## NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

## AN ORDER OF THE BOARD

NO. P.U. 30(2024)

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,
4	RSNL 1990, Chapter P-47 (the "Act"), as
5	amended, and regulations thereunder; and
6	
7	IN THE MATTER OF an application by
8	Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for approval
9	of the sale of the wind farm assets portion of the
10	Ramea Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel Generation Project,
11	pursuant to sections 38 and 48 of the <b>Act.</b>
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14	WHEREAS Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") is a corporation continued and existing
15	under the Hydro Corporation Act, 2007, is a public utility within the meaning of the Act, and is
16	also subject to the provisions of the <b>EPCA</b> ; and
17	
18	WHEREAS in Order No. P.U. 31(2007), the Board approved the construction of a Wind-Hydrogen
19	Diesel System on the Town of Ramea's isolated diesel system as a research and development
20	project, based on the conditions that the costs of the system would be treated as non-regulated
21	ratepayers would not bear any of the costs related to the system and Hydro would provide
22	quarterly reports on the status of the Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System; and
23	MULTIPLAC in Order No. D. I. 10/2022) the Decad engage of should approve of the hydrogen accept
24 25	WHEREAS in Order No. P.U. 10(2023), the Board approved abandonment of the hydrogen assets
26	related to the Ramea Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System as the hydrogen system had not been in operation since 2014 and, if steps to decommission were not taken, maintenance costs would be
20 27	necessary in the future; and
28	necessary in the ruture, and
29	WHEREAS on December 6, 2024 Hydro filed an application requesting approval to:
30	(i) sell the wind farm assets of the Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System, including three 100
31	kW wind turbines, to Frontier Power Systems ("Frontier") for the sale price of
32	\$420,000; and
33	(ii) abandon the wind farm assets (the "Application"); and

WHEREAS the Application states that since the cessation of operations of the Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System and the decommissioning of the hydrogen assets, Hydro has been evaluating the most cost-effective alternative for the wind farm assets; and

**WHEREAS** the Application states due to maintenance issues of the wind turbines all operational activities ceased and the wind turbines have not operated since the first quarter of 2019 and capital investment is anticipated to return the turbines to operation; and

**WHEREAS** the Application states Hydro considered a number of alternatives for the wind turbines and has determined that the least-cost option, with most benefit to customers, would be to sell the wind farm assets to Frontier and enter into a Power Purchase Agreement similar to its existing agreement with the purchase price for energy at 90% of the cost of diesel fuel; and

**WHEREAS** the Application further states there are no known existing or potential Hydro customers impacted by the removal of these assets and there is no negative financial impact to ratepayers with respect to the decommissioning of these assets; and

**WHEREAS** section 38 of the **Act** provides that written consent of the Board to abandon part of a line or works shall only be given after notice is provided to an interested incorporated municipal body; and

**WHEREAS** Hydro provided written notice to the Town of Ramea of its intention to sell the wind farm assets to a local independent power producer who will incorporate those assets into their operation; and

**WHEREAS** the Application was copied to: Newfoundland Power Inc.; the Consumer Advocate, Dennis Browne, KC; a group of Island Industrial customers: Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited, Braya Renewable Fuels (Newfoundland) GP Inc., and Vale Newfoundland and Labrador Limited; Teck Resources Limited; and Linde Canada Inc.; and

WHEREAS no comments were received; and

**WHEREAS** on December 12, 2024 Hydro requested that the Board approve the Application as submitted; and

**WHEREAS** the Board is satisfied that the sale of the wind farm assets of the Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System to Frontier and the abandonment of these assets by Hydro is the most beneficial solution for customers and their sale will not adversely affect the reliability of the service provided and should be approved.

## **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

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1. The sale of the wind farm assets of the Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System to Frontier Power Systems for the price of \$420,000 is approved.

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6 2. The abandonment of the wind farm assets is approved.

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8 3. Hydro shall pay all costs and expenses of the Board related to this application.

**DATED** at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024.

Kevin Fagan

Chair and Chief Executive Officer

John O'Brien, FCPA, FCA, CISA

commissioner

Christopher Pike, LL.B., FCIP

Commissioner

ൾ-Anne Galarneau

**Executive Director and Board Secretary**