NP 2025-2026 General Rate Application

Undertaking - #1 Filed: 2024-06-13 Board Secretary: JG

U-01

Undertaking: Newfoundland Power

NP 2025/2026 GRA

1	Q.	Reference: NP GRA Hearing, Maureen Greene, June 13, 2024
3		Newfoundland Power will file a revised Exhibit 3 to the Application which will show
1		the actuals for 2023, in addition to the 2023F.
5		
5	Α.	Attachment A provides a revised Exhibit 3 to the Application showing actuals for 2023.

Exhibit 3 with 2023 Actuals Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Statements of Income (\$000s)

		Actual	Actual	Forecast ¹		ecast ¹		
		2022	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024E</u>	2025E	<u>2026E</u>	
1	Revenue from rates	715,444	731,064	732,809	740,817	751,315	750,723	
2	Transfers from the RSA	6,691	33,705	36,918	41,533	52,520	45,409	
3	Excess Earnings Account		(5,305)	(5,094)				
4		722,135	759,464	764,633	782,350	803,835	796,132	
5								
6	Purchased power expense	479,373	513,381	517,940	522,821	533,716	531,779	
7	Demand management incentive account adjustments	153	(1,398)	(1,000)				
8 9		479,526	511,983	516,940	522,821	533,716	531,779	
10	Contribution	242,609	247,481	247,693	259,529	270,119	264,353	
11								
12	Other revenue ²	6,120	7,976	7,422	10,026	11,019	11,646	
13								
14	Other expenses:							
15	Operating expenses ³	68,869	73,912	73,473	78,775	81,394	84,156	
16	Employee future benefit costs ⁴	7,652	2,735	2,763	3,010	8,122	1,812	
17	Deferred cost recoveries and amortizations	(656)	(814)	(816)	(6,962)	492	492	
18	Depreciation ⁵	70,662	74,536	74,869	79,557	83,143	86,691	
19	Finance charges ⁶	34,790	36,842	37,313	41,607	42,240	43,427	
20		181,317	187,211	187,602	195,987	215,391	216,578	
21								
22	Income before income taxes	67,412	68,246	67,513	73,568	65,747	59,421	
23	Income taxes ⁷	19,498	20,159	20,020	22,399	20,037	18,010	
24								
25	Earnings applicable to common shares ⁷	47,914	48,087	47,493	51,169	45,710	41,411	
26								
27	Rate of Return and Credit Metrics							
28	Rate of Return on Rate Base (%)	6.72	6.87	6.85	6.82	6.24	5.84	
29	Regulated Return on Book Equity (%)	8.95	8.54	8.44	8.44	7.16	6.38	
30	Interest Coverage (times)	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.0	
31	CFO Pre-W/C + Interest / Interest (times)	4.4	3.6	3.6	2.9	2.9	2.8	
32	CFO Pre-W/C / Debt (%)	17.4	12.7	12.9	10.2	9.6	9.0	

¹ The 2024 through 2026 forecasts include the impact of the proposals in the 2024 Rate of Return on Rate Base Application filed with the Board on November 23, 2023.

 $^{^{2}\,}$ Shown after reclassification of other contract costs and equity portion of AFUDC.

³ Shown after adjustment for non-regulated expenses and reclassification of other contract costs and current portion of employee future benefit costs.

⁴ Shown after reclassification of current portion of employee future benefit costs.

⁵ Shown after reclassification of tax on cost of removal.

⁶ Shown after reclassification of equity portion of AFUDC.

Nown after adjustment for non-regulated expenses and reclassification of tax on cost of removal.

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Statements of Retained Earnings (\$000s)

		Actual	Actual	Forecast				
		<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024E</u>	<u>2025E</u>	<u>2026E</u>	
1	Balance - Beginning	456,123	473,611	473,611	511,425	560,890	574,736	
2	Net income for the period	45,650	45,996	45,141	48,713	43,229	38,827	
3	Allocation of Part VI.1 tax	735	-	-	752	752	752	
4		502,508	519,607	518,752	560,890	604,871	614,315	
5								
6	Dividends							
7	Common shares	28,897	7,327	7,327	-	30,135	30,548	
8								
9	Balance - End of Period	473,611	512,280	511,425	560,890	574,736	583,767	

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Balance Sheets (\$000s)

		Actual	Actual	Forecast		cast		
		2022	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024E</u>	<u>2025E</u>	<u>2026E</u>	
1	Assets							
2	Current Assets							
2	Cash	-	3,126	-	-	-	-	
3	Accounts receivable	69,551	82,736	79,246	73,504	73,612	72,720	
3	Income taxes receivable	392	3,574	-	-	-	-	
4	Materials and supplies	2,896	3,408	2,930	2,995	3,043	3,091	
4	Prepaid expenses	3,738	4,398	3,782	3,866	3,928	3,990	
5	Regulatory assets	5,439	28,032	31,584	56,460	58,628	61,196	
5 6		82,016	125,274	117,542	136,825	139,211	140,997	
6	Property, plant and equipment	1,332,577	1,389,378	1,398,400	1,452,127	1,504,131	1,564,046	
7	Intangible assets	48,221	66,182	65,676	63,516	66,020	66,506	
7	Regulatory assets	309,124	320,550	319,879	337,783	342,197	343,563	
8	Defined benefit pension plans	40,435	47,509	53,144	58,969	65,143	71,653	
8	Other assets	1,573	1,307	1,522	1,501	1,484	1,474	
9		1,813,946	1,950,200	1,956,163	2,050,721	2,118,186	2,188,239	
9								
10								
10	Liabilities and shareholder's equity							
11	Current Liabilities							
11	Short-term borrowings	1,361	-	-	-	-	-	
12	Accounts payable and accrued charges	96,022	103,197	103,034	97,003	97,946	97,748	
12	Interest payable	6,856	8,534	8,478	8,271	8,176	9,304	
13	Defined benefit pension plans	277	264	276	265	273	287	
13	Other post-employment benefits	3,922	3,035	4,174	4,371	4,579	4,518	
14	Regulatory liabilities	15,196	- 0.450	(1,768)	- 0.450	-	- 0.050	
14 15	Current instalments of long-term debt	27,550 151,184	8,450 123,480	8,450 122,644	8,450 118,360	36,885 147,859	9,050	
15		131,184	123,480	122,044	118,300	147,839	120,907	
16	Regulatory liabilities	205,003	214,027	213,716	227,876	243,992	259,648	
16	Defined benefit pension plans	5,074	5,128	5,228	5,402	5,574	5,738	
17	Other post-employment benefits	62,594	43,629	63,356	64,029	64,598	65,330	
17	Other liabilities	1,270	945	1,562	1,544	1,526	1,508	
18	Deferred income taxes	189,292	212,440	204,333	203,969	200,486	198,395	
18	Long-term debt	655,597	767,950	763,578	798,330	809,094	882,625	
19								
19								
20								
20	Shareholder's equity							
21	Common shares	70,321	70,321	70,321	70,321	70,321	70,321	
21	Retained earnings	473,611	512,280	511,425	560,890	574,736	583,767	
22		543,932	582,601	581,746	631,211	645,057	654,088	
22		1,813,946	1,950,200	1,956,163	2,050,721	2,118,186	2,188,239	

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Statements of Cash Flows (\$000s)

		Actual	Actual	Forecast		cast		
		<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024E</u>	<u>2025E</u>	<u>2026E</u>	
1	Operating Activities							
2	Net Earnings	45,650	45,996	45,141	48,713	43,229	38,827	
3								
4	Items Not Affecting Cash:	50.510	56045	54.54	01.051	0.4.000	00.500	
5	Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	73,712	76,945	76,456	81,351	84,988	88,568	
6	Amortization of intangible assets and other	4,690	5,679	6,515	6,724	7,070	7,427	
7	Change in long-term regulatory assets and liabilities	2,880	(37,306)	(33,891)	(46,611)	(47,556)	(46,530)	
8	Deferred income taxes	(3,053)	14,656	14,082	(364)	(3,483)	(2,091)	
9	Employee future benefits	(3,818)	(6,361)	(6,906)	(7,220)	(2,418)	(5,576)	
10	Other	60	(909)	(1,077)	174	145	(11)	
11		120,121	98,700	100,320	82,767	81,975	80,614	
12								
13	Change in working capital	(12,080)	(34,922)	(26,603)	10,005	38,770	44,189	
14		108,041	63,778	73,717	92,772	120,745	124,803	
15								
16	Investing Activities							
17	Capital expenditures	(110,218)	(126,767)	(133,812)	(125,493)	(122,769)	(134,564)	
18	Intangible asset expenditures	(16,774)	(23,422)	(23,752)	(4,339)	(9,353)	(7,695)	
19	Contribution from customers and security deposits	2,773	5,197	3,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	
20	Other		-	380				
21		(124,219)	(144,992)	(153,684)	(127,332)	(129,622)	(139,759)	
22								
23	Financing Activities							
24	Change in short-term borrowings	(13,459)	(1,361)	(1,361)	-	-	-	
25	Net proceeds (repayment) of committed credit facility	20,000	12,000	7,634	43,010	47,462	(16,511)	
26	Proceeds from long-term debt	75,000	90,000	90,000	-	-	100,000	
27	Repayment of long-term debt	(35,950)	(8,450)	(8,450)	(8,450)	(8,450)	(37,485)	
28	Payment of debt financing costs	(516)	(522)	(529)	-	-	(500)	
29	Dividends on Common Shares	(28,897)	(7,327)	(7,327)		(30,135)	(30,548)	
30		16,178	84,340	79,967	34,560	8,877	14,956	
31								
32	Change in Cash	-	3,126	-	-	-	-	
33	Cash, Beginning of Year							
34	Cash, End of Year		3,126					

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Average Rate Base¹ (\$000s)

		Actual	Actual	Forecast		ecast		
		<u>2022</u>	2023	2023	<u>2024E</u>	<u>2025E</u>	<u>2026E</u>	
1	Plant Investment	1,204,059	1,262,023	1,264,037	1,334,567	1,381,842	1,425,802	
2								
3	Additions to Rate Base							
4	Defined Benefit Pension Costs	91,992	98,263	98,264	104,719	108,876	112,167	
5	Deferred Credit Facility Costs	92	96	96	90	59	31	
6	Cost Recovery Deferral - Conservation	17,890	20,034	20,223	21,473	22,010	22,242	
7	Cost Recovery Deferral - 2022 Revenue Shortfall	230	344	344	115	-	-	
8	Cost Recovery Deferral - 2024 Revenue Shortfall	-	-	-	2,353	4,706	4,706	
9	Cost Recovery Deferral - Load Research and Retail Rate Design	10	105	174	513	800	902	
10	Cost Recovery Deferral - Pension Capitalization	-	400	400	997	1,020	672	
11	Demand Management Incentive Account	617	436	297	350	-	-	
12	Customer Finance Programs	1,614	1,336	1,443	1,421	1,435	1,450	
13		112,445	121,014	121,241	132,031	138,906	142,170	
14								
15	Deductions from Rate Base							
16	Weather Normalization Reserve	4,298	128	2,091	(1,198)	-	-	
17	Other Post-Employment Benefits	76,859	82,254	81,955	85,517	89,012	90,703	
18	Customer Security Deposits	1,336	962	1,270	1,270	1,270	1,270	
19	Accrued Pension Obligation	5,234	5,349	5,377	5,535	5,706	5,885	
20	Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes	17,026	24,342	25,045	33,177	35,249	37,782	
21	Excess Earnings Account	-	1,858	1,783	3,566	3,566	3,566	
22	Refundable Investment Tax Credits	-	147	146	283	265	247	
23		104,753	115,040	117,667	128,150	135,068	139,453	
24						-		
25	Average Rate Base Before Allowances	1,211,751	1,267,997	1,267,611	1,338,448	1,385,680	1,428,519	
26							, ,	
27	Cash Working Capital Allowance	6,705	7,304	7,419	7,705	7,865	7,829	
28		-,	. ,		.,	.,	.,	
29	Materials and Supplies Allowance	11,978	14,778	14,676	13,905	14,164	14,389	
30	*F*		- 1,7,70		,	,	,>	
31	Average Rate Base at Year End	1,230,434	1,290,079	1,289,706	1,360,058	1,407,709	1,450,737	

¹ All amounts shown are averages.

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Weighted Average Cost of Capital (\$000s)

		Actual	Actual		Foreca	ıst	
		<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024E</u>	<u>2025E</u>	<u>2026E</u>
1	Average Capitalization						
2	Debt	661,762	728,787	728,164	789,314	826,322	868,798
3	Common Equity	535,188	563,267	562,839	606,479	638,134	649,573
4		1,196,950	1,292,054	1,291,003	1,395,793	1,464,456	1,518,371
5							
6	Average Capital Structure (%)						
7	Debt	55.29	56.41	56.40	56.55	56.43	57.22
8	Common Equity	44.71	43.59	43.60	43.45	43.57	42.78
9		100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
10							
11	Cost of Capital (%)						
12	Debt ¹	5.25	5.04	5.11	5.26	5.10	4.99
13	Common Equity	8.95	8.54	8.44	8.44	7.16	6.38
14	• •						
15							
16	Weighted Average Cost of Capital (%)						
17	Debt	2.90	2.85	2.88	2.98	2.88	2.86
18	Common Equity	4.00	3.72	3.68	3.67	3.12	2.73
19		6.90	6.57	6.56	6.65	6.00	5.59

¹ Cost of debt is shown net of AFUDC. This is consistent with the cost of debt used in the calculation of return on rate base. For regulatory reporting purposes, the embedded cost of debt shown in Return 25 of the 2022 Annual Reports to the Board can be reconciled to the reported cost of debt above as follows:

	2022
Cost of Debt (Line 14) (%)	5.25
AFUDC (%)	0.23
Cost of Debt - Return 25 (%)	5.48

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Rate of Return on Rate Base (\$000s)

		Actual	Actual	Forecast				
		<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024E</u>	<u>2025E</u>	<u>2026E</u>	
1	Regulated Return on Equity	47,914	48,087	47,493	51,169	45,710	41,411	
2	Excess Earnings Account	-	3,714	3,566	-	-	-	
3		47,914	51,801	51,059	51,169	45,710	41,411	
4								
5	Finance Charges							
6	Interest on Long-Term Debt	35,597	36,673	36,677	39,053	38,600	40,860	
7	Other Interest	453	2,543	2,736	3,541	4,695	3,972	
8	Amortization of Bond Issue Expenses	215	218	221	225	221	217	
9	AFUDC	(1,498)	(2,669)	(2,393)	(1,285)	(1,350)	(1,696)	
10		34,767	36,765	37,241	41,534	42,166	43,353	
11								
12	Return on Rate Base	82,681	88,566	88,300	92,703	87,876	84,764	
13								
14	Average Rate Base	1,230,434	1,290,079	1,289,706	1,360,058	1,407,709	1,450,737	
15								
16	Rate of Return on Rate Base (%)	6.72	6.87	6.85	6.82	6.24	5.84	

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Inputs and Assumptions

2	Energy Forecasts:	Energy forecasts are based on economic indicators taken from the Conference Board of Canada Economic Forecast, dated August 2, 2023.
4	Revenue Forecast:	The revenue forecast is based on the Customer, Energy and Demand forecast dated September 14, 2023.
5 6 7 8 9 10 11		Revenue for 2022 through 2024 forecast reflects: (i) recovery through the RSA of amounts associated with the Energy Supply Cost Variance Adjustment Clause; (ii) recovery through the RSA of amounts associated with variances in employee future benefit costs; (iii) recovery through the RSA of amounts associated with the Weather Normalization reserve; and (v) recovery through the RSA of certain costs related to the implementation of the CDM program portfolio, all of which were approved by the Board in Order Nos. P.U. 32 (2007), P.U. 43 (2009), P.U. 31 (2010), P.U. 8 (2011), P.U. 13 (2013), P.U. 18 (2015), and P.U. 3 (2022).
13		
15	Purchased Power Expense:	Purchased power expense reflects Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro's rates approved by the Board effective October 1, 2019 and the Customer, Energy and Demand Forecast dated September 14, 2023.
16 17 18 19		Purchased power expense reflects the operation of the Demand Management Incentive Account approved by the Board in Order No. P.U. 32 (2007). This mechanism provides for recovery of demand costs that are in excess of unit demand costs included in the most recent test year.
20 21 22	Employee Future Benefit Costs:	Pension funding is based on the actuarial valuation dated as at December 31, 2022.
23 24		Pension discount rate is 3.20% for 2022, 5.30% for 2023 and 4.80% for 2024 through 2026. 2023A: End of year pension discount rate for 2023 was 4.60%.
25 26		Expected return on pension plan assets is 4.50% for 2022 and 5.75% for 2023 through 2026.
27 28		OPEBs discount rate is 3.20% for 2022 and 5.30% for 2023 through 2026.
29		2023A: End of year OPEBs discount rate for 2023 was 4.60%.
30 31 32 33	Cost Recovery Deferrals:	The 2023 through 2026 forecasts include the deferred recovery over a 10-year period of certain Conservation program costs.
34 35 36		The 2023 and 2024 forecasts include the amortization over a 34-month period of a \$0.9 million revenue shortfall beginning March 1, 2022 related to a March 1, 2022 rate implementation date.
37		The 2023 through 2026 forecasts include deferral of Electrification costs, including applicable interest.
38 39 40		The 2023 through 2026 forecasts include the deferral of costs related to the Load Research Study and Retail Rate Design Review.
41 42 43		The 2023 through 2026 forecasts include the deferral of \$5.1 million in revenue related to forecast Excess Earnings in 2023.
44 45 46 47		The 2024 through 2026 forecasts include the deferral of a \$6.7 million revenue shortfall related to a July 1, 2024 rate implementation date proposed in the 2024 Rate of Return on Rate Base Application filed with the Board on November 23, 2023.

Financial Performance 2022 to 2026E Inputs and Assumptions

1	Cost Recovery Deferrals (cont'd):	The 2023 through 2026 forecasts include the amortization over a 60-month period of \$1.4
2		million in income tax impacts beginning on January 1, 2023 related to the change in pension
3		capitalization approved in the 2022/2023 General Rate Application.
4		
5		The 2024 through 2026 forecasts include the amortization over a 60-month period of \$1.1
6		million in income tax impacts beginning on January 1, 2024 related to the change in pension
7		capitalization approved in the 2022/2023 General Rate Application.
8		
9	Depreciation Rates:	Depreciation rates are based on the 2019 Depreciation Study.
10	1	
11	Operating Costs:	The operating forecast for 2023 reflects the most recent management estimates. Operating
12		forecasts for 2024 through 2026 reflect projected labour increases of 3.80% in 2024, 4.45% in 2025 and
13		4.50% in 2026, and non-labour increases based upon the GDP deflator.
14		1
15	Capital Expenditures:	Capital Expenditures for 2023 are based on the 2023 Capital Budget Application, adjusted for known
16		carryovers, and the 2023 Supplemental Capital Expenditure Application.
17		Capital Expenditures for 2024 through 2026 are based on the 2024 Capital Budget Application
18		and the 2023 Supplemental Capital Expenditure Application.
19		and the 2023 Suppremental Capital Experimente Application.
20	Short-Term Interest Rates:	Average short-term interest rates are forecast to be 5.97% for 2023, 5.54% for 2024 and 4.75% for
21	Short-Term Interest Rules.	2025 and 2026.
21		2023 and 2020.
		Actual simple average short-term interest rate in 2023 was 5.98%.
22		
23	Long-Term Debt:	A \$90.0 million long-term debt issue was completed in August 2023. The debt was issued for 30 years
24	g	at a coupon rate of 5.122%. Debt repayments will be in accordance with the normal sinking
25		fund provisions for existing outstanding debt.
26		
27		A \$100.0 million long-term debt issue is forecast to be completed in March 2026. The debt is forecast for
28		30 years at a coupon rate of 5.50%. Debt repayments will be in accordance with the normal sinking
29		fund provisions for existing outstanding debt.
30		rund provisions for existing outstanding deot.
	Dividende	Common about divided accepts on forecast based on maintaining a torget common accepts common at
31 32	Dividends:	Common share dividend payouts are forecast based on maintaining a target common equity component near 45%.
		IICal 43/0.
33		T
34	Income Tax:	Income tax expense reflects a statutory income tax rate of 30% for 2023 through 2026.