M12779

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: **THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT**

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF: **ANNUAL REPORTING** by **NSP MARITIME LINK INC. (NSPML)**: Related to the 2025 Cost Containment Report

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: **NSP Maritime Link Incorporated**
Shellie Woolham
Project Director, Regulatory Filing
1223 Lower Water Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3S8
By email: Shellie.Woolham@emera.com

From: **Board Staff**
Nova Scotia Energy Board

Responses Due: **Monday, May 25, 2026**

Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)

Contact Person: **Miranda Mavhunga**
Senior Advisor Finance
Nova Scotia Energy and Regulatory Boards Tribunal
3rd Floor, 1601 Lower Water Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3S3
Tel: (902) 424-4448
Email: Miranda.Mavhunga@novascotia.ca

Issued at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 1st day of May, 2026.

Lisa Wallace

for Crystal Henwood, Clerk of the Board

Request IR-1:

The 2024 regulated balance sheet (page 2 of the regulated financial statements) does not balance. Please provide a revised balance sheet with the discrepancy corrected.

Request IR-2:

Please provide a detailed reconciliation of operating revenues from the consolidated (unregulated) financial statements to the regulated financial statements for 2025.

Request IR-3:

Please provide a detailed breakdown of all balances due to and from related parties and reconcile differences between the presentation of these balances in the regulated and consolidated financial statements.

Request IR-4:

Provide a reconciliation of interest expense between regulated and consolidated financial statements for 2025.

Request IR-5:

a) Please provide a detailed breakdown of the deferred income tax regulatory asset balance of $188.3 million as reported for 2025.
b) In addition, include supporting schedules that show the changes in the balance during the year.

Request IR-6:

Please provide a detailed explanation of changes in common stock during 2025.

Request IR-7:

a) Please provide a detailed breakdown of the maintenance and inspections expense for 2025.
b) Please indicate when the engineering and inspection activities referenced in Note 1 on page 4 of the regulated financial statements are scheduled to occur.

Request IR-8:

a) Please provide the unconsolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025.

b) Along with this, provide a reconciliation of these statements to the audited consolidated financial statements. Include the full chart of accounts and the corresponding 2025 account balances, organized and mapped to the Statement of Income, Retained Earnings, and Balance Sheet. Please provide the requested information in Excel format.

Request IR-9:

Please provide an assessment of the expected impact of the Accounting Standards Updates (ASU's), ASU 2025-10 and ASU 2025-06, on NSPML's financial statement presentation and reporting for both the consolidated and regulated statements.

Request IR-10:

Provide a detailed breakdown of the following regulated balance sheet categories:

a) Other current liabilities.

b) Other long- term liabilities.

c) Accrued liabilities.

Request IR-11:

Please provide a continuity schedule for Property, Plant and Equipment for the year ended December 31, 2025. Please include a high-level breakdown of the capital additions during the year, identifying the major categories or projects contributing to the total.

Request IR-12:

a) Please provide the most recent tax returns for each entity consolidated into the 2025 NSPML financial statements. In addition, include any Notices of Assessment, Reassessment, or other relevant correspondence received from CRA for the 2024 tax year.

b) Please also confirm the expected filing date for the 2025 tax returns and provide a copy of the return if available.

c) Please provide an explanation of denied interest and financing expenses highlighted in note 13 of the audited statements.

d) Please provide an update on the current status of the 2019 amended tax return.

e) Please indicate whether any other tax years are currently subject to amendment or whether there are any other matters presently outstanding with CRA.

f) Please provide an update to the schedules provided in response to IR-4 in M12182.

g) Please detail the amount of the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) carry over.

   i. Why is the ITC carryover not being utilized in the current year?

Request IR-13:

Please provide a detailed breakdown of the $13.4 million in capital commitments disclosed in Note 14.

Request IR-14:

Page 7 of 11 of the 2025 Cost Containment Report: NSPML states: “At the outset of its larger procurements (typically work scopes greater than $25,000), NSPML develops a Contracting Strategy that aims to clearly identify the work scope, budget, and the risks in relation to safety, environment, schedule, and cost such that potential for unexpected cost or scope variances are minimized and ensure that the value achieved for the cost is quantified.”

a) For 2025, did any of these procurements result in cost or scope variances from what NSPML had expected?

   i. If so, for each procurement that incurred such a variance:

      A. Please describe the reasons for these variances.

      B. Please identify the actual cost incurred compared to what NSPML had budgeted.

Request IR-15:

Page 7 of 11 of the 2025 Cost Containment Report: NSPML states: “Through its request for proposal processes (RFP), NSPML typically seeks multiple proposals for significant work scopes, with local content where appropriate.”

a) Please describe each RFP issued by NSPML in 2025 and explain why each RFP was required.

   i. For each RFP issued, please identify the number of bidders, the cost for the preferred proponent, and confirm that the lowest bidder was selected.

      A. If the lowest bidder was not selected for a particular RFP, please explain

Request IR-16:

Page 7 of 11 of the 2025 Cost Containment Report: NSPML states: “In completing its Contracting Strategies, NSPML accounts for lessons learned from similar work scopes completed in prior years, aiming to reduce the costs associated with uncertainties and risk premiums where possible by better defining scope or expectations.”

Please describe the formal “lessons learned” that NSPML incorporated into its contracting strategies in 2025.

Request IR-17:

Page 8 of 11 of the 2025 Cost Containment Report: NSPML states: “To ensure the efficient execution of field work and representation of our business, NSPML designates a site representative to monitor progress, identify emerging risks, give timely direction, and sign-off on work once completed. This approach also ensures that thoughtful solutions to unforeseen challenges are identified and implemented with minimal impact to cost and schedule, while ensuring that safety of employees, contractors and the general public is not compromised.”

a) Please identify any “thoughtful solutions to unforeseen challenges” that NSPML identified and implemented in 2025.
   i. Did any of these solutions result in cost savings?
      A. If so, please describe these savings.

Request IR-18:

Page 8 of 11 of the 2025 Cost Containment Report: NSPML states: “While NSPML’s procurement practices complement and support ongoing cost containment focus, NSPML is additionally focused on optimizing the work plan and realizing efficiencies. In conjunction with the budgeting and forecasting cycle, NSPML regularly considers opportunities for adjustments which may result in cost reductions.”

a) Please identify any work plan adjustments that NSPML implemented in 2025 that resulted in cost savings.
   i. Please describe the related savings.

Request IR-19:

a) Please provide a table similar to Table 2 from NSPML’s 2022 Cost Containment Report under Board Matter M11072 outlining NSPML’s 2025 OMG breakdown.

b) Also please provide a revised copy of Table 2 using the same line-item descriptions (complete with a comparison to Board approved 2025 O&M costs) as provided Table 2 of NSMPL's 2025 Assessment Application (M11791)

    i. Please provide an additional column in this revised table to show the cost variance of each line item compared to budget/approve amount and add a further column providing an explanation for each variance.

c) Also please provide a revised copy of Table 2 using the same line-item descriptions (complete with a comparison to NSPML's projected 2026 O&M costs) as provided Table 2 of NSMPL's 2026 Assessment Application (M12394).

d) Please provide a revised copy of Table 2 using the same line-item descriptions but with actual amounts for each of the previous four fiscal years.