M12861

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: *The Public Utilities Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.380, as amended

- and -

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

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NS Power)

From: Solar Nova Scotia

Responses Due: July 7th, 2026

Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)

Contact Person: **David Brushett P.Eng**
Solar Nova Scotia
brushettd@gmail.com

Issued at Halifax, Nova Scotia on this 15th day of June, 2026

Request IR-1:
Refer to M12861, Exhibit-N1-Nova Scotia Power Inc. 2026 Load Forecast Report (filed May 15, 2026) (the "Report"), Figure 37, and respond to the following:

a) Figure 37 shows cumulative industrial electrification of only 14 GWh (Large General), 1 GWh (Small Industrial), 13 GWh (Medium Industrial) and 8 GWh (Large Industrial) by 2036 (approximately 4 MW of coincident peak), yet the Report attributes commercial and industrial growth to the "push to net-zero emissions." How is this trajectory consistent with the net-zero-by-2050 objective under the Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act and with the federal Powering Canada Strong strategy (May 14, 2026), which anticipates Canadian electricity demand at least doubling by 2050, substantially from industrial electrification?
b) Does the 2026 Load Forecast account for the federal strategy, and what level of industrial electrification would a net-zero pathway imply over the forecast period?
c) Does any benefit-cost or load analysis of industrial electrification underpin Figure 37, given that the E3 report The Economics of Electrification in Nova Scotia (October 2023) excluded the industrial sector? Please identify what analysis NS Power relies upon.

Request IR-2:
Refer to M12861, Exhibit N-1, the Report, Section 4.5.2, Hybrid Heating, Section 4.5.4, Electric Vehicles, and respond to the following:

a) The forecast models hybrid heating at 50% participation (approximately 27,000 customers by 2036, a 48 MW peak reduction) and at-home EV charging at 0.39 kW per-customer coincident peak. Could the existing transmission and distribution system accommodate materially higher penetration of (i) hybrid heat pumps and (ii) managed or off-peak EV charging, and would such flexible, peak-shaping load require less reinforcement than an equivalent amount of unmanaged load — given the E3 finding that best-in-class and dual-fuel heat pumps could reduce coincident peak by approximately 70 percent?

Request IR-3:
Refer to M12861, Exhibit N-1, the Report, the 2027–2031 DSM Plan, and respond to the following:

a) The Report states that strategic electrification now falls within the DSM definition, but no strategic electrification initiatives are included in the proposed 2027–2031 DSM Plan. Please identify the analyses and data, including avoided-cost inputs, load shapes, marginal emissions, grid-constraint information and customer segmentation, that NS Power has provided or could provide to EfficiencyOne to enable strategic electrification initiatives to be included in the 2027–2031 DSM Plan.

Request IR-4:
Refer to M12861, Exhibit N-1, the Report, the treatment of DSM adjustments in the forecast methodology, and respond to the following:

a) How would NS Power's methodology treat DSM-funded strategic electrification that increases electricity sales while reducing total customer costs and emissions? Can the existing DSM adjustment accommodate load-increasing resources, or would a separate strategic electrification adjustment be required, and how would double counting be avoided across load growth, DSM plans, end-use intensities, surveys and post-regression adjustments?

Request IR-5:
Refer to M12861, Exhibit N-1, the Report, the treatment of behind-the-meter solar and distributed storage, and respond to the following:

a) The Report assumes no significant distributed storage and treats behind-the-meter solar primarily as a load reduction. Could flexible loads — daytime or managed EV charging, heat pump water heaters, thermal storage and interruptible electric boilers — shift demand toward periods of high solar output, and has NS Power assessed their potential to improve solar utilization, including any reduction in curtailment risk?

Request IR-6:
Refer to M12861, Exhibit N-1, the Report, Figure 31, and respond to the following:

a) Figure 31 assigns 0 MW of peak reduction to solar across all years, on the basis that the system peak occurs after sunset. Was this assumption carried forward from the 2025 Load Forecast for want of updated 2025 production data, and does NS Power intend to revisit it using updated AMI and production data, including any contribution from solar paired with storage?

Request IR-7:
Refer to M12861, Exhibit N-1, the Report, Sections 4.5.1, 4.5.5 and 4.5.6, and respond to the following:
The forecast assumes no change to the incentive landscape and, for heat pumps, reduces projected installations on the closure of residential grant programs. Several federal incentives bearing on this assumption were in force or newly announced at the time of filing:

a) Commercial heat pumps. Section 4.5.5 credits commercial incentives "including investment tax credits and accelerated capital cost allowance" for continued commercial solar strength, while Section 4.5.1 reduces the heat pump forecast solely on residential grant closures. Does the heat pump forecast account for the federal Clean Technology Investment Tax Credit (up to 30% for eligible commercial air-source and ground-source heat pumps, available through 2034)? If not, why was the ITC applied to the solar forecast but not to commercial heat pumps?

b) Residential retrofit relaunch. Section 4.5.1 assumes no reintroduction of grants. On May 14, 2026 — one day before filing — the federal government announced expanded retrofit support targeting approximately one million homes, prioritizing the transition of oil-heated homes to electric heat pumps. Does the forecast account for this announcement, and what is the directional effect on the residential heat pump forecast were such support to materialize, given Nova Scotia's high concentration of oil-heated homes?

c) Commercial and industrial storage. Section 4.5.6 evaluates battery storage on a residential basis only and assumes no significant deployment. Did NS Power consider commercial and industrial storage, eligible for the federal Clean Technology Investment Tax Credit (up to 30% for stationary, non-fossil storage), and assess such storage — including solar-paired storage — for its potential to shift load, shave peak or absorb daytime solar?