

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: **The *PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT***

-and-

IN THE MATTER OF: **NOVA SCOTIA INDEPENDENT ENERGY SYSTEM
OPERATOR'S 2026 10-Year System Outlook Report**

NON-CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: **Mark Peachey, LL.B.**
Director, Regulatory Affairs
IESO Nova Scotia
Email: mark.peachey@ieso-ns.ca

From: The Consumer Advocate

Responses Due: **October 9, 2026**

Copies: 1 electronic copy (PDF searchable)

Contact Person: **David J. Roberts**
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1 **Request IR-1:**

2
3 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Table 4

- 4 a) Please provide the amount of peak forecast reduction associated with a hybrid heating
5 scenario, by year. If exact numbers are not available, please provide estimates.
6 b) Please either identify the NS Power source for the data provided in response to part (a) or
7 provide workpapers and all supporting documentation for the development of that
8 forecast.
9 c) Please provide a detailed explanation of any work that IESO-NS is aware of completed
10 by NS Power or any other entity to advance the adoption of hybrid heating programs.
11 d) Please provide details on IESO-NS participation in any studies in partnership with other
12 organizations, including any available timelines, study scopes, contractors, or other
13 pertinent planning information.
14 e) Please provide the current IESO-NS action plan to achieve the peak forecast reduction
15 referenced in part (a) of this question.
16

17 **Request IR-2:**

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19 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Table 4, regarding the amount of DSM that is forecast to reduce the system
20 peak in each year,

- 21 a) Please either identify the source for the forecast reduction or provide workpapers and all
22 supporting documentation for the development of that forecast.
23 b) Please explain how this 10-year forecast and assessment provides a basis for planning
24 investment in DSM.
25 c) Please provide IESO-NS's expectations for developing future DSM forecasts for the 10-
26 year outlook report.
27 d) Does IESO-NS agree that future 10-year outlook reports should include a fulsome
28 discussion of DSM, including energy efficiency and not just demand response?
29

30 **Request IR-3:**

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32 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Section 5.4.1

- 33 a) Please provide a list of all high-voltage equipment (including but not limited to
34 transformers and circuit breakers) required for the NS-NB Reliability Intertie and the
35 procurement status of each item. If no such list exists, please identify any such equipment
36 that has been procured.
37 b) For any item identified in the response to part (b) that has does not have a firm delivery
38 date consistent with the target in-service date of 2028, please describe IESO-NS's
39 understanding of any risk mitigation plan for late delivery.
40 c) Please provide a brief summary of IESO-NS's contingency plan should the Intertie not be
41 completed by Q4 of 2028 and how that would develop if the delay extends for more than a
42 year.
43 d) Will any outages of the existing 345 kV line connecting NB with NS be required to bring
44 the Intertie into service? If so, please provide the associated risk register and mitigation
45 plan associated with the anticipated outages.
46

1 **Request IR-4:**

2
3 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, p. 17, regarding Trenton 5 and Lingan 2.

- 4 a) Please provide an accounting of all costs known or available to IESO-NS associated with
5 these units being maintained in service over the past two years and those forecast through
6 the current retirement date.
7 b) Please include all available detail in the breakdown of costs as well as a summary of (a)
8 startup costs, (b) non-fuel operating costs, (c) fuel costs during operation, and (d)
9 shutdown costs for each of instance in which either unit was operational.
10 c) Please include the generation for each instance in which either unit was operational.
11

12 **Request IR-5:**

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14 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Appendix A

- 15 a) Please provide the basis for the Maritime Link energy import forecast, including
16 decomposition into its component parts (e.g., NS Block).
17 b) Please provide the quantity of wind and solar energy, by source, that is expected to be
18 curtailed for each forecast year.
19

20 **Request IR-6:**

21
22 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Appendix A

- 23 a) Please provide a discussion of this table, with a particular focus on the forecast surplus of
24 3 GWh in 2030 and also a discussion of IESO-NS's expectations for 2031 and 2032
25 compliance.
26 b) If renewable energy is below expectations due to lower wind production, drought, or
27 other natural causes, what is IESO-NS's expectation for (i) how that energy will be made
28 up and (ii) how any compliance deficit will be remedied?
29 c) If load exceeds expectations, what is IESO-NS's expectation for (i) how that energy will
30 be supplied and (ii) how any compliance deficit will be remedied?
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32 **Request IR-7:**

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34 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Table 9, and NS Power's 2026 ACE Plan. The 2026 ACE Plan indicates a
35 \$13 million budget for the Michelin DVR Phase project, "for the supply, install and integration of
36 an additional 5MVA of Dynamic Voltage Restorer (DVR) capacity at Michelin."

- 37 a) Please explain why this project is not included in Table 9.
38 b) Please explain IESO-NS's view of the significance of this project.
39

40 **Request IR-8:**

41
42 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Table 9, and Matter M12592 regarding the ECC Dynamic Line Rating (DLR)
43 project with a cost of \$7 million, including \$5.2 million in NRCan funding.

- 44 a) Please explain why this project is not included in Table 9.
45 b) Please explain IESO-NS's view of the significance of this project.

- 1 c) In Matter M09508, Exh. N-2, RIR-19, NS Power provided a table listing unplanned
2 interruptions to the CBX transmission corridor caused by weather between 2015 and
3 November 2019. Please provide a similar table for 2021 to 2025 for each transmission line
4 included in the DLR project (L-6515a; L-6515b; L-7003; L-7004; L-7005; L-8001, and L-
5 8004), and identify whether the interruptions were “momentary” or “sustained.”
- 6 d) Using a specific example for momentary, and sustained interruptions, please explain the
7 connection between DLR data and system operator actions for detecting and mitigating
8 trips caused by ice conditions.
- 9 e) Does IESO-NS concur that NS Power selected the best seven transmission line segments
10 for the DLR project? Please discuss your reasoning.
- 11 f) Does IESO-NS have any plans to conduct an evaluation of the impacts of the project on
12 each of the seven transmission line segments? If so, please describe the evaluation, its
13 schedule, and whether IESO-NS will submit it to the Board. If not, why not?
- 14 g) How does IESO-NS expect to utilize data from DLRs in its own operations, as distinct
15 from the operations of NS Power?
- 16 h) NS Power stated in Exhibit N-2, RIR-8(a), M12592 that “any future expansion of DLR
17 application ... [would be] based on the mitigation of risk on the transmission system,” and
18 that DLR expansion is not expected beyond the Bulk Electric System. Does IESO-NS
19 concur that the only purpose of DLR is “mitigation of risk”?
- 20 i) Please explain whether IESO also expects that DLR projects can provide:
21 i. Congestion relief, such as reduced line losses and wear/tear of equipment;
22 ii. Renewable integration while waiting for new or upgraded transmission lines;
23 iii. Cost savings by delaying or canceling new or upgraded transmission line projects;
24 and
25 iv. Safety improvements such as avoiding wildfire and other risks related to
26 overheating and sagging too low.
- 27 j) If the answer to the questions in part (i) is yes, please provide:
28 i. A list of transmission line segments that DLR projects could potentially provide the
29 listed service;
30 ii. The dates for which the DLR projects could provide the listed service (e.g., limited
31 duration DLR for renewable integration); and
32 iii. Any cost considerations that IESO-NS is aware of that might make each such
33 potential project advisable or not worthy of significant study effort.
- 34 k) Does IESO-NS currently have plans to advance DLRs beyond NS Power’s current project
35 or plans to study potential further expansion of those plans?
- 36 l) NS Power’s application filed in M11889 (withdrawn October 22, 2024) states “...currently
37 a related project in progress (C0061525 Facility Ratings Project) to implement an Ambient
38 Adjusted Rating (AAR) solution on all Transmission lines. This is in alignment with FERC
39 Order 881...”. Transmission line ratings based on AAR are considered more dynamic than
40 static and seasonal ratings. Compared to existing ratings, please provide IESO-NS’s
41 understanding of the:
42 i. Capacity increase in MW due to AAR for each transmission corridor or line; and
43 ii. Capacity increase in MW due to DLR for each transmission corridor or line.
- 44 m) The same application filed in M11889 also referred to “project synergies, including
45 necessary software solution integration.” If IESO-NS has any information regarding
46 “synergies” and “software solution integration,” please provide it.

1 **Request IR-9:**

2
3 *Reference:* Exh. N-1, Table 9, and NS Power's 2026 ACE Plan.

- 4 a) Please explain IESO-NS's role in development, review, and approval of NS Power
5 transmission projects in its ACE Plan.
6 b) If IESO-NS has taken any position other than full, ongoing support for any transmission
7 project included in Table 9 or NS Power's 2026 ACE Plan (including subsequent
8 submittals), please provide a discussion of each such instance, including:
9 i. Concerns raised by IESO-NS;
10 ii. Whether and how IESO-NS concerns were addressed; and
11 iii. Any current concerns IESO-NS may have with respect to these projects.
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