P.U. 35 (2002-2003)

INTERIM RATES ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF the *Public Utilities Act* R.S.N. 1990, Chapter P-47 (the "Act");

AND IN THE MATTER OF a Application By Newfoundland Power Inc. filed pursuant to Section 75 of the *Act* and Order No. P. U. 22 (2002-2003)

WHEREAS in Order No. P.U. 22 (2002-2003) (the "Order") the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities (the "Board") approved a schedule of rates, tolls and charges for Newfoundland Power Inc. ("Newfoundland Power") to be effective on all energy consumed on and after September 1, 2002; and

WHEREAS the Order further provided that the rates approved by the Board shall be in effect until December 31, 2002 and that Newfoundland Power file a general rate application for a full review of its 2003 costs, including cost of capital (the "2003 General Rate Application"), by October 11, 2002; and

WHEREAS the effect of the Order is that there was no approved schedule of rates, tolls and charges for Newfoundland Power effective from and after January 1, 2003; and

WHEREAS Newfoundland Power filed its 2003 General Rate Application with the Board on October 11, 2002; and

WHEREAS Section 75 of the *Act* provides that the Board may make an interim order unilaterally and without public hearing or notice, approving with or without modification a schedule of rates, tolls and charges submitted by a public utility, upon the terms and conditions that it may decide; and

WHEREAS Newfoundland Power filed an application with the Board on December 16, 2002 for an order approving, on an interim basis from January 1, 2003, the current schedule of rates, tolls and charges (the "Interim Rate Order") as approved in Order No. P.U. 22 (2002-2003) to remain in effect until further order of the Board following the hearing of the 2003 General Rate Application; and

WHERAS the Intervenors in the 2003 General Rate Application have consented to the Board considering the application without a hearing; and

WHEREAS the Board is satisfied that granting the Interim Rate Order is necessary and appropriate in the circumstances.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

Pursuant to Section 75 of the *Public Utilities Act*, RSN 1990, Chapter P-47, the Board approves, on an interim basis from January 1, 2003, the current schedule of rates, tolls and charges of Newfoundland Power as approved in Order No. P.U. 22 (2002-2003), which will remain in effect until a final order of the Board.

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador this 19th day of December 2002.

Robert Noseworthy, Chair & Chief Executive Officer.

Darlene Whalen, P.Eng., Vice-Chairperson.

John William Finn, Q.C. Commissioner.

G. Cheryl Blundon, Director of Corporate Services and Board Secretary.