NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

AN ORDER OF THE BOARD

NO. P.U. 30(2021)

1

3435

36

37

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,
4	RSNL 1990, Chapter P-47 (the " <i>Act</i> "), as
5	amended, and regulations thereunder; and
6	
7	IN THE MATTER OF an application filed by
8	Newfoundland Power Inc. on December 16, 2020
9	for approval of, among other things, supplemental
10	2021 capital expenditures related to the construction
11	of an electric vehicle charging network associated with
12	the implementation of new electrification programming
13	set out in the joint utility Electrification, Conservation
14	and Demand Management Plan 2021-2025; and
15	
16	IN THE MATTER OF an application filed by
17	Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro on June 16, 2021
18	for approval of, among other things, supplemental
19	2021 capital expenditures related to the construction
20	of an electric vehicle charging network associated with
21	the implementation of new electrification programming
22	set out in the joint utility Electrification, Conservation
23	and Demand Management Plan 2021-2025; and
24	
25	IN THE MATTER OF the application by Newfoundland
26	Power Inc. and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for
27	approval of 2021 capital expenditures for electric vehicle
28	charging stations pursuant to section 41 of the <i>Act</i> .
29	
30	
31	WHEREAS on December 16, 2020 Newfoundland Power Inc. ("Newfoundland Power") filed an
32	application (the "Newfoundland Power Application") for approvals required for the execution of
33	electrification programming related to the joint utility Electrification, Conservation and Demand
34	Management Plan 2021-2025 (the "2021 Plan"); and

WHEREAS the Newfoundland Power Application requested approval of, among other things,

supplemental 2021 capital expenditures of approximately \$1.5 million for the construction of ten

electric vehicle ("EV") charging stations throughout its service territory with recovery from customers to be reduced by the amount received of the requested federal funding of approximately \$550,000; and

WHEREAS the Newfoundland Power Application was copied to the Consumer Advocate, Dennis Browne, Q.C. (the "Consumer Advocate") and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro"); and

WHEREAS on June 16, 2021 Hydro filed an application (the "Hydro Application") for approvals required for the execution of electrification programming related to the 2021 Plan; and

WHEREAS the Hydro Application requested approval of, among other things, supplemental 2021 capital expenditures of approximately \$1.1 million for the construction of six EV charging stations on the Island and \$500,000 for the construction of three EV charging stations in Labrador with recovery from customers of the Island charging stations to be reduced by the amount received of requested federal funding of \$330,000, and with no recovery of costs for the Labrador locations; and

WHEREAS the Hydro Application was copied to: Newfoundland Power; the Consumer Advocate; Hydro's Island Industrial customers: Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited, NARL Refining Limited Partnership, Vale Newfoundland and Labrador Limited (the "Island Industrial Customers"); Iron Ore Company of Canada; Teck Resources Limited; Praxair Canada Inc.; and the communities of Sheshatshiu, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Wabush, and Labrador City; and

WHEREAS on August 30, 2021 the Board advised the parties that the Newfoundland Power Application and the Hydro Application would be joined and proceed as one matter (the "Applications"); and

WHEREAS on September 7, 2021 the Island Industrial Customers requested that the Board convene a technical conference to provide Hydro the opportunity to address certain issues identified by the Island Industrial Customers and any other issues which may be identified by the Board and the other parties; and

WHEREAS on September 10, 2021 Hydro requested that the proposed 2021 supplemental capital expenditures for EV charging stations be heard on a timely and stand-alone basis to address the risk that a regulatory process which extends beyond September 2021 would pose to the approved federal funding for these charging stations; and

WHEREAS on September 17, 2021 the Board wrote the parties to advise that, to ensure a timely decision, the proposed supplemental 2021 EV charging station capital expenditures would be separated from the other proposals in the Applications and would be considered on a stand-alone basis as soon as possible; and

WHEREAS this Order relates to the supplemental 2021 EV charging station capital expenditures proposed by Newfoundland Power and Hydro and the remaining issues associated with the

Applications, including how approved capital expenditures would be recovered from customers, will be addressed in a subsequent order of the Board; and

WHEREAS the evidence filed as part of the Applications shows that all or a portion of the federal funding available to offset the supplemental 2021 capital expenditures proposed by Newfoundland Power and Hydro for EV charging stations may be jeopardized if approval of these capital expenditures is not granted by the end of September 2021; and

 WHEREAS the Board is satisfied that the supplemental 2021 capital expenditures proposed in the Newfoundland Power Application and the Hydro Application for the deployment of EV charging stations should be approved with recovery, net of funding, from customers for the Island EV charging stations and that, to ensure timely approval, the Board will issue its reasons for decision in respect of this Order separately; and

WHEREAS a decision as to the expenses of the Board and the costs of the parties arising from the Applications will be made by the Board in the subsequent order related to the Applications.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Newfoundland Power Inc.'s proposed supplemental 2021 capital expenditure for the deployment of EV charging stations, in the amount of approximately \$1.5 million, is approved.

2. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's proposed supplemental 2021 capital expenditure for the deployment of EV charging stations, in the amount of \$1.6 million, is approved.

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 29th day of September, 2021.

Darlene Whalen, P. Eng., FEC
Chair and Chief Executive Officer

Dwanda Newman, LL.B.

Vice-Chair

John O'Brien, FCPA, FCA, CISA

Commissioner

Christopher Pike, LL.B., FCIP

Commissioner

Cheryl Blundon Board Secretary