

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

AN ORDER OF THE BOARD

NO. P.U. 10(2023)

1 **IN THE MATTER OF** the **Electrical Power**
2 **Control Act, 1994**, SNL 1994, Chapter E-5.1
3 (the “**EPCA**”) and the **Public Utilities Act**,
4 RSNL 1990, Chapter P-47 (the “**Act**”), as
5 amended, and regulations thereunder; and
6

7 **IN THE MATTER OF** an application by
8 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for consent
9 to abandon the hydrogen system portion of
10 the Ramea Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel Generation
11 Project, pursuant to section 38 of the **Act**.
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13

14 **WHEREAS** Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) is a corporation continued and existing
15 under the **Hydro Corporation Act, 2007**, is a public utility within the meaning of the **Act**, and is
16 also subject to the provisions of the **EPCA**; and
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18 **WHEREAS** in Order No. P.U. 31(2007), the Board approved the construction of a Wind-Hydrogen-
19 Diesel System on the Town of Ramea’s isolated diesel system as a research and development
20 project, based on the conditions that the costs of the system would be treated as non-regulated,
21 ratepayers would not bear any of the costs related to the system and Hydro would provide
22 quarterly reports on the status of the Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System; and
23

24 **WHEREAS** on March 22, 2023 Hydro filed an application requesting approval to abandon the
25 hydrogen portion of the Ramea Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System (the “Application”); and
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27 **WHEREAS** the Application states that the wind farm assets that form part of the Wind-Hydrogen-
28 Diesel System will remain in place and the specific equipment to be decommissioned includes
29 hydrogen storage, the hydrogen genset, the hydrogen electrolyzer and the energy management
30 system and associated equipment; and
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32 **WHEREAS** the Application states the hydrogen system has not been in operation since 2014,
33 maintenance costs will be necessary in the future if steps to decommission are not taken, and
34 abandoning the hydrogen components in place is not acceptable as the assets must be
35 dismantled and removed from Ramea; and

1 **WHEREAS** the Application also states there are no known existing or potential Hydro customers
2 impacted by the removal of these assets and that the estimated decommissioning budget is
3 \$399,800, all of which will be a non-regulated expense with no impact to ratepayers; and
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5 **WHEREAS** section 38 of the **Act** provides that written consent of the Board to abandon part of a
6 line or works shall only be given after notice is provided to an interested incorporated municipal
7 body; and
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9 **WHEREAS** Hydro provided written notice to the Town of Ramea of its intention to decommission
10 the hydrogen assets by dismantling and removing them; and
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12 **WHEREAS** the Application was copied to: Newfoundland Power Inc. (“Newfoundland Power”);
13 the Consumer Advocate, Dennis Browne, K.C.; a group of Island Industrial customers: Corner
14 Brook Pulp and Paper Limited, Braya Renewable Fuels (Newfoundland) GP Inc., and Vale
15 Newfoundland and Labrador Limited; Teck Resources Limited; and Linde Canada Inc.; and
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17 **WHEREAS** on March 31, 2023 Newfoundland Power advised that it did not have any comment
18 on the Application; and
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20 **WHEREAS** no other comments were received; and
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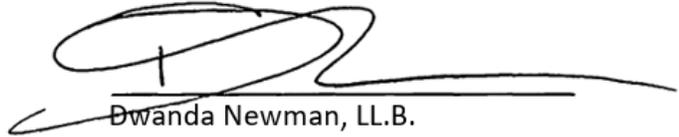
22 **WHEREAS** on April 3, 2023 Hydro requested that the Board approve the Application as submitted;
23 and
24

25 **WHEREAS** the Board is satisfied that the abandonment of the hydrogen system portion of the
26 Ramea Wind-Hydrogen-Diesel System is consistent with the provision of least-cost reliable
27 service and should be approved.
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30 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**
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- 32 1. The proposed abandonment of the hydrogen assets related to the Ramea Wind-Hydrogen-
33 Diesel System is approved.
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- 35 2. Hydro shall pay all costs and expenses of the Board related to this application.

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador this 18th day of April, 2023.



Dwanda Newman, LL.B.
Vice-Chair



John O'Brien, FCPA, FCA, CISA
Commissioner



Christopher Pike, LL.B., FCIP
Commissioner



Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary