

2026 10-Year System Outlook Report
(Nova Scotia Energy Board M12916)

Nova Scotia Independent Energy System Operator (IESO Nova Scotia)
Responses to Port Hawkesbury Paper LP (PHP) Information Requests

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

Request IR – 1

Reference: Exhibit N-1, page 5: “NS Power and IESO continue to discuss the best approach for the Load Forecast report in future years.”

Reference: *More Access to Energy Act*, SNS 2024, c 2, Sch B, section 9: “The objects of the IESO are to... (p) forecast electricity demand and the adequacy and reliability of electricity resources for the Province for the short, medium and long terms...”

Question:

Please confirm whether, starting in 2027, the IESO will develop and assess its own forecasts of electricity demand and the adequacy and reliability of electricity resources for the Province, independent of NS Power. If not, please explain why not.

Response IR - 1

IESO Nova Scotia anticipates it may begin to develop independent electricity demand forecasting in accordance with its noted objects in the More Access to Energy Act. Specific details and timing have not yet been established and are subject to further consideration regarding the preferred approach.

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Request IR – 2

Reference: Exhibit N-1, Table 1: Forecast System Peak and Net System Requirement, page 6.

Reference: Exhibit N-1, Table 8: Large-Load SIS, page 23.

Question:

Please explain the criteria used to determine how and when to include large-load requests in the Forecast System Peak and Net System Requirements, and confirm which (if any) of the large-load requests shown in Table 8 have been specifically incorporated into the Forecast System Peak and Net System Requirements shown in Table 1. For any large-load requests not included, please explain why.

Response IR - 2

Table 8 lists load projects which have requested a transmission interconnection study from IESO Nova Scotia. For the 2026 10 Year System Outlook Report, IESO Nova Scotia utilized the 2026 Load Forecast filed by NSPI, with modifications as described in the report. IRL-04 was considered in developing the Forecast System Peak and Net System Requirement as developed by NSPI. All other projects listed in Table 8 are in the study phase at this time.

IESO Nova Scotia has not defined a formal criterion that large load requests would need to meet before they are included in the forecast system peak and net system requirement. In general, IESO Nova Scotia would consider the completion of a System Impact Study and the subscription to a rate or tariff offered by a Load Serving entity as two relevant criteria.

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Request IR – 3

Reference: Exhibit N-1, section 3.2.4, Fast-Acting Generation, page 13. “IESO Nova Scotia has initiated a procurement process for 300 to 600 MW of fast-acting generation capacity for the province.”

Reference: Exhibit N-1, section 3.2.4, Fast-Acting Generation, page 13. “IESO Nova Scotia has included 450 MW of fast-acting generation in the 2026 10-Year Outlook Resource Plan.”

Reference: Fast-Acting Power Generation Request for Proposals ([Fast-Acting-Generation-Request-for-Proposals.pdf](#)), Section 2.1(d)(i)(A): “have a Maximum Contract Capacity of not less than 275 MW and not more than 300 MW and be comprised of multiple generating units such that no single equipment or contingency shall reduce the available net generating capacity by more than 150 MW;”

Question:

Please reconcile the RFP for projects sized between 275-300 MW and the decision to include 450 MW in the 10-Year Outlook Resource Plan.

Response IR - 3

The project size of 275 – 300 MW identified in the RFP was developed to be appropriate for the selected locations and is consistent with the Nova Scotia Clean Power Plan as well as previous NSPI IRP results and Action Plans.

The 450 MW of fast-acting generation included in the 2026 10-Year Outlook Resource Plan represents the capacity of fast-acting generation identified in this analysis as needed to support the phase out of coal fired generation in Nova Scotia and maintain the target 20% Planning Reserve Margin. Of note, the Planning Reserve Margin target is not met in the out years of this report and

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- 25 additional fast acting generation may be needed to maintain system reliability and compliance with
- 26 that requirement. This will be refined through the ongoing 2026 Integrated Resource Plan.