

**NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

AN ORDER OF THE BOARD

NO. P.U. 8(2017)

1 **IN THE MATTER OF** the *Electrical Power*
2 *Control Act, 1994*, SNL 1994, Chapter E-5.1
3 (the “*EPCA*”) and the *Public Utilities Act*, RSNL
4 1990, Chapter P-47 (the “*Act*”), as amended,
5 and regulations thereunder; and
6

7 **IN THE MATTER OF** an application by
8 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for approval
9 to delay the filing of its General Rate Application
10 pursuant to sections 70, 71 and 76 of the *Act*.
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12

13 **WHEREAS** Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) is a corporation continued and
14 existing under the *Hydro Corporation Act*, is a public utility within the meaning of the *Act*, and
15 is subject to the provisions of the *EPCA*; and
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17 **WHEREAS** on February 20, 2017 the Board received an application from Hydro requesting
18 approval to file its next General Rate Application (“GRA”) on or before July 31, 2017 reflecting
19 2018 and 2019 test years (the “Application”); and
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21 **WHEREAS** the Application was copied to: Newfoundland Power Inc.; the Consumer Advocate,
22 Dennis Browne, Q.C.; a group of Island Industrial customers: Corner Brook Pulp and Paper
23 Limited and NARL Refining Limited Partnership (the “Industrial Customer Group”); Vale
24 Newfoundland and Labrador Limited (“Vale”); Praxair Canada Inc.; and Teck Resources
25 Limited; and
26

27 **WHEREAS** pursuant to Order No. P.U. 49(2016), Hydro is required to file its next GRA by
28 March 31, 2017 for rates based on a 2018 test year; and
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30 **WHEREAS** the Application stated that since a final order establishing customer rates from
31 Hydro’s last GRA is unlikely to be issued prior to March 31, 2017, filing the GRA in accordance
32 with Order No. P.U. 49(2016) would require the use of assumptions; and
33

34 **WHEREAS** the Application also submitted it would be preferable to have one rate change on
35 July 1, 2017 to reflect the impacts of both the final order in the last GRA as well as the annual
36 adjustment in the Rate Stabilization Account; and

1 **WHERAS** the Application submitted that permitting Hydro to delay the filing of its next GRA
2 to on or before July 31, 2017 would allow the orderly establishment of rates and is consistent
3 with regulatory efficiency and regulatory practice; and
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5 **WHEREAS** Newfoundland Power, the Industrial Customer Group, Vale and the Consumer
6 Advocate advised the Board that they did not object to the Application though Vale submitted
7 that the delay in the filing should be minimized to the extent possible in light of concerns in
8 relation to the specifically assigned charge; and
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10 **WHEREAS** the Application provided no basis or explanation for Hydro's proposal to file its
11 next GRA application based on two test years; and
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13 **WHEREAS** there is insufficient evidence to make a determination on Hydro's request to file its
14 next GRA based on two test years; and
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16 **WHEREAS** the Board is satisfied that it is reasonable and appropriate to extend the date for the
17 filing of Hydro's next GRA to no later than July 31, 2017 and that Hydro's proposal that the
18 GRA be based on both a 2018 and 2019 test year can be filed as a part of the GRA.
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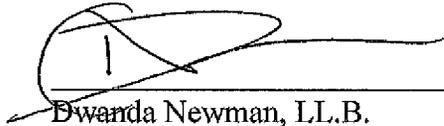
21 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**
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- 23 1. Hydro shall file its next general rate application no later than July 31, 2017.
- 24 2. Hydro shall pay all expenses of the Board arising from this Application.
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DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 16th day of March, 2017.



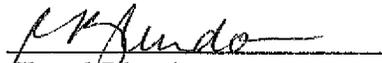
Darlene Whalen, P.Eng.
Vice-Chair



Dwarda Newman, LL.B.
Commissioner



James Oxford
Commissioner



Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary