

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION by NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED
(NS Power) for Subsequent Approval of an ACE Plan Capital Item

CI C0080101 – 539N-210 Big Island Subsea Cable Replacement

SECOND SET - INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: **Lana Myatt**
Senior Regulatory Analyst
By E-mail: Lana.Myatt@nspower.ca

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

Responses Due: **Friday, June 12, 2026**

Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)

Contact Person: **Chris Jiang, P.Eng.**
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Issued at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 22nd day of May, 2026.



for Crystal Henwood, Clerk of the Board

Request IR-17:

- a) Please provide a comprehensive cost estimate for the trenched underground land cable option and a copy of NS Power's Economic Analysis Model (EAM) comparing it with the subsea cable option. Any costs incurred to date that are specifically related to the subsea cable option should be excluded from the cost estimate (and related EAM) for the trenched underground land cable option.
- b) Please describe the preliminary route for the trenched underground land cable option, including:
 - I. Mapping;
 - II. Starting and ending points;
 - III. Length of the cable; and
 - IV. Burial depth of the cable.
- c) Please describe the trenching technologies that would be used for the underground land cable.
- d) Please compare the technical specifications of the subsea cable and the land cable.

Request IR-18:

In response to IR-10 (d) (i), NS Power provided a comparison table for all three options based on seven criteria.

- a) For the criterion "Reliability and Service Continuity" the Subsea Cable option is rated as "High", defined as:

High– Low frequency of weather-related outages once installed; ice risk is localized and design-mitigable, however, faults typically require specialized marine investigation and repair, which may result in longer outage durations.

[N-2, IR-10, p.4]

The Underground Cable Causeway option is rated as "Moderate", defined as:

Moderate– Buried system reduces routine exposure; however, faults may be difficult to locate and repairs may require excavation and trench restoration potentially resulting in extended outage durations, particularly following severe weather events.

[N-2, IR-10, p.4]

- I. Please explain whether the issues noted in the evaluation of the Underground Cable Causeway option such as "faults may be difficult to locate and repairs",

1 “potentially resulting in extended outage durations,” are also applicable to the
2 subsea cable option; and

- 3 II. Please explain why the subsea cable option received a rating of “High” for this
4 criterion, whereas the Underground Cable Causeway option received a rating of
5 only “Moderate”.

6
7 b) For the criterion “Maintenance and Repair”, NS Power only noted the repair requirements.

8 I. Please describe the expected routine maintenance requirements for both options.

9 II. Please explain whether NS Power conducts regular condition assessments of
10 subsea or underground cables, particularly following major windstorms.

11 III. Based on the decisions to replace the 1977 cable and 1990s cable following major
12 damages, and NS Power’s responses to IR-4 (d) (i) and IR-5 (b) (i), please
13 describe NS Power’s standard practice for subsea cable repair.

14 IV. Please describe whether the proposed new subsea cable would have better
15 repairability compared to the 1977 cable and 1990s cable.

16 V. Please describe NS Power’s standard practice for underground cable repair.