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July 17, 2026

**VIA WEB PORTAL
VIA EMAIL**

Crystal Henwood, Clerk of the Board
Nova Scotia Energy Board
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M"
Halifax, NS B3J 3S3

Dear Ms. Henwood:

**Re: M12661 - Nova Scotia Power - Application for approval of an Above-the-Line Tariff
applicable to Port Hawkesbury Paper – Request for Oral Hearing**

I write in response to the letter from counsel for the Industrial Group dated July 16, 2026 requesting an oral hearing in this matter.

On review of the materials filed in this proceeding, and given the various reasons provided by the Industrial Group, the Consumer Advocate agrees with and supports the Industrial Group's request to convene an oral hearing. As noted in the Industrial Group's letter, important elements of this Application remain unresolved, and subject to various competing expert views. Significantly, Nova Scotia Power and the beneficiary of the new tariff, Port Hawkesbury Paper ("PHP"), do not agree on key features of the tariff. There is also apparent disagreement among the Parties to the Nova Scotia Power GRA Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement") about the extent to which the Settlement Agreement was intended to determine the outcome of this application.

In these circumstances, it would appear that the Board would benefit from a full airing of the issues through an oral hearing, including the cross-examination of witnesses from Nova Scotia Power and PHP as well as the consultants who have filed expert reports with the Board.

Yours truly,

PINK LARKIN



David Roberts,
Consumer Advocate
DJR/aw