Blackburn Law Inc.

November 12, 2026

VIA EMAIL

Ms. Crystal Henwood
Clerk of the Board
Nova Scotia Energy Board
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
Halifax NS B3J 3S3

Dear Ms. Henwood:

Re: M13113 – Nova Scotia Independent Energy System Operator (IESO Nova Scotia) – 2025-2026 Annual Report

The Small Business Advocate (SBA) has reviewed IESO Nova Scotia's 2025-2026 Annual Report (the "Report") and appreciates the opportunity to provide has the following comments.

- Page 8 – Douglas Reid, The Chair of the IESO Nova Scotia's Board refers in the first paragraph to "stronger accountability". It would be helpful to understand how the separating of the system operations and planning functions from generation and distribution functions creates stronger accountability, especially in light of concerns raised regarding what would happen in the event IESO Nova Scotia was found to be imprudent in some way.

- Page 19 – The SBA would appreciate some clarification of exactly what IESO Nova Scotia's role will be with respect to real-time system operations and dispatch, given the reference in the second-last paragraph to IESO Nova Scotia providing 'oversight' and 'support'. If IESO Nova Scotia is providing oversight and support, what entity will be carrying out the operations and dispatch?

- Page 26 – IESO Nova Scotia refers to the work that it is intending to carry out in 2026-2027 in relation to the next phase. The second-last paragraph lists several areas of work. It would be helpful in the future if this work, and the progress that is being made, was provided by IESO Nova Scotia in a Gantt chart, so that stakeholders and the Board can understand how the schedule is progressing and what work is complete.

Yours very truly,

Melissa P. MacAdam
Small Business Advocate

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