



NOVA SCOTIA

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

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February 2, 2022

Mr. Peter Gurnham
Chair, Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
1601 Lower Water Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3P6

Dear Mr. Gurnham:

With due respect to the Utility and Review Board and the important work that it does, and in light of the impact on an application filed by Nova Scotia Power Inc. (Matter #M10431) that is currently before you, we write to alert you of urgent, immediate action our government intends to take.

Specifically, the Province plans to quickly bring into effect the necessary legislative and regulatory framework to deny the net metering system access charge (SAC) requested by Nova Scotia Power in its January 2022 General Rate Application.

At a minimum, the steps we intend to take will maintain the existing Enhanced Net Metering program (as it was on January 26th, 2022). However, since Nova Scotia Power has shown that it is out of step with Nova Scotians and their environmental ambitions, we are also exploring ways to better align the goals of the program with the goals of our government.

In other words, we agree that it is time for changes to the Enhanced Net Metering program but the changes we seek will support the greening of the grid, not discourage it.

Since the necessary legislative and regulatory framework changes, we intend to make will be brought into force in the coming weeks, well before the conclusion of the General Rate Application proceeding, we wanted the Board to immediately be aware of our intention so as to avoid any unnecessary focus of time and attention by the Board, ratepayer advocates and other intervenors on Nova Scotia Power Inc.'s SAC as filed.

In communicating our plans rapidly, we also want to ensure a return to certainty for Nova Scotia's solar industry, and to the rate-paying families investing in solar who have made, or are in the process of making, substantial investments in the name of growing Nova Scotia's renewable energy system.

In closing, there should be no confusion: Our imminent changes will at a minimum maintain the status quo but, where possible, even further support those investing in the benefits of solar, including new regulations and support for community and expanded commercial programs.

Yours truly,



The Honourable Tim Houston
Premier of Nova Scotia