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LAWYERS

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January 27, 2017

The Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities
Prince Charles Building
120 Torbay Road, P.O. Box 21040
St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

Attention: Ms. Cheryl Blundon
Director of Corporate Services & Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Blundon:

**Re: Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro – 2017 Capital Budget Supplemental
Application – Construct a Fourth Distribution Feeder at the Bottom Waters
Terminal Station – Request for Comments**

Further to the above-captioned, enclosed please find the original and twelve (12) copies of the Consumer Advocate's Request for Information CA-NLH-001 to CA-NLH-003.

A copy of this letter, together with enclosure, has been forwarded directly to the parties listed below.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed, please contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Yours truly,



Dennis Browne, Q.C.
Consumer Advocate

/bb

CC **Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro**
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Teck Resources
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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*), and regulations thereunder
5
6 **AND IN THE MATTER OF** an Application
7 by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro
8 pursuant to Subsection 41(3) of the *Act*, for
9 approval to construct a fourth distribution feeder at
10 the Bottom Waters Terminal Station

**CONSUMER ADVOCATE
REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

CA-NLH-001 to CA-NLH-003

Issued: January 27, 2017

- 1 CA-NLH-001 The Application states that the estimated cost of the project is
2 \$3,045,000.
3
4 (a) Please advise if this amount has within it any contingencies for
5 cost overruns and what has been the history of cost overruns in
6 similar projects.
7
8 (b) What impact will the cost of this project have on ratepayers?
9
10 (c) What impact will the project, once complete, have on NL
11 Hydro's rate of return?
12
13 (d) Who is paying for this project and how?

1 CA-NLH-002

2 At page 5, line 17 of Hydro's Report to the Board re Additions for
3 Load Growth – New Distribution Feeder, the Applicant refers to a
4 feeder as serving approximately 1800 customers.

5 (a) Provide a table showing the number of customers the feeder
6 has been serving in each of the last five (5) years.

7
8 (b) What is the population trending the area served by the feeder
9 based on demographic studies?

1 CA-NLH-003

2 On page 18, line 5 of Hydro's Report to the Board re Additions for
3 Load Growth – New Distribution Feeder, the Applicant states that
4 Hydro did not seek contributions in aid of construction from the two
5 mining companies.

6 (a) Were there any discussions and/or correspondence with either
7 company in reference to seeking contributions in aid of
8 construction, and to what result?
9

10 (b) Have the two mining companies actually commenced
11 operations and, if not, when?
12

13 (c) Has Hydro been provided a business plan from each of the two
14 company?
15

16 (d) Has either of the two companies been a customer of NL Hydro
17 previously and, if so, for how long and where?
18

19 (e) What is the projected life of the mines which NL Hydro will
20 be servicing?
21

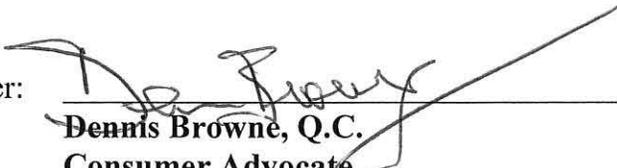
22 (f) What is NL Hydro's policy re contributions in aid of
23 construction to facilitate mining companies?
24

25 (g) Has NL Hydro, in the past, received contributions in aid of
26 construction for servicing mining companies and, if so, when
27 and where and under what terms?
28

29 (h) Based on a cost of \$3,045,000, how long will it take NL Hydro
30 to recover that amount from the two mining companies through
31 their energy usage? Please provide specifics on NL Hydro's
32 plan to recover this amount?

DATED at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 27th day of January, 2017.

Per:



Dennis Browne, Q.C.

Consumer Advocate

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