

August 07, 2026

lane.myatt@nspower.ca

Lana Myatt
Manager, Regulatory Capital
Nova Scotia Power Incorporated
P.O. Box 910
Halifax, NS B3J 2W5

Dear Ms. Myatt:

M12900 – Nova Scotia Power Incorporated – CI C0083451 – Seton Ridge Underground Network – \$3,656,609 (U&U)

On June 11, 2026, Nova Scotia Power Incorporated (NS Power) applied to the Nova Scotia Energy Board (Board) for approval of an Unforeseen and Unbudgeted capital project: CI C0083451 – Seton Ridge Underground Network. The project involves installation of approximately 1,750 metres of fully underground electrical distribution infrastructure to serve a new development in the Seton Ridge area. The estimated project cost is \$3,656,609.

NS Power stated that the Seton Ridge developer is responsible for the civil work and related cost required for the underground system, including trenching, duct-bank installation, concrete encasement, and surface restoration.

NS Power stated that the complete Seton Ridge development project is forecast to reach a load demand of approximately 12 MVA. The system will serve about 2,800 multi-unit and 164 single-family dwellings and associated commercial space.

NS Power also stated that the approved development layout by Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) creates a constrained built form that significantly limits the ability to construct a permanent overhead electrical distribution system.

Board staff issued Information Requests (IRs) to NS Power on June 26, 2026, and NS Power provided its responses on July 20, 2026.

NS Power stated that the proposed design is a standard underground duct-bank system with spare duct capacity. NS Power explained that the spare capacity will provide operational flexibility and support future load growth. NS Power also stated that the proposed project cost excludes civil works related costs which are the responsibility of the Seton Ridge developer. The project cost estimate covers work associated with NS Power-owned electrical infrastructure.

In its IR responses, NS Power compared overhead and underground systems with respect to reliability, safety and operating costs:

- a) NS Power stated that underground systems generally offer reliability advantages over overhead systems. However, underground faults can be more difficult and time-consuming to locate and repair.
- b) NS Power stated that underground systems can reduce public safety risks associated with accidental contact with downed conductors due to weather or vehicle impacts.
- c) NS Power stated that underground systems may reduce vegetation management and storm response costs. However, the repairing of underground systems requires more specialized work when faults occur.

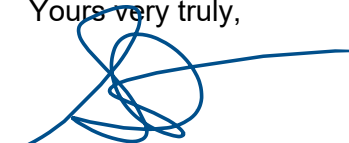
NS Power further noted that the system would initially be operated at a 12.5 kV. However, it could be converted from 12.5 kV to 25 kV without replacing the underground civil infrastructure or electrical infrastructure. This would reduce future reconstruction requirements.

Instead of conducting a detailed overhead feasibility study, NS Power explained that it performed an engineering review and consulted with the developer's consultant. Based on that work, NS Power identified potential clearance issues between overhead electrical infrastructure and adjacent buildings. NS Power concluded that the underground option is the most practical long-term approach for the approved urban development layout.

Based on the information provided, the Board agrees that when comparing an overhead system, an underground system has operational advantages, particularly for reliability, public safety, and resilience. Further, given the combination of the approved urban development layout, limited corridor space, electrical-clearance constraints, and scalability for future load, the Board finds that the proposed underground system is preferred over an overhead alternative.

The Board therefore approves the application and the related project cost estimate of \$3,656,609.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Murphy', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steven M. Murphy, MBA, P.Eng.
Member

NSEB APPROVAL SHEET

Project Title: Seton Ridge Underground Network

CI Number: C0083451

Date: June 11, 2026

Expenditure Profile			Type of Filing	
Year	Budget Amount	Project Estimate	☐	Capital Project Authorization
2026		1,545,084	☒	Unforeseen and Unbudgeted (U&U)
2027		2,111,525	☐	Planned & Advanced (P&A)
			☐	Subsequent Approval Item
			☐	Authorization to Overspend (ATO)
			☐	Scope Change
			☐	Final Cost (FIN)
Total	\$0	\$3,656,609		

COMMENTS

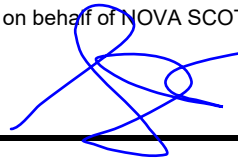
Submitted on behalf of NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED



Authorized Signatory
Dave Pickles
Chief Operating Officer

DATE
June 11, 2026

Approved on behalf of NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD



DATE
August 7, 2026