

November 14, 2016

Doreen Friis
Regulatory Affairs Officer/Clerk
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M"
Halifax, NS B3J 3S3

Re: 2017 Annual Capital Expenditure (ACE) Plan

Dear Ms. Friis:

A confidential copy of Nova Scotia Power Inc.'s (NS Power) 2017 Annual Capital Expenditure (ACE) Plan Application has been uploaded to the Board's confidential repository. A redacted version has been posted to the Utility and Review Board's (Board, UARB) public website. Eight confidential hard copies and one redacted hard copy of the Application will be provided to the Board.

Notable items in the 2017 ACE Plan include:

- A list of capital projects for which NS Power is seeking approval.
- A list of capital routines for which NS Power is seeking approval.
- A list of capital projects to be submitted at a later date for subsequent approval.
- Responses to stakeholder engagement commitments and UARB ACE Plan Decision directives from prior proceedings.

Certain information filed in support of the 2017 ACE Plan Application is filed with the request that the Board hold it in confidence. Such information has been redacted from the publically available copy of the Application. Pursuant to Rule 12 of the Board Regulatory Rules, NS Power requests confidential treatment of certain portions of the material filed in support of the Capital Work Orders submitted for approval. NS Power also provides with this correspondence a Confidential Undertaking for the Board's approval.

NS Power has attempted to minimize the information for which it seeks confidential treatment in this Application. Attached to this letter is a “Confidentiality Matrix” which lists the individual capital work orders submitted for approval and their corresponding cost and technical support attachments. Designation of partial confidentiality for the capital work orders and their supporting documents is identified in the Confidentiality Matrix, and it includes explanations for the confidentiality being claimed.

Supporting documentation for individual capital work orders, and referenced in the Confidentiality Matrix, include:

- 13 Cost Support documents
 - Includes quotes, estimates, proposals, offers, supporting reports, and price indications.
- 13 Technical Support documents
 - Includes assessment reports, product bulletins, planning studies, line maps, and photos.

Confidentiality of this information falls into the following three broad categories:

1. Commercially sensitive cost information
2. Third party propriety information
3. System security

With respect to third party proprietary and commercially sensitive cost information, NS Power has made efforts to contact the vendors to advise of the Board’s preference for transparency and non-confidentiality, and to request that they advise if there is confidential content which requires redaction.

Unless a vendor asserted additional confidentiality of their document, only commercially sensitive cost information was redacted. Where a vendor asserted confidentiality of other portions of the supporting document such as technical information, NS Power has redacted the document in accordance with the vendor’s specifications.

To aid the UARB and stakeholders in their review of NS Power's economically justified projects, NS Power has uploaded to the Board's confidential repository the Excel versions of the Economic Analysis Models filed in support of the individual capital items. Due to the inability to properly redact partially confidential information in electronic Excel files, these documents are filed as confidential. The PDF versions of these files have been partially redacted.

Please also find attached the following:

- The 2017 ACE Plan Database which provides a listing of all 2017 ACE Plan projects and corresponding information.
- An Excel version of NS Power's Long-Term Capital Planning & Revenue Requirement table found in Section 8.1.1 of the 2017 ACE Plan.

Pursuant to the 2015 ACE Plan stakeholder engagement and NS Power's corresponding report of June 30, 2015, it was agreed that NS Power would provide both the ACE Plan database and the Q3 quarterly capital report updated with ACE Plan projects. The Q3 capital package and corresponding report is expected to be filed with the UARB by November 18, 2016.

NS Power respectfully requests:

1. The UARB establish a process for review of NS Power's 2017 ACE Plan.
2. UARB approval of the attached Confidentiality Undertaking, and confidential treatment of certain information filed in support of the 2017 ACE Plan as described herein and in accordance with Board Rule 12.
3. UARB approval of 71 Capital Items with 2017 budget spending of \$54.8 million and total project spending of \$72.6 million.
4. UARB approval of the capital routine programs with 2017 budget spending of \$80.2 million.

November 14, 2016
D. Friis

If there are any questions or comments with respect to any of the above, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Curry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Curry" clearly distinguishable.

Brian Curry
Regulatory Counsel

Encl.

c. Judith Ferguson
Tim Wood