

February 13, 2026

Crystal Henwood
Clerk of the Board
Nova Scotia Energy Board
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
Halifax, NS B3J 3S3

Re: M12619 – NS Power 2026 ACE Plan – IR Responses

Dear Ms. Henwood:

Please find enclosed Nova Scotia Power Inc.'s (NS Power, Company) responses to the information requests (IRs) received by NS Power in the above-referenced matter.

Confidentiality of IR responses and corresponding attachments is consistent with NS Power past practice and the 2026 ACE Plan. A listing of IRs and attachments for which NS Power is seeking confidential treatment and the corresponding confidentiality justification is provided below.

Commercial Sensitivity

NSEB IR-79	Partially Confidential
CA IR-16 Attachment 1	Partially Confidential
CA IR-16 Attachment 2	Partially Confidential
CA IR-18 Attachment 1	Confidential
CA IR-18 Attachment 2	Confidential

The above-noted information is confidential to protect value for customers by mitigating the risk of prospective proponents obtaining access to commercially sensitive information.

The more a supplier is aware of NS Power's specific requirements and competing vendor's costs, the better the supplier's ability to obtain the highest price, reduce competition and ultimately increase the cost for NS Power and customers. Information from regulatory proceedings can provide competitive advantages over other suppliers, and that could be advantageous in bidding or negotiation. Higher prices, or avoidable contractual constraints, will result in unnecessary higher costs to customers.

NS Power seeks to keep the terms and conditions of suppliers' pricing and arrangements in confidence. This prevents customers or potential competitors of the suppliers from using their information to gain a competitive advantage. This is equally true for NS Power, which desires to protect its ability to acquire services and equipment on the most competitive terms. Those "best" terms may not be available if there is a risk that they will be disclosed to the customers or competitors of the supplier.

Since NS Power customer rates are cost-based, maintaining confidentiality for these items is to the direct benefit of customers.

Proprietary Information

NSEB IR-63 Attachment 1	Confidential
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The Quality Process (QP) document provided as NSEB IR-063 Attachment 1 is considered proprietary and commercially sensitive by NS Power, as it details NS Power's approach to the management of its boiler tubes, with respect to inspection and integrity assessment. This process was developed by NS Power. The process documents developed by NS Power are not made available to third party companies or affiliates, unless those third parties enter into an agreement with NS Power that includes compensation in exchange for access to these documents.

System Security

NSEB IR-116 Attachment 1	Partially Confidential
CA IR-17	Partially Confidential
CA IR-17 Attachment 1	Confidential
CA IR-17 Attachment 2	Confidential

NSEB IR 116 Attachment 1 includes a distribution diagram which is confidential due to system security concerns. CA IR-17 and its Attachments 1 and 2 contain a description of key connections, and detailed lists of NS Power transmission switches, respectively, which are also confidential due to system security concerns. Protection of the power system preserves reliability and reduces the risks associated with external threats.

Third Party Proprietary

CA IR-20 Attachment 1	Confidential
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CA IR-20 Attachment 1 is a funding agreement document, which includes details not released publicly by government. The release of these documents could negatively impact government negotiations with other funding recipients; accordingly, the Government of Canada's NRCan program has requested full confidentiality of these documents.

Procurement Recommendations

CA IR-13 Attachment 1	Partially Confidential
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Reports that relate to procurement strategies or evaluation are confidential. This includes Procurement Recommendations and Sole Source Procurement Recommendations, produced internally by NS Power or by third party consultants.

This information provides details on how NS Power procures goods or services, and the structure of requirements to be met. Public disclosure of this information would allow suppliers to understand the structuring of risk mitigation and provide insight to NS Power's procurement strategies, in turn decreasing the level of competition. This would be advantageous to suppliers bidding for NS Power contracts, who could understand what factors could influence NS Power procurement and thereby tailor bids in a manner that could increase costs to NS Power and its customers.

Internal Procurement Recommendations are partially redacted based on commercial sensitivity which includes cost information, unsuccessful bidders' names, and evaluation details. Internal Procurement Recommendations were not written with a view that they would be published for the public. They contain candid assessments of the bidders with details supporting the writer's view of the bid.

Any correspondence with respect to this matter should be directed to my attention.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Willet", is positioned above the printed name.

Michael Willet
Director, Regulatory Finance

Encl.

- c. Chris Smith
- Dave Pickles
- Participants (M12619)