

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 Q3

NS Power

November 16, 2020

REDACTED

**2020 Maritime Link Benefits Report Q3
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1

2

3 1.0 INTRODUCTION 3

4 2.0 Q3 2020 MARITIME LINK BENEFITS 5

5 2.1 Q3 2020 Benefits5

6 2.2 Additional Commentary.....5

7

8 APPENDIX A

**2020 Maritime Link Benefits Report Q3
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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 third quarter report (Q3) 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 Q3 2020, 5,090 MWh flowed over the Maritime Link, which
27 compares to 29,813 MWh in Q3 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 Q3
29 2020. The specific details with respect to the quantifiable benefits achieved are provided in
30 Confidential Appendix A.

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1
2 In the proceeding before the NSUARB for NSP Maritime Link Incorporated's 2020 Interim Cost
3 Assessment (M09277), Bates White Economic Consulting (Bates White), on behalf of NSUARB
4 Counsel, made certain recommendations with respect to NS Power's quarterly reporting of
5 Maritime Link Benefits.¹

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

20
21 The NSUARB has already made a determination on the calculation of benefits and resulting hold
22 back for 2018. As such, NS Power addressed Bates Whites' recommendations in the Q3 and Q4
23 2019 Reports, to the extent applicable, through **Figure 2** in **Confidential Appendix A**. The
24 Company continues to incorporate the same information in this Q3 2020 and future Maritime Link
25 Benefits Reports.

¹ M09277, Evidence of Bates White Economic Consulting, dated August 29, 2019, pages 25-27.

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

2020 Maritime Link Benefits Report Q3
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1 **2.0 Q3 2020 MARITIME LINK BENEFITS**

2

3 **2.1 Q3 2020 Benefits**

4

5 In Q3 2020, NS Power received from Nalcor a total of [REDACTED] of energy, all through bilateral
6 transactions. NS Power continues to be actively engaged in discussions with Nalcor in pursuit of
7 benefits associated with the use of the Maritime Link on behalf of customers.

8

9 **2.2 Additional Commentary**

10

11 NS Power purchased from Nalcor [REDACTED] of energy for the month of July, 2020, and
12 purchased from Nalcor [REDACTED] of energy for the month of September 2020. [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED] in August.

14

15 Value was also created through the sale of wheel-through transmission from the New Brunswick
16 border to Bottom Brook, Newfoundland; [REDACTED] in July, 2020, [REDACTED] in August, 2020, and
17 [REDACTED] in September, 2020.

18

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Appendix A

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2020 Benefits to End of Q3

Figure 1. 2020 Q3 & Total 2020 Benefits



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Figure 2. 2020 Q3 & Total Benefits

	Q3	2020 Total
		