

November 5, 2025

jennifer.ross@nspower.ca

Jennifer Ross
Director, Regulatory Planning and Compliance
Nova Scotia Power Inc.
PO Box 910
Halifax, NS B3J 2W5

Dear Ms. Ross:

M12441 - Nova Scotia Power Inc. Emergency Services Restoration Plan 2025 Drill Report

Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NS Power) conducts an emergency operations drill each year to evaluate its readiness to manage restoration activities in the event of a major outage. NS Power must file its drill report and any amendments to its Emergency Services Restoration Plan (ESRP) with the Nova Scotia Energy Board (Board) by August 31st. NS Power filed its ESRP 2025 Drill Report on August 28, 2025.

The Board reviewed the report, including the Drill Action Items and Summary of Recommended Changes to its ESRP. There were two proposed changes and NS Power filed a revised ESRP (Rev 5.2). The Board members considering this matter are Stephen T. McGrath, K.C., Chair, Roland A. Deveau, K.C., Vice Chair and Steven M. Murphy, MBA, P.Eng., Member.

NS Power reported it did not activate its Emergency Operations Centre between September 2024 and August 2025. This represents a substantial decline from the six activations reported in the 2024 Drill Report in matter M11867. Figure 1 in the report lists Early Monitoring Team activity since the last drill report. Only two events were listed, one winter storm and one wind event.

This year's drill was held on June 5, 2025. The drill was based on operating in the context of the recent NS Power cyber incident while responding to a significant power outage from a Level 3 or 4 storm causing transmission losses and road washouts.

The drill resulted in four action items, listed in Figure 3 (2025 ESRP Drill Action Items). Three of these action items are labeled "in progress". Action Item 2 is completed ("Confirm business continuity plans are scalable in the event of a technology interruption from a cyber event or other disruption during a Level 3 or 4 storm").

Figure 2 (2023 & 2024 ESRP Drill Action Items) updated the status of action items from the 2023 and 2024 drills. NS Power completed six of the seven outstanding items. Only item #5 (originally from the 2023 report) remains ongoing, but it is nearing completion as NS Power plans to issue an RFP for new technology in the fourth quarter of 2025. The Drill Report notes that an outstanding 2021 Action Item to work with the EMO stakeholders about updating information on critical infrastructure was completed following the deployment of new technology and training.

NS Power is directed to provide the Board with an update on its progress completing the outstanding 2023 Action Item and three 2025 Action Items that are in progress in its next ESRP Drill Report.

NS Power recommended two changes to its ESRP, both of which were to change the names of role titles used in the report. The Board accepts Revision 5.2 of the ESRP as filed.

Yours very truly,



Crystal Henwood
Clerk of the Board

c. William Mahody, K.C.

