

August 6, 2026

lane.myatt@nspower.ca

Lana Myatt
Manager, Regulatory Capital
Nova Scotia Power Inc.
1223 Lower Water Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3S8

Dear Ms. Myatt:

M12843 – Nova Scotia Power Inc. – CI C0044172 – L7005 Canso Crossing Vibration Mitigation – \$2,431,095 (P&A)

On May 4, 2026, Nova Scotia Power (NS Power) filed an application with the Nova Scotia Energy Board (Board) for subsequent approval of the Canso Crossing Vibration Mitigation project as a Planned and Advanced Capital Project. The Project commenced in July 2023 and was completed in May 2026, over a period of approximately three years. At the time of the application, the project had already been completed at a total cost of \$2,431,184.

In the application, NS Power stated that conductor damage was identified during routine inspection of the strait crossing in the Canso Crossing section of transmission line L7005. This section of L7005 went into service in July 2018. It is one of two transmission lines over the Strait of Canso which enables energy transmission between Cape Breton Island and mainland Nova Scotia. NS Power attributed the damage primarily to aeolian vibration and conductor galloping, which may occur under low-to-moderate wind conditions and ice accumulation on transmission lines. NS Power explained that actual wind and ice loading conditions appeared to exceed the assumptions used in the original engineering design. The existing vibration control dampers had experienced fatigue-related deterioration and were no longer providing adequate long-term protection for the conductors.

NS Power retained external experts to assess the condition of the crossing and recommend corrective measures. The recommended work included reviewing damping and galloping-control options, assessing conductor strength and conductivity, analyzing vertical clearance and phase-to-phase separation at the crossing, inspecting transmission structure conditions, and repairing or restoring affected conductors and transmission structures.

Board staff issued Information Requests (IRs) to NS Power on June 22, 2026, and NS Power provided its responses on July 14, 2026.

In its responses, NS Power confirmed that it undertook the recommended actions identified by Havard Engineering between 2022 and 2024. The actions included immediate mitigation

and assessment, validation & solution development, and final validation & implementation readiness.

In response to IR-4, NS Power explained the design differences between L7005 and the existing L8004 crossing. Airflow spoilers had been installed on L8004 as a corrective retrofit after galloping-related phase slapping and line tripping in 1984. By contrast, NS Power indicated that there was no recorded historical evidence of phase slapping on L7005. Instead, the primary concern on L7005 was uncontrolled aeolian vibration, together with some galloping during colder weather when ice accumulated on the conductors. According to NS Power, these conditions caused damper movement and conductor damage and led external engineering experts to recommend mitigation work.

The Board agrees that L7005 is a significant transmission asset in Nova Scotia's electricity system. A conductor failure at the Strait of Canso crossing could create public safety risks and interrupt the power flow through an important transmission corridor.

The evidence established that the project was developed as an identified reliability and safety concern. The work was supported by an external engineering review, responding to observed conductor and damper deterioration. The mitigation project was intended to reduce the risk of further damage to the crossing.

Based on the evidence filed in this proceeding, the Board finds that the proposed L7005 Canso Crossing Vibration Mitigation Project appears to have been necessary. The cost of \$2,431,095, a significant portion of which relates to third party expert consultant engineering, as well as third party installation and materials, is considered justified.

Yours very truly,



Richard J. Melanson, LL.B.
Member





NSEB APPROVAL SHEET

Project Title: L7005 Canso Crossing Vibration Mitigation

CI Number: C0044172

Date: May 4, 2026

Expenditure Profile			Type of Filing	
Year	Budget Amount	Project Estimate	☒	Capital Project Authorization
			☐	Unforeseen and Unbudgeted (U&U)
			☒	Planned & Advanced (P&A)
			☐	Subsequent Approval Item
2023		93,386		
2024		273,790		
2025		2,105,997		☐ Authorization to Overspend (ATO)
2026		(42,079)		☐ Scope Change
			☐	Final Cost (FIN)
Total	\$0	\$2,431,095		

COMMENTS

Submitted on behalf of NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED

Approved on behalf of NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

Authorized Signatory
Dave Pickles
Chief Operating Officer

DATE
May 4, 2026

RICHARD J. MELANSON
August 6, 2026