

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

**IN THE MATTER OF: NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED'S 2026 Load Forecast
Report**

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: **Jessie Wallace**
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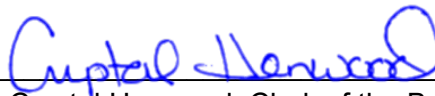
From: **Board Staff**
 Nova Scotia Energy Board

Responses Due: **Tuesday, July 7, 2026**

Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)

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Issued at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 12th day of June, 2026.



Crystal Henwood, Clerk of the Board

Request IR-1:

Figure 3: Historic and Forecast Net System Requirement and System Peak.

- a) The Net System Requirement (NSR) forecast percentage change in 2027 is negative. Aside from Renewable to Retail sales, what are the factors that are leading to this decline in 2027?
 - i. Why does NS Power not anticipate these factors to continue to have a negative effect on NSR after 2027?
- b) Relative to the 2025 Report, the forecast NSR for 2031 is 4.5% higher and 2033 is 5% higher. What are the factors contributing to increases in these specific years that aren't captured in the previous years and were not considered in the 2025 report?
- c) Please confirm that the system peak for 2026 is the peak that occurred in January 2026.
- d) The forecast for System Peak in 2028 to 2032 is greater than 3.1% for each (the difference between 2025 forecast for 2026 and the peak experienced in January) from the 2025 forecast report for those years. Why does NS Power believe that the system peak forecast in 2025 underestimated system peak, particularly for the years 2028 to 2032?
- e) The 2036 NSR forecast will increase 1.3% from 2035. Given the annual increase in NSR from 2028f to 2035f is only 0.6%, why does NS Power consider an increase in NSR will occur in 2036?

Request IR-2:

Attachment 2 and 3 employment sources data from Statistics Canada for ages 15 years and older. Statistics Canada defines the core working age group as individuals age 25 to 54 years because this demographic typically exhibits the highest labour force participation and employment rates and uses this age bracket to analyse underlying economic trends. Why does NS Power consider that including the employment status of those under the age of 24 years is a better measure than the core working age group?

Request IR-3:

Page 31 explains that the manufacturing employment forecast includes employment numbers for manufacturing, other primary industries and utilities and that the model uses a weighted average variable for both manufacturing GDP and employment.

- a) Please identify which attachment contains the manufacturing employment data.
- b) Please identify which attachment contains the application of weighting to manufacturing GDP and employment.

- c) Please identify the source data for ManGDP in Attachment 08.
- d) Please provide a full list of all the industries included in manufacturing GDP and employment.
- e) Figure 20: Industrial Economic Drivers presents 2025 Manufacturing GDP (mil \$2017) as 3,359. However, Statistics Canada Gross domestic product (GDP) at basic prices, by industry, provinces and territories Table 36-10-0711-01 provides the following GDP values (mil \$2017). Please explain the discrepancy between Figure 20 and Statistics Canada.

Nova Scotia Gross domestic product (GDP) at basic prices, by industry, provinces and territories (x 1,000,000)	2025
Non-durable manufacturing industries [T011]	1,773.50
Durable manufacturing industries [T012]	1,577.20
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction [21]	171.20
Utilities [22]	923.60
Manufacturing [31-33]	3,340.70

- f) Figure 20: Industrial Economic Drivers presents 2025 Manufacturing Employment (000) as 50. However, Statistics Canada Employment by Industry Annual Table 14-10-0202-01 provides the following employment values. Please explain the discrepancy between Figure 20 and Statistics Canada.

Nova Scotia Employment by industry, annual, NAICS	2025
Goods producing industries [11-33N]	68,440
Manufacturing [31-33]	30,034

Request IR-4:

Page 40 explains that NS Power's consultant E3, estimated a reduction of 200 GWh under a hybrid scenario, but NS Power does not consider it to be attainable. Please elaborate on the results of the modeling leading NS Power to draw this conclusion.

Request IR-5:

Page 44 provides statistics on battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles in Nova Scotia in 2025. Please provide the source of these data.

- a) How do these statistics compare to the number of Electric Vehicle Registration Data published by the Province of Nova Scotia?

Request IR-6:

Please provide NS Power's EV forecast model in excel format with cells intact and protections removed.

a) Is NS Power's EV forecast based on Ensuring ZEV Adoption in Nova Scotia: Analysis of Policy Options and Possible Adoption Outcomes, March 2023?

i. If so, does this Load Forecast model assume all vehicle sales will be zero emissions vehicles in 2036?

Request IR-7:

Figure 69: Demand Response table shows a significant increase in Direct Load Control MW in 2032. On the page 92 the application states at lines 21-22, "For 2032 and beyond, the DR amounts revert to the achievable potential of these programs that was used in the 2022 Evergreen IRP."

a) Given the sizable difference between E1's demand response amounts and NS Power's IRP Action Plan, why did NS Power assume such a large increase is realistic?

b) Did NS Power consider gradually increasing the MWs overtime rather than meet the IRP's target?

i. If so, why was this scenario not followed?

Request IR-8:

In the 2025 Load Forecast Report M12349, Board IR-22(b) noted that the IRP had underestimated the 2024 and 2025 energy demand between 165 and 364 GWh for NSR and between 217 and 209 GWh for Firm Peak and asked if NS Power still considered the IR and Load Forecast to be aligned. Does NS Power consider that these two forecasts are still aligned?

Request IR-9:

In the 2025 Load Forecast Report M12349, NS Power assumed that the Municipal load would be served by a third party in 2025. However, as explained by NS Power in response to Board IR-19, on April 30, 2025, the MEUs informed NS Power that they would continue taking bundled service in 2026.

a) Please explain how this change affected NS Power NSR.

1 **Request IR-10:**

- 2 Appendix D, page 2 states that the historical variation of inputs (predictors, independent variables)
- 3 will affect the forecast prediction, in a probabilistic way. Please list the historical variation inputs
- 4 applied to the analysis.