DECISION **M09820**
2021 NSUARB 6

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

\- and -

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION of the **BERWICK ELECTRIC COMMISSION** for Approval of Amendments to its Schedule of Rates for the provision of electric supply and services to its customers and its Schedule of Regulations

BEFORE:	Roberta J. Clarke, Q.C., Panel Chair Jennifer L. Nicholson, CPA, CA, Member
COUNSEL:	**BERWICK ELECTRIC COMMISSION** Donald Regan, Superintendent Albert E. Dominie, Consultant Karen Peckford, Director of Finance, Town of Berwick
INTERVENOR:	**NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED** Blake Williams, Counsel Brian Curry, Counsel
HEARING DATE:	December 9, 2020
FINAL SUBMISSIONS:	December 9, 2020
DECISION DATE:	**January 13, 2021**
DECISION:	**Application is approved**

I INTRODUCTION

[1] The Berwick Electric Commission applied to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for a general rate increase of 7% and approval of changes to its regulations. The Commission is a municipal electric utility owned by the Town of Berwick and, as a public utility, is subject to the provisions of the *Public Utilities Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 380, as amended.

[2] The Notice of Hearing was duly advertised and Nova Scotia Power Incorporated intervened in the proceeding. Information Requests (IRs) were issued to the Commission by the Board and by NS Power. Responses to IRs were filed, and the Commission sought confidential treatment for parts of the Responses under the Board's *Regulatory Rules*. NS Power asked the Board to require the Commission to respond more fully to certain IRs. Submissions were received from both the Commission and NS Power on both issues, and by letter dated October 28, 2020, the Board granted the request for confidential treatment and declined to order the Commission to respond to the NS Power IRs as requested.

[3] A virtual public hearing was conducted by webinar on December 9, 2020. NS Power was represented at the hearing but filed no evidence, undertook no cross-examination, and made no submissions to the Board on the rate application. The Board has reviewed all the evidence filed by the Commission, including financial information, and the testimony of Donald Regan, Superintendent of the Commission and Albert Dominie, the Commission's consultant. The Board is satisfied that the proposed rates are just and reasonable and approves them effective January 15, 2021. The Board

approves the requested changes in the Commission's regulations, also effective January 15, 2021.

II BACKGROUND

[4] The Berwick Electric Commission submitted an application dated August 12, 2020, to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for amendments to its Schedule of Rates for Electric Supply and Services, and its Schedule of Regulations for the Provision or Supply of Electric Services.

[5] Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board held a public hearing by webinar on December 9, 2020. The hearing was advertised in accordance with the Board's Hearing Order in the Chronicle-Herald on August 29 and September 3, 2020.

[6] The existing Schedule of Rates has been in effect since January 1, 2015, amended by Order dated February 12, 2018 for the Industrial Rate. The existing Schedule of Regulations has been in effect since October 1, 2011.

[7] The utility is owned by the Town of Berwick and serves customers in the Town and surrounding areas. The utility purchases some of its power and energy requirements from NS Power and has generation capacity from hydro generation at the Factorydale headpond dam. In more recent years, the utility has been acquiring energy from power producers other than NS Power. Sources other than NS Power accounted for significantly more of the energy requirement in the fiscal year 2019/20.

[8] NS Power was the only Intervenor in the application. No letters of comment were received by the Board. No persons asked to speak at the evening session, which was therefore cancelled.

III THE APPLICATION

[9] The original application was to increase rates, effective October 1, 2020, for all customer classes by 7%, except for the Domestic Service Time-of-Day Rate. In response to Board IR-16, the utility changed the effective date to January 1, 2021. The utility is proposing to maintain the base charge for this rate at its current level; to revise the shoulder charge to the same level as the Domestic energy charge; to set the off-peak energy charge at the current purchase cost plus a loss factor of 4%; and to maintain the on-peak rate at its current level.

[10] The utility filed a rate study as part of its application. The utility considered it necessary to apply for an increase in rates at this time in order to prevent its revenue fund from decreasing to unacceptable levels.

[11] The utility is proposing to continue offering an optional General Demand Time-of-Use Rate (TOU rate) and an optional General Demand Peak Co-incidence Rate for Electric Supply and Services. These rates had received interim Board approval on November 26, 2010 (2010 NSUARB 226). The rates were subsequently continued in the last general rate application (see 2011 NSUARB 154).

[12] The application also includes proposed changes to the wiring inspection rates and conditions in the Schedule of Regulations, to align them with those currently approved for NS Power.

[13] Mr. Dominie was engaged by the utility as a consultant to prepare the Rate Study. Mr. Dominie gave evidence at the hearing and answered Board questions during his testimony, as did Mr. Regan.

IV REVENUE REQUIREMENTS

A. Operating Requirements

[14] Mr. Regan stated that, other than for pass-through increases resulting from Board approval of NS Power rates, the utility had no rate increases since the approval of its 2011 application. He said that the utility had, essentially, exhausted its reserves, and needed to rebuild them. He described the requested rate increase as conservative. In response to questions from the Board about whether the proposed increase would provide sufficient revenue to meet the utility's operating requirements, Mr. Dominie said:

> A. We believe - and perhaps Mr. Regan can confirm this - that any additional revenue would result in a level of increase above seven percent that was not acceptable to the utility. I think as we stated in response to one of the Interrogatories, this was the maximum increase we felt was acceptable and the financial results followed that decision, I guess.
>
> So, yes it still results in a loss but it was deemed to be the maximum increase that was acceptable both to the utility and its customers.
>
> Q. (Nicholson) So, how did you come up with determining that that was the maximum that was acceptable? Did you have a survey of customers or was there some push back? Where did it come from?
>
> A. (Regan) Basically –
>
> A. (Dominie) I'm sorry, go ahead Mr. Regan.
>
> A. (Regan) Sorry, basically, it was the decision of the Commissioners that that was as much as they thought the market would bear at this time. We may well have to adjust rates again in another year or two. For now, they thought seven percent was politically reasonable to ask.
>
> [Transcript, pp. 27-28]

[15] The Commission expects that the number of customers will remain stable, with some limited growth possible, and said that energy sales are increasing slowly. The Commission also anticipates that power costs will be relatively stable. The rate study shows a projected increase in general expenses from 2019/20 to 2020/21 due to increases in office and operational supplies, liability insurance, professional fees, and bad

debt expense. Without the proposed rate increase, the Commission will have a projected revenue fund deficit of more than $475,000 by the end of fiscal 2020/21.

[16] The Commission expects that the rate increase, as well as an anticipated fuel rebate due from NS Power, will help reduce the deficit. There may also be some impact from changes in purchased power costs.

[17] Mr. Dominie and Mr. Regan each testified that the proposed rates are just and reasonable.

[18] The utility proposes to maintain the General Demand TOU Rate and Peak Co-incidence Rate originally approved by the Board on an interim basis and continued after the last rate application. At present, there are no customers under these rates. The utility was asked whether it makes sense to continue offering them, and Mr. Regan said while no immediate need for them is anticipated, they may be required.

Findings

[19] The Board notes that the utility's last general rate application was made in 2011. The Board considers that the Commission should review its rate needs on a more timely basis. The Board is also concerned that even with the proposed increases, the Commission will still have a deficit in the test year, although it will be less than it would be without the increase. The Board understands that it was the decision of the Commissioners of the utility to limit the increase to 7%. The Board is encouraged by Mr. Regan's statement that the Commission would make an application sooner, should the revenue from the proposed increase be insufficient to address its financial situation.

[20] The rate study indicates that an overall rate increase of 7% results in a rate of return on rate base of 0.86% in the test year. The "normalized" return, at the low end

of prior Board approvals, would be 4.57%, which the Board considers to be reasonable. Accordingly, the Board approves the proposed return on rate base.

[21] The Board finds that it is appropriate for the utility to maintain the General Demand TOU Rate and Peak Co-incidence Rate.

[22] In the circumstances of this application, the Board approves the proposed rate increase as requested, and given the timing of the hearing, the effective date is January 15, 2021.

B. Factorydale Hydro Generation

[23] As noted earlier in this decision, the utility has generation capacity at Factorydale. Mr. Regan testified that the production from the system has not been meeting its long-term average over the past several years. The Board understands, however, the hydro generator was shut down in October 2019, and according to the response to Board IR-5, upon restart the following month, the generator shorted out. There has been no generation since that time. In response to Board questions, Mr. Regan stated that the generator was shipped to Montreal for repairs. It has not yet been repaired due to some insurance issues, and Mr. Regan said that once they are resolved it will be another two or three months before the generator is returned for re-installation.

[24] For this reason, the utility used a lower than average production figure for this system in the rate study. Mr. Regan confirmed at the hearing that the extended period of the generator being inoperative will not have a further impact on the test year results because of the Commission's loss of business insurance.

C. Capital Expenditures

[25] Included in the rate study is the total capital requirement for the 2020/2021 test year in the amount of $72,000. The utility used capital expenditure projections based on the prior year, and the response to Board IR-15(a) indicated that they are considered to be the minimum expected expenditures. Mr. Regan agreed there is some risk in using these numbers but noted the utility intends to stay within its depreciation expenses. The Board notes that an expense of approximately $471,800 has already been approved for purchase of a substation transformer in 2020/21 (M09674). The utility expects to spend less than its depreciation amount in each of the 2021/22 and 2022/23 fiscal years.

Findings

[26] The Board considers that the utility has a good understanding of its priorities. The Board encourages the utility to develop a more formal plan to assess and prioritize capital expenditures as good utility practice.

[27] The Board reminds the utility that approval of the application does not constitute approval of any individual capital expenditure, and the provisions of s. 35 of the *Act* apply to any such expenditure of $250,000 or more.

D. Dividend to Owner

[28] Exhibit 4 attached to the Rate Study indicates that the proposed revenue fund loss at the end of 2020/21 of $285,300 was based on a payment of a dividend to the owner (i.e., the Town) in the amount of $100,000. In the 2011 hearing, the then Director of Finance testified that in the past the dividend was paid in the amount of $50,000 per year. In response to Board IR-22, the utility said:

> The Town of Berwick requests an annual dividend from the Commission, and the revenue from the dividend is built into the Town's operating budget. The annual dividend has ranged from $50,000 to $125,000. Depending on the actual financial results for 2020/21,

> the Board of Commissioners may decide against issuing the Town a dividend, or vote in favour of reducing the amount of the dividend.
>
> [Exhibit B-4, Response to IR-22]

[29] The Board observes that the payment of a dividend of $100,000 to the Town has a significant effect on the deficit projected in the rate study. As part of its response to Board IR-28, the utility suggested that a reduction in the amount of the dividend might be pursued to manage the deficit. The response to Board IR-22 leaves this to the decision of the utility's Commissioners. Mr. Regan testified that it would be beneficial to the utility if the payment were not made but confirmed that it is set by the Town as the sole shareholder of the Commission. The Board expects that due consideration will be given to the impact of a dividend, particularly at the projected level on the utility's financial situation, but makes no finding otherwise.

E. Net Metering

[30] In response to Board IR-30 which sought information regarding any "net metering" or 'self-generation offset" program of the utility pursuant to s. 3A of the *Electricity Act*, S.N.S. 2004, c. 25, as amended, the utility said it did not have a policy. The utility said it does not compensate any customers who connect to its distribution system under its Solar Connectivity Policy. The utility also said it did not intend to seek approval for a regulation for net metering or self-generation offset. The utility said because there is no compensation paid for excess power, it understood it was following the *Electricity Act* provisions.

[31] At the hearing, however, the Board explored this further with Mr. Regan:

> Q. (Clarke) IR-31, you were asked about the net metering or self-generation offset and whether or not there was a policy and any regulation that had been approved by the Board. And you said in your response that you didn't intend to seek approval for a regulation from the Board and you noted that there wasn't any compensation for excess power under your policy.

> Since that time, the Board has been dealing with a complaint regarding the Town of Mahone Bay Electric Utility and it appears that the Town of Mahone Bay will be bringing forward an application to the Board for approval.
>
> Are you aware of the Mahone Bay policy and is it similar to the Berwick policy?
>
> A. Yes, I'm aware of the policy.
>
> Our policies are virtually identical, and we will probably be joining Mahone Bay in seeking approval for those regulations.
>
> Q. Yes, so ---
>
> A. And Antigonish will do so as well.
>
> Q. Yeah, I think Mahone Bay has indicated to the Board it would like to have a separate proceeding in case other municipal electric utilities want to be involved to ensure consistent policy. So, you would be participating in that, you would anticipate?
>
> A. Yes, indeed.
>
> [Transcript, p. 22-23]

Finding

[32] The Board accepts the explanation provided by Mr. Regan and understands that a process is currently before the Board to address this compliance issue. As the Solar Connectivity Policy has not been approved by the Board, the utility is to refrain from providing service under the policy to new customers. For any customers who currently take service under the policy, the utility is to continue the service to these customers pending the Board's decision in that process.

V SUMMARY

[33] The Board has reviewed all of the evidence in this matter. The Board notes that the only formal intervenor was NS Power, which filed no evidence. No members of the public were present at the proceeding, and no objections have been filed with respect to the proposed rate increases. In the Board's view, the material filed in support of the

application, in responses to Information Requests, as well as in the Undertakings, provides a reasonable analysis of the utility's revenue requirements.

[34] Given the timing of the application and the hearing, it was not possible for the rates to be effective on January 1, 2021. The Board approves the Schedule of Rates for Electric Supply and Services with the rates as proposed, attached hereto as Schedule "A," effective January 15, 2021.

[35] The proposed changes to the utility's Schedule of Regulations are for wiring inspection rates and conditions. They will bring these rates and conditions in line with those currently approved for NSPI. The Board finds the proposed changes to be reasonable. The Board approves the proposed changes to the Schedule of Regulations for the Provision or Supply of Electric Services, attached hereto as Schedule "B," with an effective date of January 15, 2021.

[36] An Order will issue accordingly.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 13th day of January, 2021.

Roberta J. Clarke

Jennifer L. Nicholson

SCHEDULE A

BERWICK ELECTRIC COMMISSION

SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR ELECTRIC SUPPLY & SERVICES

(Effective for services rendered on and after January 15, 2021)

RATES

The rates set out below are the rates for electric supply and service when payment is made within 30 days from the date rendered as shown on the bill.

Bills which are not paid within 30 days will be subject to interest rate of 1.5% per month or part thereof to a maximum of 19.56% per year.

Each bill shall show the amount payable by the due date as shown on the bill and the interest rate of 1.5% per month or part thereof which is charged on amounts unpaid after the due date.

"Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) Increases" (non-FAM and / or DSM)

In order to recover increased costs due to NSPI increases and upon notice by the Berwick Electric Commission to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, (the "Board"), the Board may amend the Rates for Domestic service, Small General, General, Domestic Service Time-of-Day (Optional), Industrial, Street Lighting, Yard Lighting, and Other Lighting and Miscellaneous Small Loads, based on the following formula, without the necessity of a public hearing.

1) $A \times B = C$
$C \div D = F\ \%$

2) $G \times H = I$
$I \div J =$
$K\%$

3) $\frac{F\ \% + K\ \%}{2} = L\ \%$

A = 2^{nd} previous years' power cost from NSPI;
B = NSPI approved increase %;
D = 2^{nd} previous total sales for the above classes;
G = Previous years power costs from NSPI;
H = NSPI approved Increase %;
J = Previous years' total sales for the above classes;
L = Average % increase required to the Berwick Electric Commission rates to recover increased Power costs.

Where the Nova Scotia Demand Side Management ("DSM") Rider, as approved by the Board, is charged on energy purchased by the BEC for distribution to its customers, the Commission shall recover the total billed under that Rider by the following formula:

Using the BEC's most recent projection of sales, losses, production and purchases in the spreadsheet <u>SALES ~ HYDRO ~ w ~ w Budget,</u> produced annually during BEC's budgeting process:

(1) A x B = C where

A = the DSM Rider approved for the year, in dollars

B = the total kWh projected to be billed to BEC with the DSM Rider attached;

C = the total DSM cost to BEC for the year, in dollars.

Then

(2) C/D = E where

D is the total projected sales in kWh to all BEC customers, including street and yard lighting and various small unmetered services

And

E is a Rider in dollars to be applied to all energy sales including street and yard lighting and small unmetered services.

Where the kWh (energy) portion of street and yard lighting or small unmetered charges is incorporated into a monthly charge then the charge for the energy portion shall be adjusted by the Rider and the result incorporated into the monthly charge. For street and yard lighting the energy portion of such charges shall be as represented in NSPI's current Rates and Regulations, and where no monthly kWh value is available, upon the calculated monthly energy.

Where the NSPI Fuel Adjustment Mechanism (FAM) is applied to energy purchased by the BEC for distribution to its customers, the net result of the FAM applied to such purchases shall be rebated to or recovered from all BEC customers by an adjustment to the kilowatt-hour rates charged in all rate classes, and in the street and yard lighting and small unmetered, the adjustment will be to the energy portion incorporated into the monthly charges only. For street and yard lighting the energy portion of such charges shall be as represented in NSPI's current Rates and Regulations, and where no monthly kWh value is available, upon the calculated monthly energy. The formula for calculating the adjustment shall be as follows:

Using the BEC's most recent projection of sales, losses, production and purchases in the spreadsheet <u>SALES ~ HYDRO ~ yy ~ yy Budget,</u> produced annually during BEC's budgeting process:

Ax B = C where A= the FAM adjustment charged to BEC and
B = the total energy in kWh projected to be purchased from NSPI to which the FAM applies
and
C = the total FAM effect on BEC for the subject year.

And

C/D = E where D is the total projected sales in kWh to all BEC customers,
including street and yard lighting and various small unmetered services and

E is the FAM adjustment to be applied to all energy distributed to BEC customers

The rates shown in this Schedule shall be those adjusted by the FAM and the amount of the FAM adjustment E shall be shown in all rates.

For street lighting, yard lighting, other lighting and miscellaneous small loads, the rates shown in this Schedule shall be those adjusted by the FAM and the DSM Rider.

DOMESTIC SERVICE

Service Charge:	$20.19 per month.
Energy Rate:	$0.1405 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
DSM Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
FAM adjustment:	$0.00000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy rate above)
Minimum Bill:	$20.19 per month

SMALL GENERAL

Service Charge:	$17.47 per month.
Energy Rates:	$0.1990 per kilowatt-hour for the first 200 kilowatt-hours per month. $0.1401 per kilowatt-hour for all additional consumption.
DSM Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
FAM adjustment:	$0.00000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy rate above)
Minimum Bill:	$17.47 per month.

GENERAL SERVICE

Demand Charge:	$17.88 per month per kilowatt of maximum demand.
Energy Rates:	$0.1040 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.
DSM Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
FAM adjustment:	$0.00000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy rate above)
Minimum Bill:	$19.92 per month.

DOMESTIC SERVICE TIME-OF-DAY RATE (OPTIONAL)

BASE CHARGE:	$23.19 per month.

ENERGY CHARGE:

December, January and February/

7:00 am to 1:00 pm	$0.2583 per kilowatt hour
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	$0.1405 per kilowatt hour
4:00 pm to 10:00 pm	$0.2583 per kilowatt hour
10:00 pm to 7:00 am	$0.0975 per kilowatt hour

The above rates apply weekdays (Monday to Friday inclusive), excluding statutory holidays. For Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays, all consumption will be billed at the rate of $0.0975 per kilowatt hour.

March to November

7:00 am to 10:00 pm	$0.1405 per kilowatthour
10:00 pm to 7:00 am	$0.0975 per kilowatt hour

The above rates apply weekdays (Monday through Friday inclusive), excluding statutory holidays. For Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays, all consumption will be billed at the rate of $0.0975 per kilowatt hour.

DSM Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
FAM adjustment:	$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy rate above)

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE:

The minimum monthly charge shall be $23.19.

AVAILABILITY:

This rate is only available to customers employing Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) equipment and electric in-floor radiant (i.e. hydronic) heating systems utilizing time shifting technology approved by the Utility.

GENERAL DEMAND TIME-OF-USE RATE (OPTIONAL)

The rate is available to customers meeting the availability criteria of the General Demand rate class who install heat storage systems and controls to enable timeshifting of heating and other loads.

Customers choosing to take this rate are required to remain on this rate for one year following the date of inception. One month's notice is required prior to the anniversary date to revert to the General Demand rate. If such notice is not given, it is understood the customer is committing to another 12-month period on the rate. Date of initial service under this rate must be after March 1 and prior to December 1.

Customers taking service under this rate will be billed for energy and demand at the same rates as under the General Demand rate. However, demand charges for demand peaks set outside of the winter peak period and exceeding the winter peak demand period will be discounted. The winter peak demand shall be the maximum demand recorded during winter peak hours; that is non-holiday week days between the hours of 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM during the months of December, January and February. The customer's winter peak demand will be as determined using the highest 15 minute interval data recorded by BEC metering times 4. This winter peak demand will be ratcheted for the succeeding eleven months. Outside of winter peak hours, demand in excess of the ratcheted winter peak demand will be billed at the difference between $6.82 and the BEC General Demand Rate to account for Berwick's billing demand costs, plus 15% to account for power factor, demand losses, and administration.

BEC staff shall be given the opportunity to inspect the storage and control systems to ensure Canadian Electrical Code compliance and to be satisfied the systems will perform as intended. If BEC staff are not confident the systems will perform as intended they may decline to offer the rate.

GENERAL DEMAND PEAK CO-INCIDENCE RATE (OPTIONAL)

The rate is available to customers meeting the availability criteria of the General Demand rate class who install heat storage systems and/or controls to enable load shedding upon receipt of a signal sent by electronic means by BEC'S peak shaving software. Customers choosing to take this rate are required to remain on this rate for one year following the date of inception. One month's notice is required prior to the anniversary date to revert to the General Demand rate. If such notice is not given, it is understood the customer is committing to another 12-month period on the rate. Date of initial service under this rate must be after March 1 and prior to December 1.

Customers taking service under this rate will be billed for energy and demand at the same rates as under the General Demand rate.

Customers choosing to take this rate will be sent a Demand Control signal when the BEC system is approaching a peak demand defense point during the winter peak period. The winter peak period is all hours between 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM on non-holiday weekdays during December, January, and February. The customer will then be expected to reduce load, until another signal to restore load is sent by BEC. The number and duration of demand control intervals will be limited as set outbelow.

Customers will receive a demand control credit equal to the customer's demand reduction measured in kilowatts, co-incident with the BEC's winter peak, times 85% BEC's Demand costs. For clarity the formula is:

Demand reduction in kW x ($6.82 x .85) x 12

The customer's demand reduction shall be as reflected in interval data recorded by BEC metering and the BEC winter peak will be the current forecast 7500kW.

Each November BEC establishes a peak demand defense point, based on the experience of the previous winter and known and predicted changes to the system. Factorydale hydro is dispatched to defend this demand defense point and the point may be adjusted over the winter peak period if the demand defense point is exceeded. BEC shall set the initial demand defense point at a reasonable level using best judgment and forecasting, and shall dispatch all of its own resources prior to issuing demand control signals; the demand defense point shall not be lower than 90% of the forecasted level.

BEC staff shall be given the opportunity to inspect the storage and control systems to ensure Canadian Electrical Code compliance and to be satisfied the systems will perform as intended. If BEC staff are not confident the systems will perform as intended they may decline to offer the rate.

Demand control intervals shall not exceed 8 hours in duration and 12 hours in any calendar day, and the number of demand control intervals shall not exceed 8 intervals in each of December, January, and February.

INDUSTRIAL

Demand Charge: Energy Charge: DSM Rider:	$15.22 per month per kilovolt ampere of maximum demand.
Energy Charge:	$0.0941 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
DMS Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
FAM adjustment:	$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption (included in energy rate above).
Voltage Adjustment:	Where a customer takes service under this rate, and where the metering point is at 4kV or higher voltage, energy consumption shall be reduced by 1.75% for billing purposes.

Demand Reduction Rider:

Where it can be shown, that a customer, with 6 out of 12 monthly billing demands in the calendar year in excess of 1000 kVA, has contributed, through a concentrated effort at reducing its winter peak demands at a time co-incident with the Utility's peak demand requirement, to a reduction in the Utility's billing peak established with NSPI, any resultant savings to the Utility shall be shared on a 50/50 basis with said customer. To qualify, the average of the customer's monthly billing demands in the months of December, January, February must amount to no more than 80% of the average in the following July/August/September (1600 kVA versus 2000 MVA for example). The Utility will work closely with the customer to coordinate the time co-incident requirement of this rider. The savings will be applied to the customer bills for the months of October and November and shown as equal credits on the bills. The savings will be calculated based on rates in effect at the time the demand reduction took place and reflected as "Demand Reduction Credit".

Import Electricity Rebate:

The Utility will undertake good faith efforts to purchase imported electricity when it is more economic to make such purchases than to purchase the same amount of electricity from NSPI. The Utility shall provide a monthly Import Electricity Rebate (the “Rebate”) to customers taking service under this Industrial Rate to account for any such economic purchases. The monthly Rebate shall be determined by calculating the differential between (i) the total cost that the Utility would have otherwise incurred had it purchased that same amount of electricity from NSPI.

The monthly Rebate will be provided to individual customers taking service under this Industrial Rate in proportion to the percentage of each customer’s usage under this Industrial Rate. The amount of Rebate to be paid to individual customers pursuant to this mechanism shall be capped at the point at which the amount paid by the customer to the Utility for electricity service for the previous 12 months is equal to the amount that would have been paid by the customer in the same period if it was a customer of NSPI and had made its payments for electricity pursuant to the applicable NSPI tariff. The customer’s monthly bill will show the calculation of the Rebate.

STREET LIGHTING

DSM Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)
FAM adjustment:	$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)

(Lamps burning 4,000 hours per year, lighting system supplied and maintained by the Commission, consisting of luminaries' bracket-mounted on existing wood poles and energized from existing secondary circuits.)

88 watt LED streetlight	$12.08 per lamp per month
125 watt mercury vapour	$12.98 per lamp per month
175 watt mercury vapour	$17.47 per lamp per month
250 watt mercury vapour	$21.73 per lamp per month
400 watt mercury vapour	$31.05 per lamp per month
70 watt high-pressure sodium lamp	$14.88 per lamp per month
100 watt high-pressure sodium lamp	$17.48 per lamp per month
150 watt high-pressure sodium lamp	$20.89 per lamp per month
250 watt high pressure sodium lamp	$26.89 per lamp per month

(Crosswalk lighting: fixtures supplied by the Town of Berwick; power, energy and maintenance supplied by the Commission.)

40 watt fluorescent fixture	$ 8.38 per fixture per month
400 watt fluorescent fixture	$32.20 per fixture per month

YARD LIGHTING

DSM Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)
FAM adjustment:	$0.00000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)

(Lamps burning 4,000 hours per year, lighting system supplied and maintained by the Commission, consisting of luminaries' bracket-mounted on existing wood poles and energized from existing secondary circuits.)

55 watt LED yard light	$8.85 per lamp per month
88 watt LED yard light	$12.08 per lamp per month

125 watt mercury vapour	$12.98 per lamp per month
175 watt mercury vapour	$17.41 per lamp per month
250 watt mercury vapour	$21.90 per lamp per month
400 watt mercury vapour	$30.99 per lamp per month
400 watt mercury vapour floodlamp	$30.99 per lamp per month
70 watt high pressure sodium lamp	$13.03 per lamp per month
100 watt high pressure sodium lamp	$16.11 per lamp per month
150 watt high pressure sodium lamp	$20.92 per lamp per month
250 watt high pressure sodium lamp	$26.89 per lamp per month
400 watt high pressure sodium floodlamp	$31.05 per lamp per month
175 watt metal halide floodlamp	$17.47 per lamp per month
250 watt metal halide floodlamp	$21.94 per lamp per month
250 watt high pressure sodium floodlamp	$21.94 per lamp per month
400 watt MH halide floodlamp	$30.99 per lamp per month
70 watt high pressure sodium cobra head	$14.92 per lamp per month

OTHER LIGHTING & MISCELLANEOUS SMALL LOADS

(Applicable to street lighting, sign lighting and similar unmetered loads where demand, time of use and energy consumption are known, and the Commission supplies power and energy only.)

Demand Charge:	$18.25 per month per kilowatt.
Energy Charge:	$0.1321 per kilowatt-hour.
DSM Rider:	$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)
2015 FAM adjustment:	$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)

SCHEDULE B
BERWICK ELECTRIC COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS

(Effective for services rendered on and after January 15, 2021)

WIRING AND INSPECTION AND SCHEDULE OF WIRING INSPECTION FEES

PERMITS AND INSPECTION
Permits and inspections will normally be of three types:

a) Regular Permits and Inspections
b) Annual Permits and Inspections
c) Special Permits and Inspections

a) Regular Permits and Inspections

All persons, firms or corporations within Berwick Electric Commission's inspection authority who are eligible to install electrical installations for the use of electrical energy shall, before commencing or doing any electrical installation of new equipment, or repairs, or altering or adding to any electrical installation or equipment already installed, submit and obtain approval in a mam1er prescribed by the inspection authority.

Individual permits shall be required for temporary and individual miscellaneous services and each dwelling unit of a single, duplex or row type housing, etc., whether supplied via an individual or multi-position metering devises.

Apartment type buildings, multi-tenant industrial and commercial installations shall be performed under one permit.

Permits are non-transferable.

Permits shall be issued only to the firm or persons performing the work described on the Permit and in compliance with Section 4, "Permit" of the regulations made by the Fire Marshall pursuant to the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.

Permit holders shall immediately notify the Electrical Inspection Authority upon the completion of an electrical installation requesting a FINAL inspection.

The fee for a Regular Permit and Inspection will be based on the Installed Value, including labour, material and sundries of the electrical installation, alteration, upgrade, repair or extension.

When a dispute arises regarding the cost of an electrical installation the permit applicant may be required, at the Inspection Authority discretion, to supply letter from the owner indicating the value of the contract and/or a bill of materials for the project.

The fees for a Regular Permit and Inspection, including the number of Inspection Visits, shall be based on the Installed Value of the installation as shown in the Inspection Fee Schedule.

b) Annual Permits and Inspections

An annual maintenance permit shall be issued for an establishment to cover all minor repairs as required under sections 4(a) (B), (2) and (3) of the regulations made by the Fire Marshal pursuant to the Electrical Installation Act.

Such a permit does not entitle the holder to effect major electrical alterations or additions.

The number of inspection visits shall be at the discretion of the Inspection Authority. Notwithstanding the above, at least one inspection visit shall be made in the year for which the permit is issued.

c) Special Permits and Inspections

Where the fee for a Regular Permit and Inspection are inappropriate the special permit and inspection fee shall apply. (i.e. Carnivals and traveling shows).

LATE APPLICATION FEE

Where an electrical contractor fails to obtain an electrical wiring permit prior to commencing the electrical work, an additional fee shall be payable in the amount of fifty percent of the regular up to a maximum additional fee of $100.00.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Fees for permits and inspections shall be paid at the time of requesting the permit unless otherwise indicated by the inspection authority. Permits having fees in arrears in excess of 120 days shall be subject to cancellation and at the discretion of the inspection authority, no additional permits shall be issued to the holder of the unpaid permits until such time the outstanding fees have been adequately dealt 1' 1h.

REFUND OF FEES

The holder of a permit may apply to the Inspection Authority for a refund less a $10.00 non-refundable portion of the permit fee with respect to a cancelled or unused permit. No refund shall be issued where an inspection call has been made at the request of the permit holder

EXPIRY OF PERMITS

A permit for electrical work is valid for 12 months from the date of issue in respect of residential and 24 months in respect of all others unless otherwise noted on the permit. Upon expiry, a renewal fee to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the original permit shall be charged.

REVIEW OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Inspection Authority may, prior to issuing a permit, request the submission of plans and specifications for any proposed electrical installation. Plans shall be submitted for all commercial, industrial institutional installations exceeding 250 volts or 250 amperes.

INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE:

(a) Regular Permits and Inspection

The fee for a regular permit and the maximum number of inspection visits, with respect to an installation will be calculated, as follows:

COST OF INSTALLATION	MAX. NUMBEROF INSPECTION VISITS	FEE
$0 to $2,000	1	$69.00
$2,001 to $4,000	2	$138.00
$4,001 to $6,000	2	$233.00
$6,001 to $8,000	2	$284.00
$8,001 to $10,000	2	$330.00
$10,001 to $15,000	3	$462.00
$15,001 to $25,000	3	$587.00
$25,001 to $50,000	3	$850.00
$50,001 to $100,000	3	$1,206.00
$100,001 to $300,000	4	$1,893.00
$300,001 to $500,000	5	$2,365.00
$500,001 to $750,000	6	$2,839.00
$750,001 to $1,000,000	8	$3,785.00
Over $1,000,000	10	$4,626.00 + 0.15% 0f installation cost in excess of $1,000,000.

New Installations are subject to the following minimum inspection fees:

Residential-All Installations	$138.00
Commercial/Industrial Institutional	
Up to 100 AMPS	$138.00
Over 100 to 400 AMPS	$330.00
Over 400 to 800 AMPS	$462.00
Over 800 to 1000 AMPS	$587.00
Over 1000 AMPS	$850.00

(b) Annual Permit and Inspection

The fee for an annual permit and inspection for any one establishment shall be the appropriate hourly rate.

(c) Special Permit and Inspection

The fee for a special permit and inspection for any one project shall be the appropriate hourly rate.

(d) Plans Examination

The fees for the exan1ination of electrical plans and specifications shall be per review:

0 - 1,000 amps	$115.00
Greater than 1,000	$115.00

(e) Primary Services

The fees for the inspection of a primary service (padmount, vault, etc.) shall be per installation $124.00

(f) Letter of Acceptance

The fee for a Letter of Acceptance shall be $32.00

(g) Hourly Rate Inspection

Note: All fees are per inspection visit.

<u>Normal Working Hours</u>

i)	For the first hour of fraction thereof	$68.00
ii)	For each additional half-hour of fraction thereof	$28.00

<u>Outside Normal Working Hours</u>
Extension of a regular work day (before or after)

i)	For the first hour or fraction thereof	$91.00
ii)	For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof	$39.00

Weekends and Statutory Holidays

Scheduled inspections on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) and statutory holidays:

i)	For the first hour or fraction thereof	$151.00
ii)	For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof	$ 54.00

Inspections in Excess of Maximum Number

For an inspection visit, in excess of the maximum number of visits permitted under the Regular Permit and Inspection Fee, the Special Permit and Inspection Fee shall apply.