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Request IR-1:

- (a) What is the current rated capacity (in MW) of the LIN2 generating unit?**
- (b) Please provide an estimate of the power generation from this unit for 2026 to 2030.**
- (c) Please extend the table requested by Board staff in IR-6 in Matter M12959 (Capacity Requirement 2024/25) for Q2 2025 to present, listing all the times (by quarter) the unit was recalled to service by the NSPSO to support firm customer load and how much energy was generated on each occasion.**
- (d) Please explain why the energy currently supplied by the unit could not be substituted with either the battery energy storage system (BESS) or the 100 MW capacity resource associated with the recent definitive agreement between IESO-NS and New Brunswick Power Corporation?**
- (e) Going forward, explain the impact on the need for LIN2 capacity requirement given that Wreck Cove Units 1 and 2 are now back in service as of Q2 2026 and the third 50 MW BESS (White Rock) is scheduled to be in service in August 2026 according to the NS Power website.**

Response IR-1:

- (a) The rated capacity for Lingan 2 is 148MW.**
- (b) Lingan 2 unit is not forecast to generate economically, but rather is held to serve firm customer load when needed.**
- The following table outlines Lingan 2 estimated generation for 2026-2028. Estimates beyond 2028 are not available.

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	2026 (Aug 1 - Dec 31)	2027	2028
Lingan 2 Generation (GWh)			

(c) Please refer to the table below.

Quarter	Online	Offline	Net Gen (MWh)
Q2 - 2025	April 29, 2025	May 6, 2025	9,460
Q3 - 2025	-	-	-
Q4 - 2025	November 5, 2025	November 25, 2025	50,442
	December 2, 2025	January 1, 2026	84,125
Q1 - 2026	January 1, 2026	January 7, 2026	36,367
	January 24, 2026	January 30, 2026	
	February 7, 2026	February 8, 2026	23,376
	February 8, 2026	February 15, 2026	
	March 5, 2026	March 12, 2026	18,697
Q2 - 2026	-	-	-
Q3 - 2026	August 5, 2026	August 12, 2026	17,028*

**Estimated Generation; numbers not yet finalized.*

(d-e) Please refer to the IESO-NS 10 Year System Outlook Report.¹ The thermal retirement schedule complies with the 2030 coal phase-out targets. Due to increasing system demand, it is forecast that in addition to BESS and Wreck Cove resources being online, Lingan 2 will be required to operate through the winter of 2029/2030 to maintain adequate planning reserve margin. Lingan 2 can only be retired once new fast acting generation is in service and reliable operation has been established.

¹ M12916, 2026 IESO-NS 10 Year System Outlook Report.

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Request IR-2:

(a) What is current On-Peak Reserve Margin for the year 2026-2027?

(b) What is the expected On-Peak Reserve Margin for the year 2026-2027 based on NERC requirements?

(c) If there is a gap between the NERC requirement and the utility's current on peak reserve margin, please explain how the utility plans to address this gap?

(d) Please provide a list of the resources that will be used to meet the reserve margin noted above.

Response IR-2:

(a) As per the IESO-NS 10-Year System Outlook,¹ the planning reserve margin for the 2026/2027 winter is 22 percent of the firm peak with Langan Unit 2 available.

(b) The IESO-NS is required to comply with the NPCC reliability criteria of 20 percent of the firm peak.

(c) The IESO-NS is not currently forecasting a deficiency or gap between the NPCC requirement and the forecasted planning reserve margin (PRM) for the 2026/2027 winter. This includes the capacity contribution from Langan 2 and without this available capacity, the system would not be able to meet the PRM of 20 percent.

(d) The resources to meet the forecasted planning reserve margin for the 2026/2027 winter are referenced in Table 4 of the IESO-NS 10-Year System Outlook.²

¹ M12916, 2026 IESO-NS 10 Year System Outlook Report.

² M12916, 2026 IESO-NS 10 Year System Outlook Report, page 18.

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Request IR-3:

The application noted that given the absence of near-term firm import options from the New Brunswick or Newfoundland interconnections, any replacement capacity must be located within Nova Scotia. In this context, sustaining Lingan Unit 2 in cold reserve is the most feasible and cost-effective option.

(a) Please provide the anticipated firm imports for 2026/2027 from the New Brunswick and Newfoundland interconnections.

(b) Please explain the absence of near-term firm import options from the New Brunswick and Newfoundland interconnections.

(c) How much power could potentially be imported from these two interconnections in the absence of limitations, and at what cost?

(d) When does the utility expect these limitations to be removed?

Response IR-3:

(a) The firm imports from Newfoundland include the Base Block of approximately 154MW, 145.4 MW firm, which is available on peak (16 hours from 8am to 10pm Atlantic Time, seven days a week). There are no firm imports from New Brunswick.

(b) There are currently no additional near-term firm import opportunities from Newfoundland and New Brunswick as excess firm capacity is not currently available due to the currently available resources and the level of demand required in each Province utilizing the existing resources.

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- 1 (c) For New Brunswick, an additional 100MW can be imported to Nova Scotia on a firm basis
2 once the reliability tie and the NB Power Renewable Integration Grid Stability (RIGS)
3 project are commissioned. For Newfoundland, the Maritime Link has the capacity to
4 import an additional 176MW of firm in addition to the base block but there are currently
5 no additional available dispatchable generating resources in Newfoundland to provide
6 additional firm capacity to Nova Scotia. NS Power does not have the cost information
7 associated with the 100MW of future firm capacity from New Brunswick.
8
- 9 (d) Based on the 2026 10-Year System Outlook filed by the IESO-NS,¹ the IESO-NS
10 anticipates access to 100MW of firm generation capacity beginning as early as 2028 from
11 New Brunswick. For firm capacity limitations in Newfoundland, please refer to part (c).

¹ M12916, 2026 IESO-NS 10 Year System Outlook Report, page 14.

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Request IR-4:

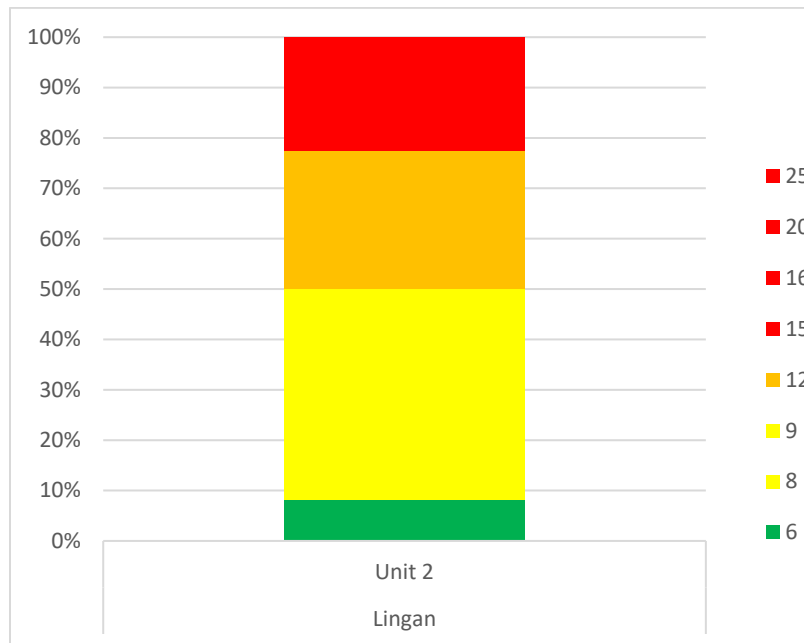
- (a) Please provide a copy of the engineering assessment recommending the proposed works that are critical to ensuring safe and reliable operation. If this assessment is not available, please explain how the component replacements were determined.**
- (b) Please provide copies of the contracts and supporting materials quotes used to estimate the cost of the project referenced in the detailed cost estimate sheet.**
- (c) Please also confirm whether all services were procured competitively.**

Response IR-4:

- (a) There is no single engineering assessment recommending the proposed works. Rather, the outage scope was determined through NS Power's Asset Management framework, which uses equipment inspections, condition assessments, asset risk profiles, operating experience, and compliance requirements to identify the work necessary to maintain safe and reliable operation of the unit. Lingan Unit 2 continues to exhibit elevated asset risk due to the age and condition of key boiler, turbine, generator, and balance-of-plant equipment. Asset risk assessments identified several components with high condition-related risk requiring ongoing inspection, refurbishment, repair, or replacement to support continued operation. The work completed during the outage was therefore focused on mitigating these identified risks and correcting deficiencies to ensure the unit remained capable of providing reliable capacity through the required operating period. The following is the overall summary diagram of the Lingan 2 risk profile.**

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The scope of work completed during the outage was concentrated on the principal risk areas identified through this process, including boiler pressure parts, coal and ash handling systems, electrical and control equipment, feedwater and cooling water systems, and critical valves. These systems were inspected and refurbished or replaced where condition assessments identified degradation that could adversely affect the unit's ability to safely and reliably operate through the required operating period.

Refurbishment or replacement work is completed only when inspections identify pressure retaining components no longer meeting boiler minimum tube wall thickness requirements utilizing QP-G004 (Boiler Tube Repairs and Tube failure reduction); and on pressure piping and vessels when non-destructive testing and inspection show wall thickness is at or below the lowest calculated minimum allowable thickness. When coal and ash equipment is unable to reliably move material until the next planned outage refurbishment is completed. Testing is also performed on 4,160 V and 600 V electrical breakers to verify proper operation and ensure safe system performance. Valves that no longer operate correctly or exhibit leakage (passing) are either refurbished or replaced when required. The overall Lingan Unit 2 Risk Profile summary is shown above.

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1 (b) The estimate reflects the actual cost of the project. The work was completed using a
2 combination of plant labour and contractors operating under service agreements
3 established through a competitive procurement process. Work was executed on a time-and-
4 materials basis under plant supervision, ensuring that activities were completed in
5 accordance with established quality, safety, and operational requirements and only as found
6 deficiencies were corrected.

7
8 (c) Confirmed. The contractors who completed the work on site were operating under service
9 agreements established through a competitive procurement process. Materials required for
10 the work were also procured in accordance with competitive procurement process, ensuring
11 cost-effectiveness, consistency, and compliance with corporate purchasing standards.

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Request IR-5:

- (a) Please provide a breakdown of the operating costs of \$1,331,000 for 2025.
- (b) Are the operating costs of \$1,331,000 included in the requested approval amount of \$4,392,251 or an additional requested amount?
- (c) Are the operating costs of \$1,331,000 intended to be capitalized, expensed, or included in the FAM balance?

Response IR-5:

- (a) Please refer to below table.

2025 OM&G Cost Category	Cost
Labour	\$729,000
Contracts	\$330,000
Chemicals, Water, Lubricants & Gases	\$117,000
Ash Haulage	\$116,000
Materials	\$26,000
Other	\$13,000
Total OM&G	\$1,331,000

- (b) No. The requested approval amount of \$4,392,251 is for capital expenditures only. There are no operating costs included in this amount and the \$1,331,000 is an additional requested amount to have the 2025 operating costs approved as regulated operating expenditures.
- (c) NS Power expensed \$1,331,000 as non-regulated Lingan Unit 2 operating expenditures in 2025. Consistent with the Board's decision in M11706, which approved the treatment of Lingan Unit 2 operating costs to the end of 2024 as regulated operating expenditures, if approved, these costs will be reclassified to regulated operating expenditures.

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Request IR-6:

The Board notes that NS Power spent close to \$3 million on refurbishment projects over 2023 and 2024.

(a) Please provide a list of all capital project investments for this unit over the past five years, including the detailed scope of work and associated costs.

(b) Why was the proposed work in the project not identified earlier?

Response IR-6:

(a) Please see below a list of all capital project investments for this unit over the past five years, along with the project spend to date.

- CI 51761 – LIN2 2022/23 Winter Capacity Requirement - \$2,526,651
- CI C0059283 – LIN2 2023/24 Winter Capacity Requirement - \$1,663,744
- CI C0067023 – LIN2 2024/25 Capacity Requirement - \$1,287,652

Capital refurbishment or replacements for this unit were completed on the following systems:

- Boiler – Boiler components were inspected, and those that were found to be below minimum allowable thickness for the operating temperature and pressure were refurbished.
- Bottom Ash System – The bottom ash refractory collection hopper was inspected, and the boiler seal water system, ash removal chain conveyor and incline ash belt were refurbished.

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- 1 • Fly Ash System – The fly ash collection system and electrostatic precipitator were
2 inspected and refurbished where required.
3
- 4 • Electrical and Control System – The control/electrical protection equipment and
5 instrumentation were inspected, refurbished, or replaced where necessary.
6
- 7 • Coal System – The Unit 2 coal mills and feeder equipment were inspected and
8 refurbished.
9
- 10 • Valves - The passing valves impacting heat rate and safety were inspected and
11 refurbished or replaced as required.
12
- 13 • Water Systems - The low- and high-pressure feedwater system was inspected for
14 pipe thinning from flow assisted corrosion and piping at the minimum allowable
15 thickness was replaced to safely operate. The cooling water system was inspected
16 and refurbished as required.
17
- 18 (b) Lingan Unit 2 has a different mission and carries a different risk profile than economically
19 dispatched units. Up until the 2026 10-Year System Outlook, the unit was treated as short
20 term capacity with a near term retirement date. The unit is maintained in cold storage so it
21 can be recalled to the system when required, rather than being operated on an economic
22 dispatch basis. As a result, NS Power takes a more targeted and less proactive investment
23 approach for this unit, with capital work determined through equipment inspections,
24 condition assessments and asset risk evaluations around the time of the annual maintenance
25 outage. This allows as-found conditions to be used to make investment decisions and
26 ensures that only critical work required to support safe and reliable operation for another
27 calendar year, as outlined in IR-4. This ensures the least amount of capital is deployed for
28 customers. Now that Lingan Unit 2 is required to operate until at least 2030, NS Power
29 will adjust the approach in alignment with its updated mission and more proactive
30 investment.

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Request IR-7:

At the bottom of page 1 of 6 of the application, the summary of related CIs notes that future Capacity Requirement matters for LIN2 2026/27 and 2027/28 have TBD estimated amounts.

(a) Why are these amounts unknown at this time?

(b) What are these amounts contingent upon?

(c) Please explain the factors that will be considered to determine these estimates.

Response IR-7:

(a) The level of investment required as part of those projects is determined by the expected condition of the assets for each of those years. The expected condition is best determined by the information gleaned during the annual Lingan 2 outage that occurs in the prior year. The amount for the 2026/2027 project is currently expected to be similar to the total value of the 2025/26 project, however the investment required in 2027/28 is not yet fully developed where a reasonable estimate can be provided.

A significant portion of the outage scope can only be determined after equipment is removed from service, opened, inspected, and condition assessed during the annual maintenance outage. While NS Power can identify systems that are likely to require investment based on asset condition, operating history, and risk profiles, the extent of refurbishment or replacement work is often dependent on as-found conditions identified during inspections. As a result, reliable estimates for future Lingan Unit 2 capacity requirement projects cannot be fully developed until the preceding outage inspections have been completed.

(b) These amounts are contingent upon the condition of Lingan 2 assets following inspection, the scope of corrective work required to address identified deficiencies, and the forecast role of the unit into the future. If the utilization of Lingan 2 were to change substantially

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1 from its current state, that will necessarily lead to a change in required investment to safely
2 and reliably operate the unit.

3
4 (c) The estimates will be developed based on equipment inspection findings, condition
5 assessments, asset risk profiles, operating experience, forecast utilization, regulatory and
6 compliance requirements, and the scope of refurbishment or replacement work identified
7 during annual maintenance outages. Particular consideration will be given to the condition
8 of boiler pressure parts, coal and ash handling systems, electrical and control equipment,
9 water systems, turbine systems, generator systems, and other critical equipment required
10 to maintain safe and reliable operation of the unit.

11
12 In addition to routine annual outage work, future estimates may also need to consider larger
13 capital investments associated with major turbine or generator inspections and
14 refurbishments should condition assessments indicate that such work is required to support
15 Ligan Unit 2's continued operation and reliability mission. The timing and extent of any
16 such investment will depend on future inspection results, asset condition, and the planned
17 utilization of the unit.