2026 **M12743**

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: ***The Public Utilities Act***

IN THE MATTER OF: **An application by NOVA SCOTIA POWER INC. for the approval of Capital Work Order CI C0068714 - IT- Identity & Access Management, $6,756,522**

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: Nova Scotia Power Incorporated (“NSPI”)

From: The Industrial Group

Responses Due: May 26, 2026

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Issued at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 4th day of May, 2026.

Request IR-1:

Reference: N-1, page 2, “Why do this project now”.

> ***This project began in 2024 with an RFP, vendor selection, and kickoff in 2025 with planning and design activities for the various workstreams and project releases.***

(a) Please specify the scope of the 2024 RFP (e.g., services/modules/workstreams included and excluded), the evaluation criteria and governance used to select the vendor, and the key dates/milestones and deliverables associated with the 2024 procurement and vendor selection.

(b) Please describe the impact of the cybersecurity incident on the 2024 RFP timeline and evaluation/award process and the contractual arrangement(s) with the successful bidder. In responding, please confirm whether NSPI entered into more than one contract (e.g., interim agreement, amendment, change order(s), or a replacement agreement) and whether NSPI incurred any termination, suspension, delay, or other penalty or fee under the initial executed contract (and if so, provide details).

(c) Please confirm whether the 2024 RFP/procurement was the "competitive procurement process" referenced in the "Why do this project this way" section of the application. If not, please explain what procurement process that section refers to, including the timing and scope.

(d) Given the expanded scope of the project relative to what was anticipated in 2024, did NSPI return to market and initiate a new competitive procurement process (or re-open/extend the existing process)? Please explain.

(e) Please elaborate on whether in-house delivery options and/or alternative vendors were evaluated in 2025 and 2026?

Request IR-2:

Reference: N-1, page 2, "Reasons for Variance".

The increase of $2.4 million from the 2026 ACE Plan subsequent submittal estimate of $4,324,589 is primarily driven by higher-than-anticipated consulting costs relative to the initial estimate. During project planning and task execution, project milestones that were originally planned as combined deliverables were required to be separated into multiple releases to accommodate additional resource needs and an extended project timeline. This project is primarily based on the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Cyber Security Framework. This framework is updated continually, and has changed since the 2025 ACE Plan estimate, leading to an increased project cost due to the changes in the CSF and advances in available technology.

(a) Please confirm that, when this project was included as a subsequent submittal in the 2025 ACE Plan, the total projected cost was approximately $1.2 million.

(b) Please explain the increase of approximately $5.5 million in the project estimate since the 2025 ACE Plan forecast. Please provide a breakdown of the increase by cost driver and by year.

(c) Please specifically address:

(i) any schedule impacts attributable to the cybersecurity incident;

(ii) whether those impacts contributed to the extended timeline and “additional resource needs”; and

(iii) how those factors translated into incremental costs.

(d) Which “combined deliverables” were split into multiple releases, and explain the rationale for doing so?

(e) Please identify precisely which NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) changes since the 2025 ACE Plan estimate affected this project. For each identified change, please explain the specific requirement/control capability impacted and the incremental scope added or modified.

Request IR-3:

Reference: N-1, page 5/5, Appendix A, Table A.2 – Sustaining Operating Costs.

(a) Please provide additional detail supporting the sustaining OPEX line items (managed security services, SaaS licensing, and onboarding) forecast for 2026–2034. For each item, please describe what is included, the pricing/volume assumptions, the basis for escalation, and NSPI’s level of confidence in the forecast (including key uncertainties and any sensitivity ranges, if available).

(b) Please confirm whether the Table A.2 sustaining OPEX amounts are already embedded in rates reflected in the GRA application.

(c) Please identify the vendors corresponding to “SaaS Licensing – Vendor 1” and “SaaS Licensing – Vendor 2” in Table A.2 and briefly describe the products/services covered under each (including the basis for the forecasted amounts).

(d) Please explain what is included in “application onboarding” and describe the assumptions used to forecast these costs.

(e) Please explain why the forecasted savings for 2026–2034 are treated as non-confidential while the corresponding forecasted costs are treated as confidential. Please identify the confidentiality rationale and any specific commercially sensitive inputs underlying the cost forecasts.

Request IR-4:

Reference: N-1, page 5/5, Appendix A, Table A.3 – Operating Savings to be Realized

(a) Why is the "Decommissioning of 20 servers" item listed as "TBD"? Please confirm what information is TBD (scope, timing, cost, savings etc.) and when NSPI expects to finalize the value(s).

(b) Has NSPI identified the specific applications and/or infrastructure that will be decommissioned because of this new application? If so, please list them at a high level and indicate the planned decommissioning timing. If not, please explain the methodology and assumptions used to forecast the decommissioning savings shown in Table A.3.

(c) Have the costs associated with the decommissioning activities been included in O&M budgets for 2026 and 2027, as included in the GRA? If so, please identify where those costs are captured in the Compliance filing spreadsheets; if not, please explain.