

April 7, 2026

The Honourable Tim Houston, M.L.A.
Premier of Nova Scotia
P.O. Box 726
Halifax, NS
B3J 2T3

Email: premier@novascotia.ca

Re: Request for Five-Year Freeze on Power Rates and Exploration of Public Ownership of Nova Scotia Power

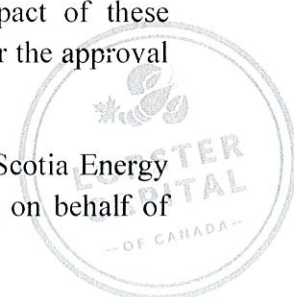
Dear Premier,

On behalf of the Municipality of Barrington, I am writing to express our concerns regarding residential power rates in Nova Scotia. While we understand that the Nova Scotia Energy Board has already approved Nova Scotia Power's recent General Rate Application (GRA) filing for 2026-2027, we feel it is still important to formally express our concerns on behalf of our residents and communities. We also wish to echo the points raised by the County of Antigonish in their recent correspondence.

Specifically, we are concerned that, under the approved rate increases, residential customers continue to see higher percentage increases than some other customer classes. The effect is therefore that households may bear a larger share of the operating and capital costs of Nova Scotia Power relative to other classes. This raises important questions about fairness and equity for residents.

Additionally, the cybersecurity incident at NSP last year, which exposed the sensitive information of hundreds of thousands of customers, has shaken public trust in the corporation. Coupled with the billing difficulties that followed, many residents continue to feel the impact of these disruptions. For these reasons, our council feels it is critical to speak out, even after the approval of the rate increases.

In light of these concerns, we respectfully ask that, while recognizing the Nova Scotia Energy Board operates independently from government, you advocate for the following on behalf of residents:



- Consideration of a five-year freeze on residential power rates to help protect Nova Scotians from further financial strain.
- A thorough exploration of returning Nova Scotia Power to public ownership, ensuring that residents' interests are prioritized over corporate profits.

We recognize that operating and capital costs have risen due to inflation, tariffs, and other factors. Nevertheless, we urge decision-makers to explore ways to fairly distribute costs across customer classes so that residential customers are not disproportionately affected.

Our communities rely on affordable, reliable, and fair energy, and we feel it is critical for government and regulatory bodies to take steps to protect residents.

Yours sincerely,



Shaun Hatfield
Warden

cc: Nova Scotia Energy Board
Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM)
All Municipal Units in Nova Scotia

