Nova Scotia Energy Board

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Lana Myatt
Senior Regulatory Analyst
Nova Scotia Power Inc.
P.O. Box 910
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Dear Ms. Myatt:

M12593 – Nova Scotia Power Inc. – CI C0053696 – Energy Control Centre Wind Integration Project

The Nova Scotia Energy Board (Board) has reviewed an application by Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NS Power) dated December 1, 2025, in which Board approval was requested for the following non-confidential work order:

CI C0053696 Energy Control Centre Wind Integration Project $4,428,335

On December 9, 2025, the Board provided the Independent Energy System Operator of Nova Scotia (IESO Nova Scotia) with the opportunity to issue Information Requests (IRs) to NS Power and provide comments to the Board regarding this matter. By letter dated January 5, 2036, the IESO Nova Scotia informed the Board that it would not be issuing IRs to NS Power or providing comments to the Board.

Board staff issued IRs with respect to this matter on January 7, 2026, to which NS Power's responses were received on January 23, 2026.

Although the original filing was non-confidential, NS Power requested that certain portions of its responses to Board staff IRs be treated as confidential. The Board accepts the confidential designations as filed.

This project was originally included in the 2025 Annual Capital Expenditure Plan for $757,358 but further increased $3,670,977 due to the below stated change of solution:

> … the shift from deploying an off-the-shelf solution to engaging expertise for the design, development and deployment of a customized solution that meets NS Power's unique need to integrate such high wind volume with advanced control capabilities.
>
> [Exhibit N-1, p 3]

The proposed capital expenditure relates to the installation of two software solutions to automate the management of independent power producers (IPPs). NS Power stated that these solutions will improve operational efficiency and transparency. As outlined in its application, NS Power anticipates significant growth in renewable energy generation, particularly from wind IPPs, by 2030, to meet Provincial and Federal renewable energy legislation. NS Power stated that the existing manual dispatching process will not be sufficient to meet this growth.

NS Power noted that according to the Green Choice Program (M11455) and s. 24 of the *Electricity Act*, a standard Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) was developed to enable IPPs to supply renewable low-impact electricity for the program. NS Power further explained that the proposed automation solutions are required under s. 4.3 of the PPA and are necessary to support the development of Automatic Generator Controls (AGC) solution, which as outlined in its application, will assist the System Operator in performing the following tasks:

- manage wind generation in an equitable and transparent fashion,
- leverage new wind control capabilities for system stability, and
- automate the back-office solution needed for effective settlement and reconciliation activities.

[Exhibit N-1, p. 1]

In response to IR-1, NS Power described the functions of the two proposed automation solutions and explained that the company currently manages IPP compensation and wind curtailment manually through Excel spreadsheets, which is a process that requires large employee resources and significant coordination across multiple departments. NS Power stated that the first automation solution will replace the existing manual process by automating the compensation process for IPPs. The key functions of solution one include:

- Automatically consolidate generation customer location, meter, and rate data into a centralized system.
- Incorporating raw meter data into a unified format to streamline approval, edits, invoicing, and journal entry creation.
- Providing reporting and audit capabilities such as summarized and generator-level reports for internal user decision-making and transaction audit logging.
- Integrating data flows between AMI, MV90, SCADA, SharePoint, and other NS Power internal systems for transactional data flow with higher efficiency and lower the risk of human error.

[Exhibit N-2, RIR1, p. 3]

The second solution is intended to manage wind curtailment priority and notification. NS Power explained that this solution will integrate data from various systems to support automated decision making related to curtailment events. The key functions of solution two include:

- Monitoring overall system generation, load and dispatch, and transactions to assess the potential for early warning alerts based on the predicted likelihood of curtailments and to automate those notifications to IPPs, as appropriate.
- Automating curtailment calculations to continue to ensure fair and equitable balancing across legacy wind farms to serve the Area Control Error (ACE) or System MW requirements based on actual system conditions.
- Providing detailed reporting and audit capabilities, including transaction audit logging for increased transparency.

[Exhibit N-2, RIR1, p. 2]

In response to IR-2, NS Power provided a projection indicating that new wind generation IPPs aggregated under the standard PPA will have a combined nameplate capacity of 1,440 MW. In response to IR-7, NS Power further clarified that the proposed AGC capability applies only to transmission-connected wind generators. By the end of 2028, NS Power anticipates "a total of 34 resources with a combined capacity of close to 3,000 MW would need to be managed by the automated solution." In response to IR-16, NS Power explained that this project is not driven by efficiency considerations, but by the fact that the proposed technology upgrade was the only feasible option to support the expected growth in renewable generation.

In response to IR-8 and IR-13, NS Power explained that the current manual operation divides legacy wind farm allowable operating limits into four discrete curtailment levels, 100%, 66%, 33% and 0% of nameplate capacity. Currently, system operators manually maintain a spreadsheet to track curtailments and communicate curtailment notifications to all IPPs by email. NS Power stated that the proposed automation solutions will enable curtailments to be rotated among IPPs in a fair and equitable manner and will improve the transparency of curtailment communications. In addition, NS Power stated that the data collected by the new automation system can also assist back-office functions during invoicing and billing, reducing the need for manual data processing.

Based on the information provided, the Board accepts that this project is necessary and finds the associated costs to be justified and reasonable. Accordingly, the Board approves NS Power's request for $4,428,335, in relation to this work order.

This approval notwithstanding, the Board directs NS Power to file the following updates regarding the progress of the project and the impact of the new automation system:

- A project progress update by September 30, 2026. As indicated in RIR-3, the project is anticipated to be completed by end of August 2026. NS Power is expected to provide a project completion update that includes:
    - Confirmation of the project finish date and any associated conditions.
    - The status of the automation system integration and its operational readiness.
    - An updated list of IPPs that are managed by the automation system, including both legacy and new IPPs.
- A report by December 15, 2027, analysing the efficiency of the automated system and comparing processing times and process interventions between the historical manual operation and the automation process.

Yours truly,

Steven M. Murphy, MBA, P.Eng.
Member

Nova Scotia POWER
An Emera Company

NSEB APPROVAL SHEET

Project Title: ECC Wind Integration Project

CI Number: C0053696 **Date:** December 1, 2025

Expenditure Profile		
Year	Budget Amount	Project Estimate
2025	135,662	900,806
2026	621,696	3,527,529
Total	$757,358	$4,428,335

Type of Filing

- [X] Capital Project Authorization
- [ ] Unforeseen and Unbudgeted (U&U)
- [ ] Planned & Advanced (P&A)
- [X] Subsequent Approval Item
- [ ] Authorization to Overspend (ATO)
- [ ] Scope Change
- [ ] Final Cost (FIN)

COMMENTS

This project was originally included in the 2025 ACE Plan as a project less than $1,000,000.

Submitted on behalf of NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED

Authorized Signatory
Dave Pickles
Chief Operating Officer

DATE
November 27, 2025

Approved on behalf of NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

DATE
February 26, 2026