General

- Q. In Newfoundland Power's Nov 9, 2023 media release relating to the GRA, it is stated that an average rate increase of 1.5%, or \$1.50 on a \$100 electricity bill is proposed effective July 1, 2024, and an average increase of approximately 5.5%, or \$5.50 on a \$100 electricity bill is proposed effective July 1, 2025. The media release goes on to say "We know that these are challenging times for our customers and we understand that reliable service at affordable rates is more important now than ever" (Gary Murray, President and Chief Executive Officer, Newfoundland Power).
 - a) Please confirm that the quoted rate increases do not include future rate adjustments to collect revenue shortfalls in 2024, 2025 and 2026 that Newfoundland Power proposes to include in a deferral account for future recovery from customers. What would the rate increases be in dollar and percentage terms if Newfoundland Power were to collect the deferred amounts on July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025?
 - b) Please confirm that this does not include other rate adjustments expected July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025 such as the accumulated balance in the Rate Stabilization Account as of March 31st, 2024, and changes in the Utility Rate charged by Hydro to Newfoundland Power as a result of Hydro's Muskrat Falls Project Cost Recovery rider, the Rate Stabilization Plan and the Conservation and Demand Management Cost Recovery Adjustment. What would the rate increases be in percentage and dollar terms on July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025 if these rate adjustments and the amounts in deferral amounts discussed in part (a) of this RFI are included?
 - c) What would the energy charge be in cents/kWh for Domestic customers on July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025 if all rate adjustments discussed in part (b) of this RFI are included? Please freeze the basic customer charge at today's level.
 - d) Does Newfoundland Power agree that its press release of November 9, 2023, referred to above, understates the total average increase a customer will see on a \$100 electricity bill effective July 1, 2024 and effective July 1, 2025, from all sources?

A. a) The proposed customer rate increases referenced in the Request for Information are based on Newfoundland Power's 2024 Rate of Return on Rate Base Application and the proposals included in its 2025/2026 General Rate Application. This includes the amortization of 2024 and 2025 revenue shortfall amounts.

The proposed customer rate increases in these applications of 1.5% and 5.5%, respectively, do not include the annual July 1st rate adjustment which is subject to future applications to be filed by both Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro and the Company.

Information required to file the application to adjust rates on July 1st will not be available until April at the earliest. However, Newfoundland Power estimates the

impact of the July $1^{\rm st}$ rate adjustments to be 7.5% on July 1, 2024 and 2.25% on July 1, 2025. 1

The total estimated average customer rate increase on July 1, 2024 is 9%, or \$9.00 on a \$100 electricity bill. The total estimated average customer rate increase on July 1, 2025 is 7.75%, or \$7.75 on a \$100 electricity bill.

- b) See part a).
- c) The domestic energy charge, which reflects the customer rate proposals in Newfoundland Power's 2024 Rate of Return on Rate Base Application and its 2025/2026 General Rate Application, is 13.449 ¢/kWh on July 1, 2024 and 14.178 ¢/kWh on July 1, 2025.²

Incorporating estimated July 1st rate adjustments into these energy charges would increase the amounts to an estimated 14.5 ϕ /kWh on July 1, 2024 and 15.6 ϕ /kWh on July 1, 2025.

d) Newfoundland Power's press release of November 9, 2023 was issued for the purpose of notifying customers about its 2024 Rate of Return on Rate Base Application and 2025/2026 General Rate Application and the proposals contained therein. As such, it outlines the proposed customer rate changes that the Company is seeking in those applications.

See the 2025/2026 General Rate Application, Volume 2, Tab 3, Customer, Energy and Demand Forecast, 3.2 Energy Prices Outlook.

² See the 2025/2026 General Rate Application, Volume 1, Exhibit 11.