NON-CONFIDENTIAL

Request IR-1:

Refer to M12786, Exhibit N-1, NS Power's 2025 Storm Restoration Cost Report dated April 1, 2026, (the "2025 Report"), Section 6.0 Cost Control and Performance Management for External Contractors, at page 11 of 15, at lines 15 – 29, and page 12 of 15, at lines 1 – 11:

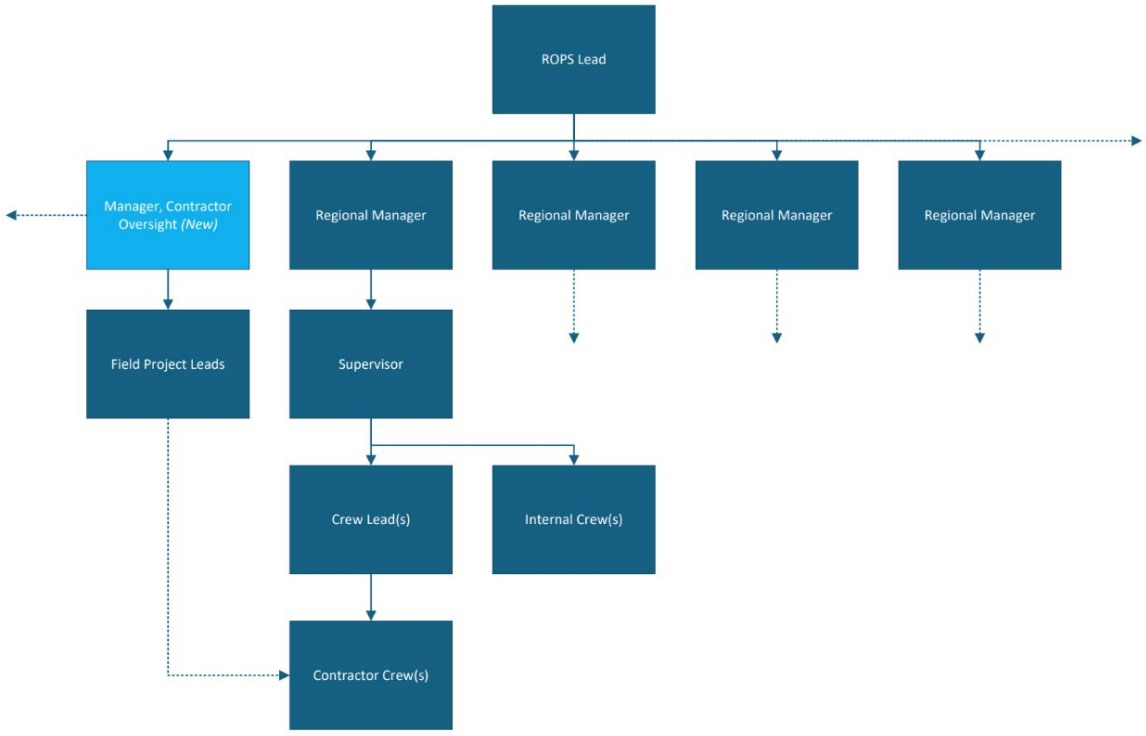
(a) Please provide an organizational chart that identifies each of the positions described in the noted section and indicate the reporting relationship among them and which of these positions are new as of 2025 versus 2026.

(b) What are the conditions required to be met to trigger the decision to release the External Contractor Crews?

(c) What are some examples of the performance metrics used to hold external contractors accountable for cost control? How does this approach maximize productivity?

Response IR-1:

(a) Please refer to the chart below.



Only the Manager, Contractor Oversight is a new role in the organizational chart above. The other roles included remain unchanged.

(b) Contractors are released as the outage restoration work is completed in a given area where contractors are based and it is impractical or unproductive to re-locate the crews to other areas of the province.

(c) The report states "External contractors are held accountable for cost control and performance metrics based on the contractual terms governing their work," The cost controls outlined in the contracts relate to negotiated storm rates, limits on valid mobilization/demobilization costs and the addition of the daily meal per diem. The performance metrics are related to successful completion of safety compliance checks and adherence to providing the required gear NS Power specifies.

Request IR-2:

Refer to M12786, Exhibit N-1, the 2025 Report, Section 6.0 Cost Control and Performance Management for External Contractors, on page 14 of 15, at lines 1-7, which states:

> **Further to these efforts, NS Power is planning to implement a software platform in 2026 to further monitor and control contractor costs. While NS Power has extensive experience developing and utilizing internally developed tools to manage storm events, commercially available software can be leveraged that will:**
>
> - **Reliably predict the impact of high impact weather events for all weather hazards on NS Power distribution assets and its downstream impact to customers through AI-driven predictive storm impact modeling.**

(a) When in 2026 will NS Power implement this new software platform?

(b) Please explain what NS Power means when it states that it intends to use this model to reliably predict the impact on customers through an AI-driven model?

Response IR-2:

(a) NS Power anticipates to begin deployment, contingent on approval by the NSEB, in Q4 2026 and expects that deployment would be complete in 6-8 months following project kick-off.

(b) The AI-driven prediction model envisioned as part of this software platform would be a complement to NS Power's pre-storm planning tools including the Damage Prediction Model (DPM) as outlined in NSEB IR-7. NS Power notes, that any AI prediction tool would be used to provide additional context and a second opinion, to NS Power's existing DPM and does provide additional functionality, including automation of impact alerting, currently not present or envisioned within the current DPM.