

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION by NOVA SCOTIA POWER INC. for Approval of CI Various - Distribution Routines - D055 - Planned Replacement of Deteriorated Equipment (ATO) - \$11,359,822

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: Nova Scotia Power Incorporated
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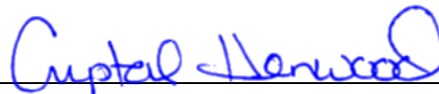
From: Board Staff
Nova Scotia Energy Board

Responses Due: Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)

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Crystal Henwood, Clerk of the Board

1 **Request IR-1:**

2 In its August 8, 2025, response to NSEB IR-2a) in Matter M12319 (2024 Various Distribution
3 Routines ATO), Nova Scotia Power Incorporated (NS Power) stated: “Currently, NS Power does
4 not expect these routines to exceed ATO thresholds in 2025. At this time, the forecast for these
5 routines is aligned with external customer requests (D061, D062, D004), historical predictions for
6 reactive events (D005) and provincial and municipal requests (D006). However, as these external
7 factors/bodies can change throughout the year, this expectation remains subject to change in the
8 second half of 2025. (i) At this time, NS Power is still forecasting these routines to align with the
9 amounts budgeted in the 2025 ACE Plan.”

- 10 a) Board staff note that the ATO application in M12319 included an ATO approval for Routine
11 D005. As such, please explain specifically what changed between August 8, 2025, and
12 December 31, 2025, to drive a change in forecast spending in D055 by an amount of
13 \$11.5M (and increase of 107% of the budgeted amount for the routine).
14 b) At what point during the 2025 budget year did NS Power become aware that actual
15 spending for routine D055 would likely exceed the approved ACE Plan budget by the ATO
16 threshold?
17 c) List the objectives the utility would be unable to achieve without this budget increase.

18
19 **Request IR-2:**

- 20 a) For 2025, please provide a breakdown of budgeted vs actual expenditures by major cost
21 categories (e.g., labour, materials, contractor services, overhead, etc.).
22 b) Please provide a year-by-year breakdown from 2019 to 2025 of the costs and volumes
23 associated with Bin Work, Field Driven Work, and Street Light and Service Removals
24 under Routine D055?

25
26 **Request IR-3:**

- 27 a) Does NS Power intend to revise its forecasting methodology for this routine going forward,
28 and if so, how will it improve accuracy?
29 b) If not, please explain why the current approach remains appropriate.

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31 **Request IR-4:**

32 In its application, NS Power states: “Bin Work is up by \$10.2 million due to the advancement of
33 higher-priority condition-driven work identified during the feeder inspection program, including
34 projects in the Glace Bay area.”

1 a) Please explain specifically why it was necessary to advance this higher-priority
2 condition-driven work rather than deferring this work beyond 2025.

3 b) Please explain specifically why this advanced higher-priority condition-driven work
4 was \$10.2M more expensive than the bin-work envisioned in the 2025 D005 budget.
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6 **Request IR-5:**

7 In its application, NS Power states: "Field driven work is up by \$1.7 million due to the increased
8 deficiencies driven by regional operations and regional engineering."

9 a) Please explain what NS Power means by "increased deficiencies driven by regional
10 operations and regional engineering."

11 b) Please identify these specific increased deficiencies.
12

13 **Request IR-6:**

14 In its application, NS Power states: "Bin Work is up by \$10.2 million due to the advancement of
15 higher-priority condition-driven work identified during the feeder inspection program, including
16 projects in the Glace Bay area. Field driven work is up by \$1.7 million due to the increased
17 deficiencies driven by regional operations and regional engineering."

18 a) Please provide a list of works under Bin Work and Field Work in an Excel sheet, including
19 the estimated cost, feeder number, length, number of customers served, risks, and
20 location.

21 b) For each feeder identified in a), provide the following in an Excel sheet for the period since
22 2021, excluding Major Events and Loss of Supply:

23 i. A percentage breakdown of outage causes, along with the number of outages,
24 customer-hours of interruptions.

25 ii. The distribution system average interruption frequency index (SAIFI).

26 iii. The distribution system average interruption duration index (SAIDI).

27 iv. Number of customer interruptions that occurred as a result of the cause of
28 interruption noted above in i.
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30 **Request IR-7:**

31 Please identify and summarize the data used to support the identification, selection, prioritization,
32 optimization, and pacing of project execution for the projects included in this Matter (e.g., asset
33 condition by major asset type and reliability information).
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b) If so, please provide a list of those assets, remaining useful life cost, along with the justification.

Please describe how the utility has addressed system hardening solutions and resilience in the project selection.

For the project described in this application, please explain how the project keeps pace with technological changes and integrates cost-effective, reliable solutions.