



August 20, 2026

REDACTED

Lisa Wallace
Chief Clerk of the Board
Nova Scotia Energy Board
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
Halifax, NS B3J 3S3

Re: M13021 – DRO Appeal – S.L. Doward

Dear Ms. Wallace:

In the Nova Scotia Energy Board's (Board, NSEB) letter dated August 6, 2026 the Board directed as follows:

By copy of this letter, the Board directs Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NS Power, the Company) to file a response with the Board to the enclosed appeal on or before **2:00 PM on Thursday, August 20, 2026**, and to provide a copy of the complete file reviewed by the DRO in reaching its decision, including any supporting information and comments NS Power wishes the Board to consider. NS Power must also provide a copy of their response to [S. L. Doward].

S.L. Doward is appealing a decision by the Dispute Resolution Officer (DRO) dated August 3, 2026 advising that as the nature of the complaint does not relate to an interpretation of the Regulations, the DRO does not have jurisdiction to deal with the complaint. The decision from the DRO and the originating email from S.L. Doward are included as **Confidential Attachment 1**.

Please accept the following summary of activities and communications pertaining to the August 3, 2026 DRO decision being appealed by S. L. Doward:

Ms. Doward filed a complaint with the Board on August 5, 2026 regarding current transformer placement and proposed additional electrical lines and potential poles.

Ms. Doward lives at [REDACTED] which is on the northeast corner of Oxford Street and Norwood Street in Halifax.

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Figure 1 -Front View of Doward property (Oxford Street)



Figure 2 - Side View (Norwood Street)



Ms. Doward says that the “electrical” is currently not located at a safe distance to the home and the bedrooms. Ms. Doward says that recently there have been two red-tipped stakes placed in the boulevard (the grass strip between the road and the sidewalk on Norwood Street which includes an HRM right-of-way), and the stakes are only 10 feet from the wall of the house. According to S.L. Doward, there was supposed to be a replacement tree planted in the boulevard on Norwood Street.

Ms. Doward says that the lights from the crosswalk and the streetlights shine into the front bedroom “lighting it up all night like a football stadium.” Ms. Doward is also concerned about the inability to block the lights and the amount of electromagnetic fields (EMFs) present.

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Figure 3 -View of crosswalk and streetlights facing [REDACTED]



Ms. Doward has contacted NS Power and Halifax Regional Municipality (311) about the bright lights, flashing crosswalk lights and the sub-lights, as well as an apparent plan to remove a tree in front of the residence to add more signage.

Ms. Doward's specific request is for NS Power to halt whatever is currently planned with the stakes on the corner of Oxford and Norwood Streets, to investigate the EMF control and the multitude of lights, and to provide a written response regarding corrective resolution of these issues.

In an email dated August 6, 2026 to the NSEB, Ms. Doward provided further context for the concerns, wanting to know why it is necessary for another power pole to be erected so close to the [REDACTED] property, saying "...placing these poles/supports will interfere with our use of direct access to our gates, our courtyard door entrance and the replanting of the tree that was removed from there previously."

NS Power provides the following response and information for context.

The two stakes are located in the HRM right-of-way between the Doward driveway and the corner of Oxford Street. Below is a photo of the two stakes on the grass on Norwood Street heading toward Oxford Street.

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Figure 4 – Marker Stakes on HRM Right-of-Way on Norwood Street



The two stakes represent the location of work to be completed by NS Power as a result of a customer request for an upgrade related to a property renovation.

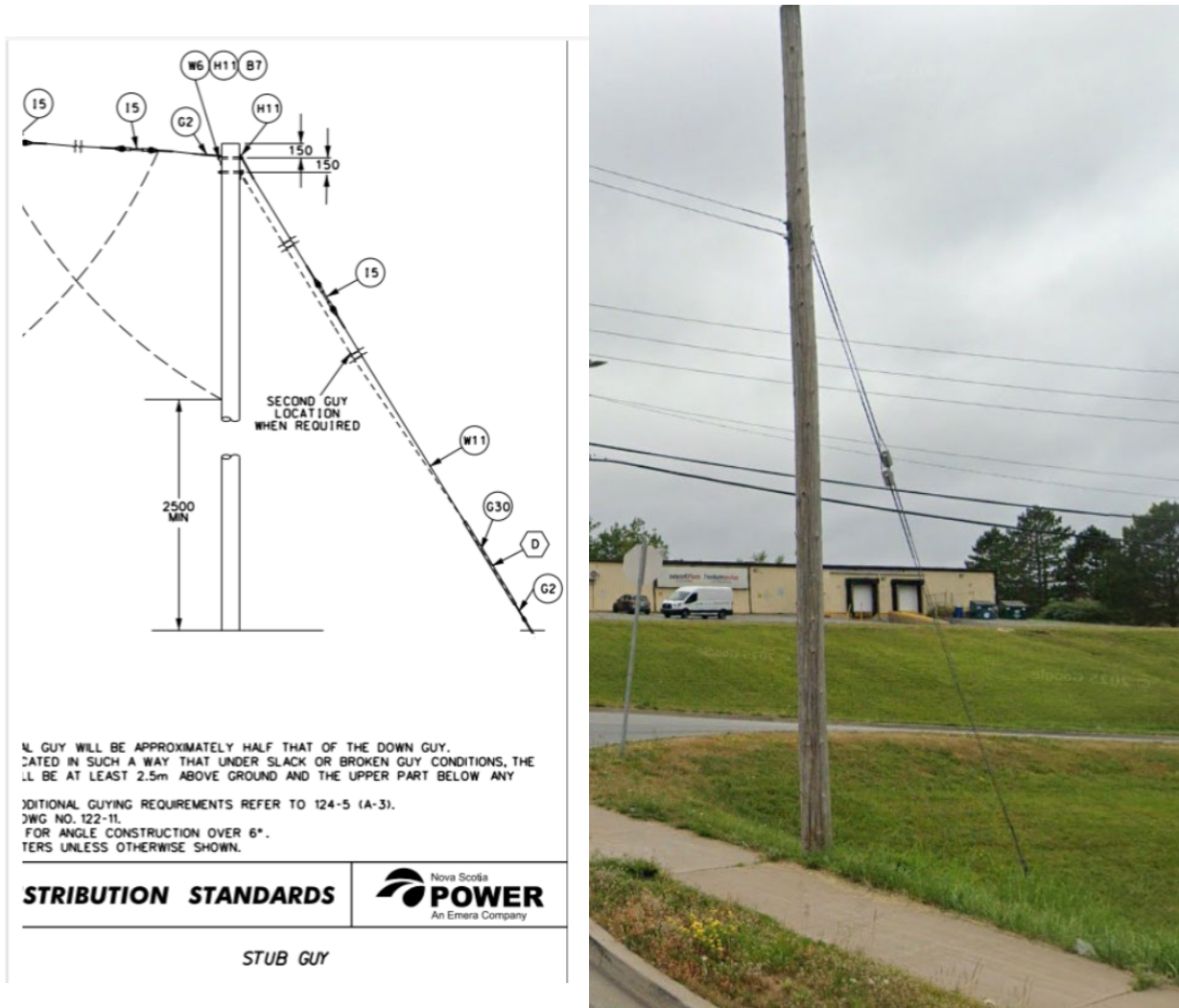
The requesting customer's electrician requires additional power supply to the Norwood property as part of a renovation project, and in late July one of NS Power's regional planners created a design to accommodate the upgraded power request.

The design includes replacing an existing pole on Norwood Street and adding a new transformer there. The stake located closest to the Doward driveway is for a 35-foot stub pole required to hold the tension of the upstream conductors. The stake located closer to the corner of Oxford Street is for a buried anchor for that stub pole, to which a non-energized overhead guy wire would be attached. This combined structure (pole plus guy wire) would support a new pole and conductor to be located further down Norwood Street. That new pole would support energized secondary line (120/240 domestic voltage) which would cross Norwood overhead to supply the requesting upgrade customer who made the original request.

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The generic stub pole design and a photographic example are provided below.

Figure 5 - Representative Stub Pole Diagram and Photographic Example



The existing tree(s) and the location stakes are in the HRM right-of-way over the property, and HRM is required to approve any work done on its right-of-way. NS Power included HRM pole permits as part of the construction work order accompanying the renovation order. If HRM approves the permits, then NS Power will be able to place the new poles in the HRM right-of-way to satisfy the electrical requirements for the customer requesting the upgrade. The construction order is in the “design complete” stage and cannot proceed without those HRM permits and other prerequisites.

Other options to supply the necessary power were considered and rejected at the planning stage, partly because they would increase congestion at the Oxford / Norwood intersection and would require additional poles on Norwood and possibly Oxford.

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The current design also minimizes the amount of tree trimming which would be required on Norwood Street and largely preserves the existing tree canopy, subject to the HRM vegetation management requirements.

S.L. Doward's premises are supplied from a 25 kV line on Oxford, and NS Power acknowledges that this work provides no direct benefit to the Doward property.

With respect to the crosswalk lights and streetlights on Oxford Street, that infrastructure is owned and operated by HRM, and NS Power has no input into the placement or intensity of the lights. Any concerns about the lighting should be addressed by HRM.

Similarly, any concerns about existing or proposed trees in the HRM right-of-way should be directed to HRM rather than to NS Power.

In summary, the 35-foot stub pole proposed to be erected on Norwood Street next to the Doward residence will not be energized and will not pose any danger to the safety or comfort of the residents. However, construction cannot proceed until HRM has approved the permits for the pole (and the other poles required as part of the upgrade).

The stub pole will not directly affect access to the Doward driveway on Norwood Street and should not impact the use of the courtyard door leading to the street.

NS Power understands Ms. Doward's frustration with the existing and proposed infrastructure, but the regional planning group tries to minimize any impact on the customer's enjoyment of the property while accommodating construction needs. NS Power will keep Ms. Doward informed about the status of the construction and the pole installation and can ask the Metro Reliability Advisor to communicate with Ms. Doward directly if that would be helpful.

Please consider the enclosed information confidential due to the personal nature of the information that has been provided. NS Power has forwarded a copy of this correspondence to Ms. Doward by e-mail.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Ross', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jennifer Ross
Director, Regulatory Planning & Compliance

c. S.L. Doward (by email)

REDACTED (CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REMOVED)

Doward DRO Appeal Confidential Attachment 1 has been removed due to confidentiality.