to underlying schedules and assumptions.
b) Please provide a comparison of each 2026 cost category against:
   i. 2025 approved assessment
   ii. 2025 actuals (if available)
c) Provide a copy of the model or spreadsheet used to derive the $198.7 million total.
d) How will the cost recovery in rates affect the small business classes?

Request IR-2:

Refer to the Application, Exhibit N-1, pages 13-15 of 29 and respond to the following:

a) Please provide the depreciation schedule and calculations showing how the $57.2M depreciation amount was derived, including both original capital and sustaining capital components.
b) Please provide the depreciation rate assumptions for the Cable Protection Project and explain any differences from rates applied to other subsea cable assets.

Request IR-3:

Refer to the Application, Exhibit N-1, pages 15-16 of 29 and respond to the following:

a) Please provide supporting calculations for the $37.7M net interest cost, showing principal balances, repayment schedule, and interest rates used.
b) Please provide any sensitivity analysis conducted showing the impact on financing costs if market interest rates in 2026 differ from current assumptions. If such an analysis was performed, also provide the interest rate or ranges used in the analysis.

Request IR-4:

Refer to the Application, Exhibit N-1, page 21-24 of 29 and respond to the following:

a) Please provide a comparison of the calculated equity return using the Concentric Energy Advisors recommended ROE of 10.1% to 10.35%, versus the requested 9%.
b) Please provide all calculations/workpapers supporting 9% ROE and the 8.75%-9.25% range.
c) Please provide any internal analysis comparing 9% to Concentric Energy Advisor's recommended ROE on revenue requirements, customer rates, and credit metrics.

Request IR-5:
Refer to the Application, Exhibit N-1, page 20 of 29 and respond to the following:

a) Please provide the full amortization schedule for FLG2 principal and interest from 2025 onward, including guarantee fees, and show how the $39.7M cost for 2026 is calculated.

Request IR-6:
Refer to the Application, Exhibit N-1, pages 25-27 and respond to the following:

a) Please provide all calculations and supporting workpapers used to determine the proposed 60/40 debt-to-equity ratio, and quantify its projected impact in 2026 on:
   i. Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)
   ii. Debt service coverage
   iii. Financing cost assumptions
   iv. Revenue requirements
   v. Credit ratings

b) Please provide any benchmarking studies relied on to justify alignment with NS Power's 60/40 debt-to-equity ratio.