


NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION by the **RIVERPORT ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMISSION** for approval to amend its Schedule of Rates for Electric Supply to allow it to flow through changes in its purchased power costs to its customers

BEFORE:  Stephen T. McGrath, K.C., Chair

DECISION AND ORDER

Since 2006, the Riverport Electric Light Commission (utility) has been able to change its rates to flow through to its customers, changes in the Board-approved rates charged by Nova Scotia Power Incorporated. The flow-through mechanism, which was approved by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board after a public hearing, allowed the mechanism to be used and rates to be changed without the necessity of another public hearing.

In Matter M11893, the utility applied to amend its flow-through mechanism to allow it to flow through other changes in its purchased power costs on a timely basis without the necessity of a public hearing. After a public hearing to consider the amendment, the Board issued its decision on December 5, 2024, and an order approving the application on December 20, 2024.

In an application dated February 21, 2025, the utility applied to the Board for approval to amend its Schedule of Rates for Electric Supply and Services to flow through changes in its purchased power costs since its rates were last set. The utility has proposed rates using its approved flow-through mechanism.

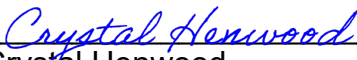
The Board approves the application and orders the following:

1. The Schedule of Rates for Electric Supply and Services, attached to this order as Schedule "A", is approved for service rendered on and after March 1, 2025.
2. As required by the Board in its decision and order in Matter M11893, the utility is directed to apply to the Board (or the Nova Scotia Energy Board), no later

than June 30, 2025, for the approval of a true-up component for its flow-through mechanism.

3. The utility is directed to file another flow-through mechanism application that includes a true-up adjustment no later than **November 1, 2027**. The utility may file another flow-through mechanism application without a true-up adjustment before then, but the approval of such an application will not change the requirement for a filing with a true-up adjustment by November 1, 2027.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 14th day of March 2025.



Crystal Henwood
Regulatory Affairs Officer/Clerk



SCHEDULE A

RIVERPORT ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMISSION

Schedule of Rates for Electric Supply and Service (Effective for all services rendered on and after March 1, 2025)

RATES

The rates requested below are the rates for electric supply and services when payment is made within thirty (30) days from the date rendered as shown on the bill.

Interest at a rate of 1.5% per month (19.56% per annum) shall be applicable to any outstanding balance beyond 30 days after the date rendered (i.e. beyond the due date).

Bills rendered shall show clearly the date rendered, the due date, the amount of interest applicable to overdue balances, and the total amount due by the due date.

“Purchased Power Cost Changes, including Demand-Side Management (“DSM”) Charges

In order to recover costs due to power purchase changes and upon notice by the Riverport Electric Light Commission (“RELC”) to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, (the Board), the Board may amend the Rates for Domestic Service, Small General Service, General Service, Large General Service, Cable TV Power Packs, Street Lighting, and Yard Lighting based on the following formula, without the necessity of a public hearing:

$$A / B = C$$

A	=	Estimated change in all purchased power costs, including DSM;
B	=	Estimated revenue (excluding any estimated revenue from base charges) from rate classes;
C	=	% change required to the RELC energy and demand rates to recover changes in power purchase costs.

To calculate (A), the estimated change in all power purchased costs, including DSM, RELC will use the following procedure:

Step 1 – Use the Town’s most recent projection of sales, losses, production, and purchases in the spreadsheet produced annually during RELC’s budgeting process to calculate the Total Required Energy by source of purchased power (e.g. excluding self-generation), the Total Cost of such purchased power, and the cent/kWh Cost of purchased power.

Step 2 – Calculate the difference between the cent/kWh Cost in Step 1 and the cent/kWh Cost of purchased power used in setting existing rates in Step 2.

Step 3 – Multiply the difference in Step 2 by the Total Required Energy to be served by purchased power (e.g. excluding self-generation) in the Test Year to determine the estimated change in all purchased power costs for the Test Year.

Where the kWh (energy) portion of cable tv packs, street and yard lighting is incorporated into a monthly charge then the charge for the energy portion shall be adjusted by the change 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.

In the event a new source of purchased power forms part of the Test Year, or an existing power purchase agreement for a source of purchased power has been amended since the Board's approval of existing rates, the Board may grant the flow-through requested following its review of the updated information without the necessity of a public hearing, subject to the Board reserving the right to conduct a review to assure such Test Year purchased power costs are reasonable and prudent. Following consideration of such review (if any), the Board may make such adjustments (with interest if appropriate) as it may find necessary.

Where, in the absence of a General Rate Application, an increase for any customer class of more than 10 percent compared with the rate payable in the prior year is caused by the application of the flow-through procedures, the Board should consider appropriate measures to assist customers.

Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) Adjustments due to Fuel Adjustment Mechanism ("FAM")

In order to recover FAM adjustments due to NSPI approved FAM adjustments and upon notice by RELC to the Board, the Board may amend the kilowatt-hour rates charged in all rate classes based on the following, without the necessity of a public hearing.

D = the FAM adjustment to be rebated to or recovered from RELC during the Test Year and

E = the projected total sales to all of RELC's customers from RELC's most recent projection of sales in the Spreadsheet and

D / E = F where F is the cents/kWh FAM adjustment to be applied to the kWh rates for RELC customers.

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

For street lighting and yard lighting, the rates shown in this Schedule shall be those adjusted by the FAM.

Where the kWh (energy) portion of cable tv packs, street and yard lighting is incorporated into a monthly charge then the charge for the energy portion shall be adjusted by the change 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.

For Domestic Time-of-Use Rates, the following will apply:

- On peak charges are twice the Total Regular Domestic 2nd Block kWh rate;
- Shoulder charges are equal to the Total Regular Domestic 2nd Block kWh rate;
- the off-peak charges are equal to the total purchase price per kWh from NSPI plus losses.

DOMESTIC SERVICE

Service Charge: \$13.87 per month where service is through a two or three wire service.

Energy Rates: 21.06 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 200 kilowatt hours per month.

18.90 cents per kilowatt hour for all additional consumption in any billing period, but in no case shall the average price per kilowatt hour on the whole bill, including the service charge, be less than 18.87 cents in any billing period.

Minimum Bill: \$13.87 per month where service is through either two or three wire service.

Availability: The rate for domestic service shall be applicable to all electric energy used by any customer in the private residence occupied by such customer and used for domestic or household lighting, cooking, heating, or refrigeration purposes, and for all other ordinary domestic or household use. It may include milking machines, cream separators, food choppers, and similar farm and fishing appliances served through the same meter and having an aggregate demand not exceeding 5 kilowatts.

2023 General Rate Application Deferred Revenue Rider: 0.6994 cents per kilowatt hour for service from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026

SMALL GENERAL SERVICE

Service Charge: \$19.09 per month

Energy Rates: 27.51 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 200 kilowatt hours per month

21.33 cents per kilowatt hours for all additional consumption

Minimum Bill: The service charge.

Availability: This rate shall be applicable to non-domestic single-phase services where energy does not exceed 10,000 kilowatt hours per year and demand does not exceed 6 kW.

GENERAL SERVICE

Demand Charge: \$14.49 per month per kilowatt of billing demand. Billing demand shall be the maximum demand of the present or previous 11 months.

Energy Rates: 21.56 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 100 kilowatt hours per month per kW of billing demand.

12.86 cents per kilowatt hour for all additional consumption.

Minimum Bill: The demand charge.

Availability: This rate shall be applicable to all services not eligible for other rates in this Schedule.

**2023 General Rate
Application Deferred
Revenue Rider:**

1.1374 cents per kilowatt hour for service from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026

LARGE GENERAL SERVICE

- Demand Charge:** \$14.74 per month per kilovolt-ampere of billing demand. Billing demand shall be the larger of the maximum demand of the present month or the month in which the present RELC billing demand was set.
- Energy Charge:** 21.87 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 100 kilowatt hours per month per kilovolt-ampere of billing demand.
14.28 cents per kilowatt hour for all additional consumption.
- Minimum Bill:** The demand charge.
- Availability:** This rate shall be applicable to all non-domestic services where billing demand equals or exceeds 100 kVa.

STREET LIGHTING

\$47,114 per year.

Availability:

This street lighting charge shall be payable by the Municipality of Lunenburg and shall cover provision, 4,000 hour per year operation and maintenance of a 257 fixture street light system.

YARD LIGHTING

\$132.66 per year.

Availability:

This rate shall apply to the provision, operation, and maintenance of individual lighting units serving customers' premises, and the Commission may, at its option, require the customer to agree to a minimum term of service for one year. Service shall consist of dusk-to-dawn operation; approximately 4,000 hours per year.

CABLE TV POWER PACKS

Service Charge: \$4.82 per connected unit per month

Energy Charge: 17.43 cents per kilowatt hour

Availability: This classification applies to cable TV power packs, where the consumption is unmetered.

The level of consumption for billing purposes shall be as agreed to by the Utility and the customer, based on

- Documentation about electricity consumption of the unmetered load or,
- At the option of the Utility, periodic monitoring of actual consumption.

DOMESTIC SERVICE TIME OF DAY RATE (OPTIONAL)

Base Charge: \$21.40 per month

Energy Charge:

December, January and February

7:00 am to 1:00 pm	37.80 cents per kilowatt hour
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	18.90 cents per kilowatt hour
4:00 pm to 10:00 pm	37.80 cents per kilowatt hour
10:00 pm to 7:00 am	10.91 cents 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 10.91 cents per kWh.

March to November

7:00 am to 10:00 pm	18.90 cents per kilowatt hour
10:00 pm to 7:00 am	10.91 cents 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 10.91¢ per kWh.

**Minimum
Monthly
Charge:**

The minimum monthly charge shall be \$21.40.

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.

**2023 General Rate
Application
Deferred Revenue
Rider:**

0.6994 cents per kilowatt hour for service from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026