

**NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**AN ORDER OF THE BOARD
NO. P. U. 2(2009)**

1 **IN THE MATTER OF** the *Electrical Power*
2 *Control Act*, RSNL 1994, Chapter E-5.1 (the
3 "*EPCA*") and the *Public Utilities Act*, RSNL 1990,
4 Chapter P-47 (the "*Act*") as amended, and their
5 subordinate regulations;

6
7 **AND**
8

9 **IN THE MATTER OF** an application
10 by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro")
11 for approval to relocate portable generating
12 units maintained at St. Anthony in accordance
13 with Order No. P.U. 34(2004).
14

15
16 **WHEREAS** Hydro is a corporation continued and existing under the *Hydro Corporation Act*, is a
17 public utility within the meaning of the *Act* and is also subject to the provisions of the *EPCA*; and
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19 **WHEREAS** on October 21, 2008 Hydro filed an application with the Board for approval to relocate
20 two 850 kW portable generating units from St. Anthony to Nain (the "Portable Generators"); and
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22 **WHEREAS** the Portable Generators were initially installed at Roddickton in accordance with Order
23 No. P. U. 5(2000-2001); and
24

25 **WHEREAS** in Order No. P.U. 34 (2004) the Board approved an application by Hydro to relocate
26 the Portable Generators to St. Anthony; and
27

28 **WHEREAS** Hydro's diesel generating station at St. Anthony normally provides a total generating
29 capacity of 9.7 MW comprised of 8 MW of permanently installed diesel generating units in addition
30 to the Portable Generators; and
31

32 **WHEREAS** on September 7, 2008, a fire at Hydro's diesel generating station in the community of
33 Nain caused serious damage requiring emergency repairs and jeopardizing the security of the supply
34 of electricity to the customers in that community; and

1 **WHEREAS** after the September 7, 2008 fire Hydro made arrangements to relocate the Portable
2 Generators to Nain to provide safe and reliable service to the community of Nain while the diesel
3 units at the Nain diesel generating station were repaired; and
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5 **WHEREAS** Hydro has applied for approval to retain the Portable Generators at Nain until the
6 permanent repairs are completed and thereafter to return the Portable Generators to St. Anthony to
7 be maintained there unless later required elsewhere for emergency or operational purposes; and
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9 **WHEREAS** copies of Hydro's application were provided to the Town of Roddickton, the Town of
10 St. Anthony, Newfoundland Power and the Consumer Advocate; and
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12 **WHEREAS** on November 10, 2008 the Town of Roddickton filed a submission with the Board
13 asking the Board to deny Hydro's application and asking that the Board order Hydro to return the
14 portable units to St. Anthony, rent other portable units to be placed in Nain and report in relation to
15 Hydro's existing stand-by diesel generating power for the consideration of the Board; and
16

17 **WHEREAS** Hydro has advised in response to an information request issued by the Board that the
18 only mode of transportation for the Portable Generators is ocean-going freighter and that it is
19 anticipated that the Portable Generators will be needed in Nain until at least September 2009; and
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21 **WHEREAS** since the Portable Generators are already in Nain there is no practical way to require
22 Hydro to return the Portable Generators to St. Anthony until after the opening of the shipping
23 season; and
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25 **WHEREAS** the Board is satisfied that the Town of Roddickton has raised legitimate and serious
26 concerns about Hydro's preparedness and planning in relation to standby/portable generation which
27 should be considered further; and
28

29 **WHEREAS** the Board is satisfied that Hydro should participate in a review to be undertaken by the
30 Board as to the adequacy of Hydro's standby/portable generation which review may result in
31 subsequent directions by the Board in relation to the Portable Generators.
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33 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**
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- 35 1. Hydro's application to retain the Portable Generators at the Nain diesel generating station
36 while it is being repaired following the September 7, 2008 fire is approved.
37
- 38 2. Hydro's application for approval to return the Portable Generators to St. Anthony after
39 completion of the repairs at the Nain diesel generating station and retain the Portable
40 Generators at St. Anthony except for times when they are needed or useful to provide
41 operation benefits for temporary deployment elsewhere is not approved as the location and
42 conditions on usage of the Portable Generators will be determined as part of a general review
43 by the Board of Hydro's preparedness and planning in relation to standby/portable
44 generation.

- 1 3. Hydro shall pay the expenses of the Board arising from this matter.
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DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 20th day of January 2009.

Andrew Wells
Chair & Chief Executive Officer

Darlene Whalen, P.Eng.
Vice-Chair

Dwanda Newman, LL.B.
Commissioner

Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary