DELIVERED BY HAND

July 13, 2016
Board of Commissioners
of Public Utilities
P.O. Box 21040

120 Torbay Road
St. John's, NL A1A 5B2
Attention: G. Cheryl Blundon
Director of Corporate Services and Board Secretary

Ladies \& Gentlemen:
Re: Newfoundland Power Inc.- Approval of a plan for the Refund to Newfoundland Power's Customers of a Surplus Balance in Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's Rate Stabilization Plan (RSP) - Clarification on Section 3.2 Credit to Existing Balance,

## A. Introductory

This is in reply to the Board's letter dated July $12^{\text {th }}$, 2016 requesting a definition of the term "outstanding balance" as used in Section 3.2 Credit to Existing Balance of the Newfoundland Power Customer Refund Plan (the "Plan"), as well as examples of its application to specific circumstances.

## B. Definition of "Outstanding Balance"

In drafting the Plan, consistency with Newfoundland Power's Schedule of Rates, Rules and Regulations was a key consideration for the Company. The term "outstanding balance", as used in the Plan, means an amount that is due and payable by the Customer to the Company. Regulation 10 (c) in the Schedule of Rates, Rules and Regulations provides, in part, that "bills are due and payable when issued." A Customer's "outstanding balance" therefore includes any unpaid balance related to electricity bills issued on or before the Payment Date, but does not include any amount for unbilled electricity consumption.

Before a refund cheque is issued to the Customer under Section 3.3 of the Plan, the refund will first be credited against the outstanding balance on the Customer's account or accounts. The Customer's outstanding balance includes the unpaid balance of any current bill or bills issued to the Customer as of the Payment Date, and any unpaid arrears in respect of previously issued bills. It does not include any amounts attributable to the Customer's electricity consumption subsequent to the most recently issued bill.

## C. Examples Requested

If the Payment Date is November $30^{\text {th }}$, the Customer's most recent bill was issued on November $20^{\text {th }}$, and the customer has paid all previously issued bills but has not yet paid the November $20^{\text {th }}$ bill, the Customer`s outstanding balance is simply the current balance reflected on the November $20^{\text {th }}$ bill.

If the Payment Date is November $30^{\text {th }}$, the Customer`s most recent bill issued on November $20^{\text {th }}$ has not been paid, and the customer is in arrears with respect to a previously issued bill, the Customer's outstanding balance is the total of the current balance reflected on the November $20^{\text {th }}$ bill and the unpaid balance of the previously issued bill.

If the Payment Date is November $30^{\text {th }}$, and the Customer has paid all of their electricity bills, including the most recent bill issued on November $20^{\text {th }}$, a refund cheque will be issued for the entire refund to which the Customer is entitled.

In the above examples, under no circumstances will any portion of the Customer's refund to be paid on November $30^{\text {li }}$ be credited towards electricity consumed subsequent to issuance of the most recent (i.e. November $20^{\text {th }}$ ) bill.

## D. Concluding

If you require further clarification or have further questions, please contact the undersigned.


Enclosures
c. Geoffrey Young
Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro

Thomas Johnson, QC
Consumer Advocate

## Newfoundland Power Inc.

