

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
120 Torbay Road, P.O. Box 21040, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, A1A 5B2

**Transcript of
PUBLIC HEARING**

**Newfoundland Power Inc.
2025-2026 General Rate Application**

July 9, 2024

Present for the Board:

Kevin Fagan, Chair and Chief Executive Officer
Dwanda Newman, LL.B, Vice-Chair
John O'Brien, FCPA, FCA, CISA, Commissioner

Present on behalf of the Board:

Maureen Greene, KC, Hearing Counsel
Jacqueline Glynn, Board Counsel
Jo Galarneau, Board Secretary

Present for Newfoundland Power Inc.

Lindsay Hollett, Counsel
Liam O'Brien, Counsel

Present for Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro

Shirley Walsh, Counsel

Present for Consumer Advocate

Dennis Browne, KC, Consumer Advocate

Public Participant:

Mr. Steve Kelland

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1 (9:26 a.m.)
 2 CHAIR:
 3 Q. Good morning everyone. So we planned our
 4 public participation day. I'm going to pass
 5 it over to Ms. Glynn with regard to where we
 6 are.
 7 MS. GLYNN:
 8 Q. Mr. Chair, I'll just ask if the parties
 9 could introduce themselves for the record,
 10 for the purposes of the record.
 11 CHAIR:
 12 Q. Sure, we'll go to Newfoundland Power first.
 13 MR. O'BRIEN:
 14 Q. Good morning, Liam O'Brien, outside counsel
 15 for Newfoundland Power and with me is
 16 Lindsay Hollett, inside counsel.
 17 BROWNE, KC:
 18 Q. Dennis Browne, Consumer Advocate.
 19 CHAIR:
 20 Q. Hydro?
 21 MS. WALSH:
 22 Q. Shirley Walsh, inside counsel for
 23 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro.
 24 CHAIR:
 25 Q. Back to you, Ms. Glynn.

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1 MS. GLYNN:
 2 Q. Thank you, Mr. Chair. We did have the
 3 invitation for public participation which
 4 was scheduled for today. We did have one
 5 member of the public that was scheduled to
 6 present via a telephone call. Unfortunately
 7 due to a family emergency, he's unable to
 8 join us here today and we do not have any
 9 members of the public present that want to
 10 present.
 11 MR. KELLAND:
 12 Q. I think I'll ask a question after all.
 13 MS. GLYNN:
 14 Q. You would like to present or –
 15 MR. KELLAND:
 16 Q. I have a question if it's all right with
 17 you.
 18 MS. GLYNN:
 19 Q. Sure. So Mr. Steve Kelland, would you like
 20 to come to the front of the –
 21 MR. KELLAND:
 22 Q. Right now?
 23 MS. GLYNN:
 24 Q. Sure. Mr. Kelland, while you're getting
 25 settled, I will just—you can continue on.

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1 The purpose of this part of the hearing is
 2 to give any member of the public the
 3 opportunity to speak to the Board, so
 4 welcome. We don't affirm or swear anybody
 5 that wants to come in. It's just a
 6 presentation or comments to the Board.
 7 MR. KELLAND:
 8 A. Okay.
 9 MS. GLYNN:
 10 Q. So the floor is yours.
 11 CHAIR:
 12 Q. Before you start, we should probably
 13 introduce ourselves too.
 14 MR. KELLAND:
 15 Q. I can't hear you very well for some reason
 16 or another.
 17 CHAIR:
 18 Q. Okay, well we'll just introduce ourselves as
 19 well. So I'm Kevin Fagan, the Chair.
 20 Dwanda Newman, Vice-Chair and John O'Brien,
 21 Commissioner, Vice-Chair and Commissioner,
 22 and so welcome and thanks for stepping in
 23 and helping us out. Give us your thoughts.
 24 MR. KELLAND:
 25 A. Yeah, well I just came down as an observer

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1 from the public, but I'm a consumer, one of
 2 those consumers that very often has to make
 3 payment arrangements and a few years ago
 4 while I was talking to a collector, he said
 5 that I did not have to consume the
 6 electricity; in other words, I didn't have
 7 to burn up the kilowatt hours or whatever,
 8 so—and that might be partially true for
 9 myself because I could replace some
 10 electricity with a wood stove, something
 11 like that, but a lot of people have to
 12 consume electricity because pretty well
 13 electricity is something that you have to
 14 buy these days, isn't it. So now to
 15 Newfoundland Power wants a rate increase of
 16 5.5 percent and I don't agree with that
 17 because I figure that's above the rate of
 18 inflation, and, you know, interest rates are
 19 increasing. The interest rates now are up
 20 to about 11 percent and consumers are paying
 21 a lot more for everything and somehow there
 22 has to be some sort of gauge on the economy,
 23 so I'm just opposed to it. In addition, I
 24 was wondering how do the members of the
 25 Public Utilities Board get paid, you know,

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1 do they get paid for the Provincial
 2 Government or how do you guys get your
 3 salaries?
 4 MS. GLYNN:
 5 Q. I think that’s something that we can give
 6 have an offside discussion, this is for you
 7 to be able to present to the Board your
 8 concerns on this application.
 9 MR. KELLAND:
 10 A. Oh, okay.
 11 MS. GLYNN:
 12 Q. If you want to have a discussion about that,
 13 we certainly can do that off the record. I
 14 mean, we are a division of the Provincial
 15 Government, but we also have assessments
 16 from the utility, so it’s—there’s a process
 17 that there for the budget of the Board.
 18 MR. KELLAND:
 19 A. Okay. Do you consider Newfoundland Power to
 20 a certain extent as a monopoly?
 21 MS. GLYNN:
 22 Q. Again, this is for you to be able to provide
 23 your comments to the Board. If there’s
 24 discussions that you want to have offside,
 25 we can certainly do that.

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1 MR. KELLAND:
 2 Q. Okay, well basically I’m opposed to the rate
 3 increase because it’s going to be well above
 4 the rate of inflation and my other question,
 5 so I’ll just have to take up some other
 6 time, is that okay? Okay, thank you.
 7 CHAIR:
 8 Q. Well thanks for your comments.
 9 MR. O’BRIEN:
 10 Q. Thank you, sir.
 11 CHAIR:
 12 Q. Before you—Newfoundland Power, do you have
 13 any questions?
 14 MR. O’BRIEN:
 15 Q. No, just to thank Mr. Kelland for his
 16 comments.
 17 CHAIR:
 18 Q. Consumer Advocate?
 19 BROWNE, KC:
 20 Q. Thank you for coming, Mr. Kelland.
 21 CHAIR:
 22 Q. That’s all the presenters we have?
 23 MS. GLYNN:
 24 Q. That is all the presenters that we have. I
 25 will just note as well for the record that

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1 the invitation for the public participation
 2 was contained in the notice of the hearing.
 3 The Board also this time around had the
 4 notice published on our social media, so
 5 this is a new thing for the Board, and we
 6 did have some statistics, I guess, I’m not
 7 the biggest social media guru, but we had
 8 1,372 Facebook views, over 2,000 engagements
 9 on our Facebook post and we had over 75,000,
 10 almost 76,000 impressions on LinkedIn, so
 11 some good numbers for people to be aware of
 12 the public participation date here today.
 13 CHAIR:
 14 Q. I’ll just make some final comments. So next
 15 on our schedule then will be filing of final
 16 submissions. So we’ve gone through, you
 17 know, the pre-filed application of
 18 Newfoundland Power, the request for
 19 information from all the parties, second
 20 rounds for request for information,
 21 additional evidence filed by experts and by
 22 Newfoundland Power in response, and our
 23 public hearing where it gave opportunities
 24 to cross-examine, so I think we’ve had a
 25 very thorough review of the costs and now

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1 it’s time for the Board to sit down and
 2 review all the matters and take some time to
 3 come up with a decision. So thank everyone
 4 for participating and we’ll move forward to
 5 the next steps. Thank you.
 6 MR. O’BRIEN:
 7 Q. Thank you, Commissioners.
 8 BROWNE, KC:
 9 Q. Thank you.
 10 MS. WALSH:
 11 Q. Thank you.
 12 Upon concluding at 9:54 a.m.
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CERTIFICATE

I, Judy Moss, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a hearing in the matter of Newfoundland Power Inc. 2025-2026 General Rate Application heard on the 9th day of July, 2024 before the Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, 120 Torbay Road, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador and was transcribed by me to the best of my ability by means of a sound apparatus.

Dated at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador this 9th day of July, 2024

Judy Moss

<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>Able - 5:7, 5:22 Above - 4:17, 6:3 Addition - 4:23 Advocate - 1:18, 6:18 Affirm - 3:4 Agree - 4:16 Application - 5:8, 7:17 Arrangements - 4:3 Assessments - 5:15 Aware - 7:11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">B</p> <p>Back - 1:25 Biggest - 7:7 Board - 3:3, 3:6, 4:25, 5:7, 5:17, 5:23, 7:3, 7:5, 8:1 BROWNE - 1:17, 1:18, 6:19, 8:8 Budget - 5:17 Burn - 4:7 Buy - 4:14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C</p> <p>Call - 2:6 Can - 2:25, 5:5, 5:13, 5:25 Can't - 3:15 Certain - 5:20 Certainly - 5:13, 5:25 CHAIR - 1:2, 1:8, 1:11, 1:19, 1:24, 2:2, 3:11, 3:17, 3:19, 3:20, 3:21, 6:7, 6:11, 6:17, 6:21, 7:13 Collector - 4:4 Come - 2:20, 3:5, 8:3 Coming - 6:20 Comments - 3:6, 5:23, 6:8, 6:16, 7:14 Commissioner - 3:21 Commissioners - 8:7 Concerns - 5:8 Concluding - 8:12 Consider - 5:19</p>	<p>Consume - 4:5, 4:12 Consumer - 1:18, 4:1, 6:18 Consumers - 4:2, 4:20 Contained - 7:2 Continue - 2:25 Costs - 7:25 Counsel - 1:14, 1:16, 1:22 Cross - 7:24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <p>Date - 7:12 Day - 1:4 Days - 4:14 Decision - 8:3 Dennis - 1:18 Didn't - 4:6 Discussions - 5:24 Division - 5:14 Don't - 3:4, 4:16 Due - 2:7 Dwanda - 3:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <p>Economy - 4:22 Electricity - 4:6, 4:10, 4:12, 4:13 Emergency - 2:7 Engagements - 7:8 Everyone - 1:3, 8:3 Everything - 4:21 Evidence - 7:21 Examine - 7:24 Experts - 7:21 Extent - 5:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <p>Facebook - 7:8, 7:9 Fagan - 3:19 Family - 2:7 Figure - 4:17 Filed - 7:17, 7:21 Filing - 7:15 Final - 7:14, 7:15 First - 1:12 Floor - 3:10 Forward - 8:4 Front - 2:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <p>Gauge - 4:22</p>	<p>Gave - 5:5, 7:23 Get - 4:25, 5:1, 5:2 Give - 3:2, 3:23 Glynn - 1:5, 1:7, 1:25, 2:1, 2:13, 2:18, 2:23, 3:9, 5:4, 5:11, 5:21, 6:23 Go - 1:12 Going - 1:4, 6:3 Gone - 7:16 Good - 1:3, 1:14, 7:11 Government - 5:2, 5:15 Guess - 7:6 Guru - 7:7 Guys - 5:2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <p>Hear - 3:15 Hearing - 3:1, 7:2, 7:23 Helping - 3:23 He's - 2:7 Hollett - 1:16 Hours - 4:7 Hydro - 1:20, 1:23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I</p> <p>I'll - 1:8, 2:12, 6:5, 7:14 I'm - 1:4, 3:19, 4:1, 4:23, 6:2, 7:6 Impressions - 7:10 Increase - 4:15, 6:3 Increasing - 4:19 Inflation - 4:18, 6:4 Inside - 1:16, 1:22 Interest - 4:18, 4:19 Introduce - 1:9, 3:13, 3:18 Invitation - 2:3, 7:1 Isn't - 4:14 It's - 2:16, 3:5, 5:16, 6:3, 8:1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J</p> <p>John - 3:20 Join - 2:8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <p>KC - 1:17, 6:19, 8:8 KELLAND - 2:11, 2:15, 2:19, 2:21,</p>	<p>2:24, 3:7, 3:14, 3:24, 5:9, 5:18, 6:1, 6:15, 6:20 Kevin - 3:19 Kilowatt - 4:7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">L</p> <p>Labrador - 1:23 Liam - 1:14 Lindsay - 1:16 Linkedin - 7:10 Lot - 4:11, 4:21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">M</p> <p>Make - 4:2, 7:14 Matters - 8:2 Media - 7:4, 7:7 Member - 2:5, 3:2 Members - 2:9, 4:24 Monopoly - 5:20 Morning - 1:3, 1:14 Move - 8:4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">N</p> <p>New - 7:5 Newfoundland - 1:12, 1:15, 1:23, 4:15, 5:19, 6:12, 7:18, 7:22 Newman - 3:20 Note - 6:25 Notice - 7:2, 7:4 Numbers - 7:11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">O</p> <p>O'brien - 1:13, 1:14, 3:20, 6:9, 6:14, 8:6 Observer - 3:25 Offside - 5:6, 5:24 Often - 4:2 One - 2:4, 4:1 Opportunities - 7:23 Opposed - 4:23, 6:2 Ourselves - 3:13, 3:18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <p>Paid - 4:25, 5:1 Partially - 4:8 Participating - 8:4 Participation - 1:4,</p>	<p>2:3, 7:1, 7:12 Parties - 1:8, 7:19 Pass - 1:4 Paying - 4:20 Payment - 4:3 People - 4:11, 7:11 Percent - 4:16, 4:20 Planned - 1:3 Post - 7:9 Power - 1:12, 1:15, 4:15, 5:19, 6:12, 7:18, 7:22 Pre - 7:17 Present - 2:6, 2:9, 2:10, 2:14, 5:7 Presentation - 3:6 Presenters - 6:22, 6:24 Provide - 5:22 Provincial - 5:1, 5:14 Public - 1:4, 2:3, 2:5, 2:9, 3:2, 4:1, 4:25, 7:1, 7:12, 7:23 Published - 7:4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <p>Rate - 4:15, 4:17, 6:2, 6:4 Rates - 4:18, 4:19 Reason - 3:15 Replace - 4:9 Request - 7:18, 7:20 Response - 7:22 Rounds - 7:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <p>Salaries - 5:3 Schedule - 7:15 Scheduled - 2:4, 2:5 Second - 7:19 Settled - 2:25 Shirley - 1:22 Sit - 8:1 Social - 7:4, 7:7 Start - 3:12 Statistics - 7:6 Stepping - 3:22 Steps - 8:5 Steve - 2:19 Stove - 4:10 Submissions - 7:1</p>
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