

# Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

IN THE MATTER OF *The Public Utilities Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c.380, as amended

## 2020 Maritime Link Benefits Report Q1

NS Power

May 15, 2020

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**2020 Maritime Link Benefits Report Q1  
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1 **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

2

3 As part of the Consensus Agreement approved by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board  
4 (NSUARB or Board) with respect to Nova Scotia Power Incorporated's (NS Power or Company)  
5 2017-2019 Fuel Stability Plan (FSP) and Base Cost of Fuel (BCF) Application, NS Power agreed  
6 to track the benefits realized for customers from the Maritime Link prior to the start of the Nova  
7 Scotia Block and provide such information to customers on no less than a quarterly basis. In its  
8 Order dated November 27, 2019 in respect of NSP Maritime Link Incorporated's (NSPML) 2020  
9 Interim Cost Assessment (M09277), the NSUARB directed the quarterly reports to be continued.  
10 Please accept this report as NS Power's first quarterly report (Q1) for 2020 in relation to Maritime  
11 Link benefits tracking.

12

13 The Maritime Link was in-service since 2018 and has provided NS Power access to a new market,  
14 reliability and system loss reductions as well as providing quantifiable benefits related to energy  
15 transactions and ancillary services. The Maritime Link continues to provide long term strategic  
16 benefits to Nova Scotia and the Atlantic Region, and NS Power remains committed to achieving  
17 those benefits for customers in 2020 and beyond. NS Power will also continue working towards  
18 creating incremental value above the Nova Scotia Block and promoting the economic and  
19 reliability benefits associated with the Maritime Link.

20

21 In accordance with the Board's Decision dated June 11, 2018 on the confidentiality of the Maritime  
22 Link Benefits Quarterly Tracking Report, NS Power provides the amount of energy flowing over  
23 the Maritime Link (megawatts not dollar amounts) each quarter on a non-confidential basis.  
24 Details of total benefits achieved year to date in 2020 are provided in this report.

25

26 NS Power confirms that during Q1 2020, 178,757 MWh flowed over the Maritime Link, which  
27 compares to 96,863 MWh in Q1 2019. NS Power has determined that the Company has achieved  
28 a total of [REDACTED] in quantified benefits for customers associated with the Maritime Link in Q1  
29 2020. The specific details with respect to the quantifiable benefits achieved are provided in  
30 Confidential Appendix A.

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1 In NSPML's 2020 Interim Cost Assessment proceeding (M09277), Bates White Economic  
2 Consulting (Bates White), on behalf of NSUARB Counsel, made certain recommendations with  
3 respect to NS Power's quarterly reporting of Maritime Link Benefits.<sup>1</sup>  
4

5 We recommend that NSPI's Quarterly Reporting of Maritime Link be further  
6 standardized and include some reconciliation with previous quarterly reports, its  
7 response to BW-IR-2 (c), and its Interim Assessment Application Supplementary  
8 Evidence. At a minimum, NSPML should reconcile the [REDACTED] of benefits  
9 put forth in its Interim Assessment Application Supplementary Evidence with its  
10 [REDACTED] of benefits put forth in its response to BW-IR-2 (c), and restate all  
11 six quarterly benefits reports to categorize all benefits to date in a consistent set of  
12 benefits categories. NSPML should also elaborate on all MWh of transactions to  
13 date on the Maritime Link, distinguishing between transactions flowing power from  
14 Nova Scotia from those in which power flows to Nova Scotia. This  
15 recommendation will enhance transparency, allow for proper comparisons of  
16 benefits accrued through time, and assist future reviews of the determination and  
17 calculation of those benefits.<sup>2</sup>

18  
19 The NSUARB has already made a determination on the calculation of benefits and resulting hold  
20 back for 2018. As such, NS Power addressed Bates Whites' recommendations in the Q3 and Q4  
21 2019 Reports, to the extent applicable, through **Figure 2** in **Confidential Appendix A**. The  
22 Company continues to incorporate the same information in this Q1 2020 and future Maritime Link  
23 Benefits Reports.  
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<sup>1</sup> M09277, Evidence of Bates White Economic Consulting, dated August 29, 2019, pages 25-27.

<sup>2</sup> M09277, Evidence of Bates White Economic Consulting, dated August 29, 2019, pages 26-27, lines 15-23 and 1-2.

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1   **2.0   Q1 2020 MARITIME LINK BENEFITS**

2

3   **2.1   Q1 2020 Benefits**

4

5   In Q1 2020, NS Power sent to Nalcor Energy Marketing Corporation (Nalcor) a total of [REDACTED]  
6   [REDACTED] of energy through bilateral and Holyrood Offset transactions. [REDACTED] energy supplied between  
7   the parties during this quarter was by [REDACTED]. NS Power continues to be actively  
8   engaged in discussions with Nalcor in pursuit of benefits associated with the use of the Maritime  
9   Link on behalf of customers.

10

11   **2.2   Additional Commentary**

12

13   NS Power sold Nalcor [REDACTED] of energy for the month of January, 2020, [REDACTED] of  
14   energy for the month of February and [REDACTED] of energy for the month of March, 2020.

15

16   Value was also created through the sale of wheel-through transmission from the New Brunswick  
17   border to Bottom Brook, Newfoundland; [REDACTED] in January, 2020, [REDACTED] in February, 2020,  
18   and [REDACTED] in March, 2020.

19

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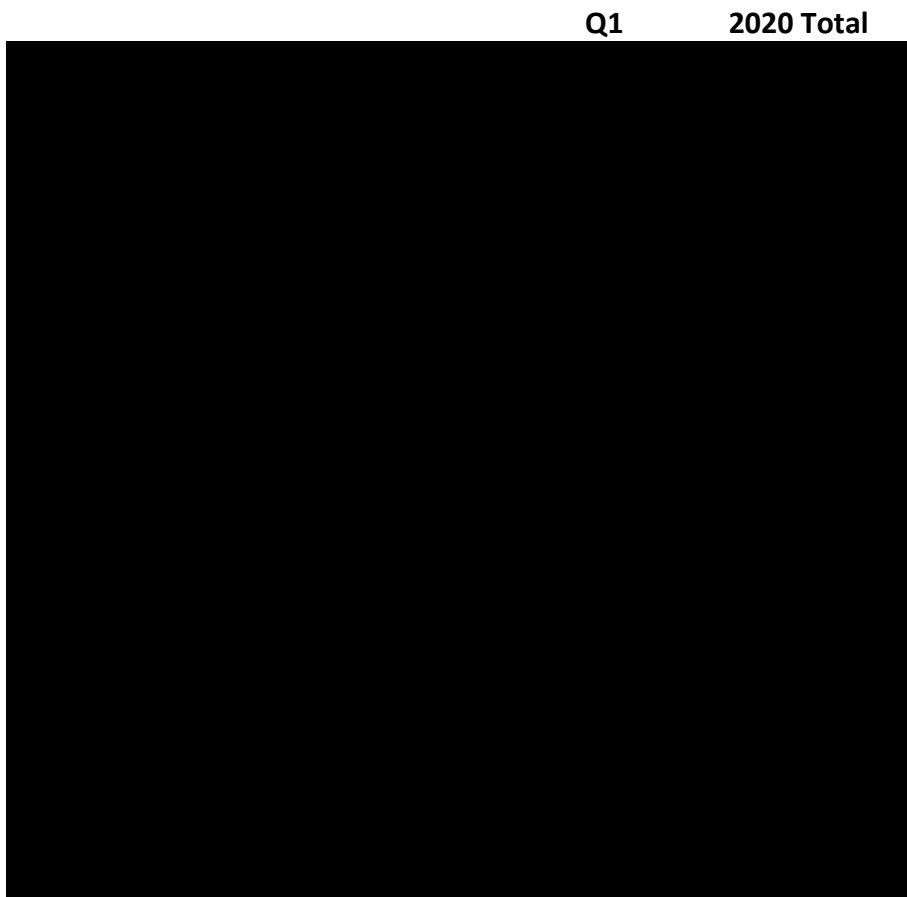
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**Appendix A**

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**2020 Benefits to End of Q1**

**Figure 1. 2020 Q1 & Total 2020 Benefits**



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**Figure 2. 2020 Q1 & Total Benefits**

