NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

AN ORDER OF THE BOARD

NO. P.U. 35(2013)

1 **IN THE MATTER OF** the *Electrical Power*

2 Control Act, 1994, SNL 1994, Chapter E-5.1 (the

3 "EPCA") and the Public Utilities Act, RSNL 1990,

4 Chapter P-47 (the "*Act*"), as amended, and regulations

5 thereunder; and

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7 **IN THE MATTER OF** an application by

8 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for the

9 deferred recovery of 2013 costs associated

10 with its energy conservation plan.

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13 WHEREAS Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") is a corporation continued and 14 existing under the *Hydro Corporation Act*, 2007, is a public utility within the meaning of the *Act*, 15 and is also subject to the provisions of the *EPCA*; and

WHEREAS in Order Nos. P.U. 13(2010), P.U. 4(2011) and P.U. 3(2012) the Board approved
Hydro's applications for the deferred recovery of the costs incurred by Hydro in association with
its energy conservation plan in 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively; and

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WHEREAS in Order No. P.U. 21(2013) the Board did not approve an application from Hydro for deferred recovery of the 2013 costs related to its energy conservation plan finding that it was not appropriate to approve deferral of the 2013 costs in advance of the filing of Hydro's General Rate Application; and

WHEREAS on July 30, 2013 Hydro filed a General Rate Application which will not be finalized
 prior to the end of 2013; and

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WHEREAS on November 1, 2013 Hydro filed an application with the Board requesting approval
 of the deferred recovery of the 2013 costs to be incurred by Hydro in association with its energy
 conservation plan which are estimated to be \$1.95 million (the "Application"); and

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WHEREAS the Application was circulated to Newfoundland Power Inc. ("Newfoundland Power"), the Consumer Advocate, a group of three Island Industrial customers: Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited, North Atlantic Refining Limited and Teck Resources Limited ("Industrial Customer Group"), and Vale Newfoundland and Labrador Limited ("Vale"); and 1 **WHEREAS** Newfoundland Power, the Consumer Advocate and Vale issued Requests for 2 Information which were answered by Hydro by November 18, 2013; and

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WHEREAS on November 21, 2013 Newfoundland Power and the Consumer Advocate advised
they had no comments on the Application, and the Industrial Customer Group and Vale advised
they did not oppose the Application based on their understanding of the Application; and

8 WHEREAS Vale further commented on procedural issues associated with the Application, 9 noting that certain additional information should be submitted with the Application and further 10 suggesting that the Board mandate that if the deferral costs exceed the amount approved, a 11 supplemental application be filed; and

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WHEREAS on November 26, 2013 Hydro filed a reply confirming Vale's understanding of the Application and submitting that it would be redundant to set a threshold for the amount of the deferral costs permitted to be recorded in the account; and

WHEREAS electricity rates currently charged to Hydro's customers will not recover the 2013
costs of its energy conservation plan; and

WHEREAS the Board is satisfied that it is not necessary to order a threshold for the amount of the 2013 costs associated with Hydro's energy conservation plan and further that the Board is satisfied that Hydro's proposal for the deferred recovery of the 2013 costs associated with its energy conservation plan should be approved.

27 <u>IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:</u> 28

- 1. The deferred recovery of the 2013 costs related to Hydro's energy conservation plan, estimated to be \$1,950,000, is approved.
- 2. Hydro shall pay all expenses of the Board arising from this Application.

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 27th day of November, 2013.

Dwanda Newman, LL.B.

Commissioner

MAS nes Oxford

Commissioner

Cheryl Blundon

Board Secretary