

# Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

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

## 2021 Maritime Link Benefits Report Q1

NS Power

May 18, 2021

REDACTED

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**2021 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 December 16, 2020 in respect of NSP Maritime Link Incorporated's (NSPML) 2021  
9 Interim Cost Assessment (M09810), the NSUARB directed the quarterly reports to be continued.  
10 Please accept this report as NS Power's first quarter report (Q1) for 2021 in relation to Maritime Link  
11 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 2021 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 2021 are provided in this report.

25  
26 NS Power confirms that during Q1 2021, 46,433 MWh flowed over the Maritime Link, which  
27 compares to 178,757 MWh in Q1 2020. 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 2021.

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

5

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

19

20 The NSUARB has already made a determination on the calculation of benefits and resulting hold  
21 back for 2018. As such, NS Power addressed Bates Whites' recommendations in the Q3 and Q4  
22 2019 Reports, to the extent applicable, through **Figure 2** in **Confidential Appendix A**. The  
23 Company continues to incorporate the same information in this Q1 2021 and future Maritime Link  
24 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 2021 MARITIME LINK BENEFITS**

2  
3 In Q1 2021, NS Power received from Nalcor a total of [REDACTED] MWh of energy. NS Power  
4 continues to be actively engaged in discussions with Nalcor in pursuit of benefits associated with  
5 the use of the Maritime Link on behalf of customers.

6  
7 **2.1 Additional Commentary**

8  
9 NS Power purchased from Nalcor [REDACTED] MWh of energy in January 2021, and purchased from  
10 Nalcor [REDACTED] MWh of energy in February 2021. NS Power also purchased from Nalcor [REDACTED]  
11 MWh of energy in March 2021.

12  
13 Value was also created through the sale of wheel-through transmission from the New Brunswick  
14 border to Bottom Brook, Newfoundland; \$ [REDACTED] in January, 2021, \$ [REDACTED] in February, 2021,  
15 and \$ [REDACTED] in March, 2021.

16  
17 Additional benefit was realized through the import of emergency energy over the Maritime Link.  
18 On January 11, 2021 NS Power imported energy over the Maritime Link for 7 hours supplying a  
19 total of [REDACTED] MWh to the Nova Scotia system during peak load periods to maintain reliable supply  
20 to customers and load/generation balance. On March 8, 2021 emergency energy was imported  
21 over the Maritime Link for 2 to 3 hours during the morning peak period, supplying a total of [REDACTED]  
22 MWh to the Nova Scotia system. The import over the Maritime Link ensured reliable supply to  
23 customers and load/generation balance during this period.

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**Appendix A**

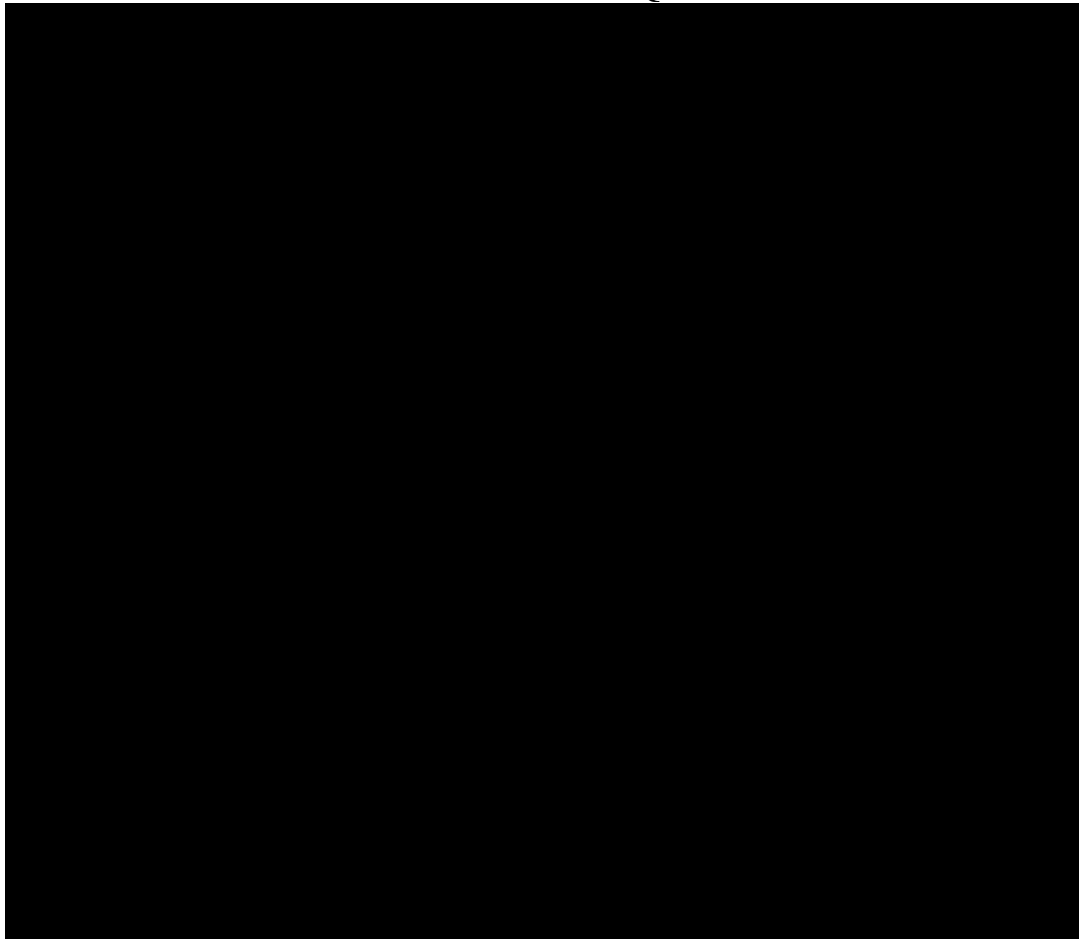
2

**2021 Benefits to End of Q1**

**Figure 1. 2021 Q1 & Total 2021 Benefits**

**Q1**

**2021 Total**



3

4

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**Figure 2. 2021 Q1 & Total Benefits**

