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2025-02-27

Ms. Shirley Walsh
Senior Legal Counsel, Regulatory
Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro
P.O. Box 12400
Hydro Place, Columbus Drive
St. John's, NL A1B 4K7

Dear Ms. Walsh:

Re: Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro - 2025 Capital Budget Supplemental Application - Application for the Purchase and Installation of a Runner at the Cat Arm Hydroelectric Generating Station - Requests for Information

Enclosed are Requests for Information PUB-NLH-001 to PUB-NLH-011 regarding the above-noted matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Board's Legal Counsel, Ms. Jacquelyn, by email, jglynn@pub.nl.ca or by telephone 709-726-6781.

Sincerely,

Jo-Anne Galarneau
Executive Director and Board Secretary

JAG/cj

ecc **Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro**
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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
9 approval of capital expenditures for the
10 purchase and installation of a runner at the
11 Cat Arm Hydroelectric Generating Station
12 pursuant to section 41(3) of the **Act**.

PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD
REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

PUB-NLH-001 to PUB-NLH-011

Issued: February 27, 2025

- 1 **PUB-NLH-001** In Order No. P.U. 28(2024) the Board approved Hydro’s 2025 Capital Budget
2 of \$135,712,800.
3 (i) Please provide Hydro’s updated 2025 approved capital expenditures to
4 date, including if this application is approved.
5 (ii) Please provide Hydro’s expected total 2025 capital expenditures,
6 including any further anticipated capital expenditure requests.
7
- 8 **PUB-NLH-002** Please explain why this project was not included in the 5-year Capital Plan
9 filed as part of Hydro’s 2025 Capital Budget Application.
10
- 11 **PUB-NLH-003** Please confirm the age of the spare Pelton runner that will be used on Unit 1.
12
- 13 **PUB-NLH-004** Please explain how Hydro determined to use the spare Pelton runner on Unit
14 1 and wait on a replacement runner for Unit 2.
15
- 16 **PUB-NLH-005** What actions, if any, did Hydro take when the signs of cavitation were first
17 observed in 2014?
18
- 19 **PUB-NLH-006** Hydro states that the field inspections completed during the 2023 annual
20 outage concluded that the runners were at the end of their life cycle and
21 should be replaced.
22 (i) Did Hydro, the OEM or both parties jointly make this conclusion about
23 replacement?
24 (ii) Was replacement not actioned following the 2023 annual outage
25 because a third-party was not on-site for the inspections? Were there
26 other reasons that replacement was not actioned at that time?
27
- 28 **PUB-NLH-007** (i) Why did Hydro use a third-party expert and not the OEM to conduct an
29 on-site inspection during the 2024 annual outage?
30 (ii) Please provide the name of the third-party expert used by Hydro, and
31 copies of any reports provided to Hydro, in the assessment of the
32 runners in 2024.
33
- 34 **PUB-NLH-008** What actions, if any, did Hydro take to mitigate the risk of failure between the
35 2023 annual outage and the 2024 annual outage?
36
- 37 **PUB-NLH-009** Did Hydro consider if efficiency gains were possible through either design or
38 materials when selecting a replacement runner?
39
- 40 **PUB-NLH-010** Did Hydro consider:
41 (i) refurbishing the runner from Unit 1 and using it as replacement for Unit
42 2; and/or
43 (ii) refurbishing the Unit 2 runner to be used as a spare?
44
- 45 **PUB-NLH-011** Will approval of this project impact the planned schedule for any previously
46 approved capital projects, due to labour availability or otherwise?

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland this 27th day of February, 2025.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Per



Jo-Anne Galaneau
Executive Director and Board Secretary