Section 3: Finance/Fair Return

Q. Reference: "2025/2026 General Rate Application," Newfoundland Power Inc., December 12, 2023, vol. 1, Evidence, sec. 3.2.4, p. 3-7, Table 3-5. What specific costs are included in Pension and OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Expenses?

A. Newfoundland Power maintains defined contribution and defined benefit pension plans for its employees and also provides an OPEB plan.

Pension expense consists of costs related to the Company's defined contribution and defined benefit pension plans. The Company's defined contribution plans are its individual and group registered retirement savings plans. The Company's defined benefit plans are its funded defined benefit pension plan, an unfunded pension uniformity plan ("PUP"), and an unfunded supplementary employee retirement plan ("SERP"). The SERP provides supplemental pension benefits to plan members that would otherwise be limited by the maximum level of contributions permitted by income tax legislation. The funded defined benefit pension plan and the PUP are closed to new entrants.

The OPEB plan is composed of retirement allowances for retiring employees as well as health, medical and life insurance for retirees and their dependents.

_

See Order No. P.U. 7 (1996-97), pages 53 to 54, for the Board's determination that the cost of the PUP is reasonable for inclusion in the Company's revenue requirement.

The SERP replaced the Company's former PUP, effective January 1, 1999.