


NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION of the **TOWN OF BERWICK** on behalf of its electric utility, **Berwick Electric Commission**, for Approval of Amendments to its Schedule of Rates and Charges for the provision of electric supply and services to its customers and its Schedule of Regulations

ORDER

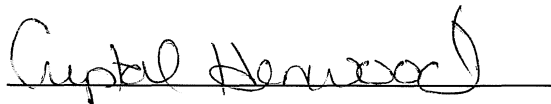
BEFORE:  Roberta J. Clarke, Q.C., Panel Chair
Jennifer L. Nicholson, CPA, CA, Member

The Board issued a decision on January 13, 2021 approving the Berwick Electric Commission's application filed with the Board on August 12, 2020.

The Board Orders that:

1. The Schedule of Rates and Charges for the provision of electric supply and services attached hereto as Schedule A is approved, effective January 15, 2021.
2. The Schedule of Regulations attached hereto as Schedule B is approved, effective January 15, 2021.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 13th day of January, 2021.



Clerk of the Board



SCHEDULE A
BERWICK ELECTRIC COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR ELECTRIC SUPPLY &
SERVICES

(Effective for services rendered on and after January 15, 2021)

RATES

The rates set out below are the rates for electric supply and service when payment is made within 30 days from the date rendered as shown on the bill.

Bills which are not paid within 30 days will be subject to interest rate of 1.5% per month or part thereof to a maximum of 19.56% per year.

Each bill shall show the amount payable by the due date as shown on the bill and the interest rate of 1.5% per month or part thereof which is charged on amounts unpaid after the due date.

"Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) Increases" (non-FAM and / or DSM)

In order to recover increased costs due to NSPI increases and upon notice by the Berwick Electric Commission to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, (the "Board"), the Board may amend the Rates for Domestic service, Small General, General, Domestic Service Time-of-Day (Optional), Industrial, Street Lighting, Yard Lighting, and Other Lighting and Miscellaneous Small Loads, based on the following formula, without the necessity of a public hearing.

$$\begin{aligned} 1) \quad & A \times B = C \\ & C \div D = F \% \\ \\ 2) \quad & G \times H = I \\ & I \div J = \\ & K\% \\ \\ 3) \quad & \frac{F \% + K \%}{2} = L \% \end{aligned}$$

A = 2nd previous years' power cost from NSPI;
B = NSPI approved increase %;
D = 2nd previous total sales for the above classes;
G = Previous years power costs from NSPI;
H = NSPI approved Increase %;
J = Previous years' total sales for the above classes;
L = Average % increase required to the Berwick Electric Commission rates to recover increased Power costs.

Where the Nova Scotia Demand Side Management ("DSM") Rider, as approved by the Board, is charged on energy purchased by the BEC for distribution to its customers, the Commission shall recover the total billed under that Rider by the following formula:

Using the BEC's most recent projection of sales, losses, production and purchases in the spreadsheet SALES ~ HYDRO ~ w ~ w Budget, produced annually during BEC's budgeting process:

(1) $A \times B = C$ where

A = the DSM Rider approved for the year, in dollars

B = the total kWh projected to be billed to BEC with the DSM Rider attached;

C = the total DSM cost to BEC for the year, in dollars.

Then

(2) $C/D = E$ where

D is the total projected sales in kWh to all BEC customers, including street and yard lighting and various small unmetered services

And

E is a Rider in dollars to be applied to all energy sales including street and yard lighting and small unmetered services.

Where the kWh (energy) portion of street and yard lighting or small unmetered charges is incorporated into a monthly charge then the charge for the energy portion shall be adjusted by the Rider and the result incorporated into the monthly charge. For street and yard lighting the energy portion of such charges shall be as represented in NSPI's current Rates and Regulations, and where no monthly kWh value is available, upon the calculated monthly energy.

Where the NSPI Fuel Adjustment Mechanism (FAM) is applied to energy purchased by the BEC for distribution to its customers, the net result of the FAM applied to such purchases shall be rebated to or recovered from all BEC customers by an adjustment to the kilowatt-hour rates charged in all rate classes, and in the street and yard lighting and small unmetered, the adjustment will be to the energy portion incorporated into the monthly charges only. For street and yard lighting the energy portion of such charges shall be as represented in NSPI's current Rates and Regulations, and where no monthly kWh value is available, upon the calculated monthly energy. The formula for calculating the adjustment shall be as follows:

Using the BEC's most recent projection of sales, losses, production and purchases in the spreadsheet SALES ~ HYDRO ~ yy ~ yy Budget, produced annually during BEC's budgeting process:

Ax B = C where A= the FAM adjustment charged to BEC and
B = the total energy in kWh projected to be purchased from NSPI to which the FAM applies
and
C = the total FAM effect on BEC for the subject year.

And

C/D = E where D is the total projected sales in kWh to all BEC customers,
including street and yard lighting and various small unmetered services and

E is the FAM adjustment to be applied to all energy distributed to BEC customers

The rates shown in this Schedule shall be those adjusted by the FAM and the amount of the FAM adjustment E shall be shown in all rates.

For street lighting, yard lighting, other lighting and miscellaneous small loads, the rates shown in this Schedule shall be those adjusted by the FAM and the DSM Rider.

DOMESTIC SERVICE

<u>Service Charge:</u>	\$20.19 per month.
<u>Energy Rate:</u>	\$0.1405 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
<u>DSM Rider:</u>	\$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
<u>FAM adjustment:</u>	\$0.00000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy rate above)
<u>Minimum Bill:</u>	\$20.19 per month

SMALL GENERAL

<u>Service Charge:</u>	\$17.47 per month.
<u>Energy Rates:</u>	\$0.1990 per kilowatt-hour for the first 200 kilowatt-hours per month. \$0.1401 per kilowatt-hour for all additional consumption.
<u>DSM Rider:</u>	\$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
<u>FAM adjustment:</u>	\$0.00000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy rate above)
<u>Minimum Bill:</u>	\$17.47 per month.

GENERAL SERVICE

<u>Demand Charge:</u>	\$17.88 per month per kilowatt of maximum demand.
<u>Energy Rates:</u>	\$0.1040 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.
<u>DSM Rider:</u>	\$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
<u>FAM adjustment:</u>	\$0.00000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy rate above)
<u>Minimum Bill:</u>	\$19.92 per month.

DOMESTIC SERVICE TIME-OF-DAY RATE (OPTIONAL)

BASE CHARGE: \$23.19 per month.

ENERGY CHARGE:

December, January and February/

7:00 am to 1:00 pm	\$0.2583 per kilowatt hour
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	\$0.1405 per kilowatt hour
4:00 pm to 10:00 pm	\$0.2583 per kilowatt hour
10:00 pm to 7:00 am	\$0.0975 per kilowatt hour

The above rates apply weekdays (Monday to Friday inclusive), excluding statutory holidays. For Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays, all consumption will be billed at the rate of \$0.0975 per kilowatt hour.

March to November

7:00 am to 10:00 pm	\$0.1405 per kilowatt hour
10:00 pm to 7:00 am	\$0.0975 per kilowatt hour

The above rates apply weekdays (Monday through Friday inclusive), excluding statutory holidays. For Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays, all consumption will be billed at the rate of \$0.0975 per kilowatt hour.

DSM Rider: \$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.

FAM adjustment: \$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
(included in energy rate above)

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE:

The minimum monthly charge shall be \$23.19.

AVAILABILITY:

This rate is only available to customers employing Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) equipment and electric in-floor radiant (i.e. hydronic) heating systems utilizing time shifting technology approved by the Utility.

GENERAL DEMAND TIME-OF-USE RATE (OPTIONAL)

The rate is available to customers meeting the availability criteria of the General Demand rate class who install heat storage systems and controls to enable timeshifting of heating and other loads.

Customers choosing to take this rate are required to remain on this rate for one year following the date of inception. One month's notice is required prior to the anniversary date to revert to the General Demand rate. If such notice is not given, it is understood the customer is committing to another 12-month period on the rate. Date of initial service under this rate must be after March 1 and prior to December 1.

Customers taking service under this rate will be billed for energy and demand at the same rates as under the General Demand rate. However, demand charges for demand peaks set outside of the winter peak period and exceeding the winter peak demand period will be discounted. The winter peak demand shall be the maximum demand recorded during winter peak hours; that is non-holiday week days between the hours of 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM during the months of December, January and February. The customer's winter peak demand will be as determined using the highest 15 minute interval data recorded by BEC metering times 4. This winter peak demand will be ratcheted for the succeeding eleven months. Outside of winter peak hours, demand in excess of the ratcheted winter peak demand will be billed at the difference between \$6.82 and the BEC General Demand Rate to account for Berwick's billing demand costs, plus 15% to account for power factor, demand losses, and administration.

BEC staff shall be given the opportunity to inspect the storage and control systems to ensure Canadian Electrical Code compliance and to be satisfied the systems will perform as intended. If BEC staff are not confident the systems will perform as intended they may decline to offer the rate.

GENERAL DEMAND PEAK CO-INCIDENCE RATE (OPTIONAL)

The rate is available to customers meeting the availability criteria of the General Demand rate class who install heat storage systems and/or controls to enable load shedding upon receipt of a signal sent by electronic means by BEC'S peak shaving software. Customers choosing to take this rate are required to remain on this rate for one year following the date of inception. One month's notice is required prior to the anniversary date to revert to the General Demand rate. If such notice is not given, it is understood the customer is committing to another 12-month period on the rate. Date of initial service under this rate must be after March 1 and prior to December 1.

Customers taking service under this rate will be billed for energy and demand at the same rates as under the General Demand rate.

Customers choosing to take this rate will be sent a Demand Control signal when the BEC system is approaching a peak demand defense point during the winter peak period. The winter peak period is all hours between 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM on non-holiday weekdays during December, January, and February. The customer will then be expected to reduce load, until another signal to restore load is sent by BEC. The number and duration of demand control intervals will be limited as set out below.

Customers will receive a demand control credit equal to the customer's demand reduction measured in kilowatts, co-incident with the BEC's winter peak, times 85% BEC's Demand costs. For clarity the formula is:

$$\text{Demand reduction in kW} \times (\$6.82 \times .85) \times 12$$

The customer's demand reduction shall be as reflected in interval data recorded by BEC metering and the BEC winter peak will be the current forecast 7500kW.

Each November BEC establishes a peak demand defense point, based on the experience of the previous winter and known and predicted changes to the system. Factorydale hydro is dispatched to defend this demand defense point and the point may be adjusted over the winter peak period if the demand defense point is exceeded. BEC shall set the initial demand defense point at a reasonable level using best judgment and forecasting, and shall dispatch all of its own resources prior to issuing demand control signals; the demand defense point shall not be lower than 90% of the forecasted level.

BEC staff shall be given the opportunity to inspect the storage and control systems to ensure Canadian Electrical Code compliance and to be satisfied the systems will perform as intended. If BEC staff are not confident the systems will perform as intended they may decline to offer the rate.

Demand control intervals shall not exceed 8 hours in duration and 12 hours in any calendar day, and the number of demand control intervals shall not exceed 8 intervals in each of December, January, and February.

INDUSTRIAL

<u>Demand Charge: Energy Charge: DSM Rider:</u>	\$15.22 per month per kilovolt ampere of maximum demand.
<u>Energy Charge:</u>	\$0.0941 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
<u>DMS Rider:</u>	\$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
<u>FAM adjustment:</u>	\$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption (included in energy rate above).
<u>Voltage Adjustment:</u>	Where a customer takes service under this rate, and where the metering point is at 4kV or higher voltage, energy consumption shall be reduced by 1.75% for billing purposes.

Demand Reduction Rider:

Where it can be shown, that a customer, with 6 out of 12 monthly billing demands in the calendar year in excess of 1000 kVA, has contributed, through a concentrated effort at reducing its winter peak demands at a time co-incident with the Utility's peak demand requirement, to a reduction in the Utility's billing peak established with NSPI, any resultant savings to the Utility shall be shared on a 50/50 basis with said customer. To qualify, the average of the customer's monthly billing demands in the months of December, January, February must amount to no more than 80% of the average in the following July/August/September (1600 kVA versus 2000 MVA for example). The Utility will work closely with the customer to coordinate the time co-incident requirement of this rider. The savings will be applied to the customer bills for the months of October and November and shown as equal credits on the bills. The savings will be calculated based on rates in effect at the time the demand reduction took place and reflected as "Demand Reduction Credit".

Import Electricity Rebate:

The Utility will undertake good faith efforts to purchase imported electricity when it is more economic to make such purchases than to purchase the same amount of electricity from NSPI. The Utility shall provide a monthly Import Electricity Rebate (the "Rebate") to customers taking service under this Industrial Rate to account for any such economic purchases. The monthly Rebate shall be determined by calculating the differential between (i) the total cost that the Utility would have otherwise incurred had it purchased that same amount of electricity from NSPI.

The monthly Rebate will be provided to individual customers taking service under this Industrial Rate in proportion to the percentage of each customer's usage under this Industrial Rate. The amount of Rebate to be paid to individual customers pursuant to this mechanism shall be capped at the point at which the amount paid by the customer to the Utility for electricity service for the previous 12 months is equal to the amount that would have been paid by the customer in the same period if it was a customer of NSPI and had made its payments for electricity pursuant to the applicable NSPI tariff. The customer's monthly bill will show the calculation of the Rebate.

STREET LIGHTING

DSM Rider: \$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
(included in energy portion of charge)

FAM adjustment: \$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
(included in energy portion of charge)

(Lamps burning 4,000 hours per year, lighting system supplied and maintained by the Commission, consisting of luminaries' bracket-mounted on existing wood poles and energized from existing secondary circuits.)

88 watt LED streetlight	\$12.08 per lamp per month
125 watt mercury vapour	\$12.98 per lamp per month
175 watt mercury vapour	\$17.47 per lamp per month
250 watt mercury vapour	\$21.73 per lamp per month
400 watt mercury vapour	\$31.05 per lamp per month
70 watt high-pressure sodium lamp	\$14.88 per lamp per month
100 watt high-pressure sodium lamp	\$17.48 per lamp per month
150 watt high-pressure sodium lamp	\$20.89 per lamp per month
250 watt high pressure sodium lamp	\$26.89 per lamp per month

(Crosswalk lighting: fixtures supplied by the Town of Berwick; power, energy and maintenance supplied by the Commission.)

40 watt fluorescent fixture	\$ 8.38 per fixture per month
400 watt fluorescent fixture	\$32.20 per fixture per month

YARD LIGHTING

DSM Rider: \$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
(included in energy portion of charge)

FAM adjustment: \$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption.
(included in energy portion of charge)

(Lamps burning 4,000 hours per year, lighting system supplied and maintained by the Commission, consisting of luminaries' bracket-mounted on existing wood poles and energized from existing secondary circuits.)

55 watt LED yard light	\$8.85 per lamp per month
88 watt LED yard light	\$12.08 per lamp per month

125 watt mercury vapour	\$12.98 per lamp per month
175 watt mercury vapour	\$17.41 per lamp per month
250 watt mercury vapour	\$21.90 per lamp per month
400 watt mercury vapour	\$30.99 per lamp per month
400 watt mercury vapour floodlamp	\$30.99 per lamp per month
70 watt high pressure sodium lamp	\$13.03 per lamp per month
100 watt high pressure sodium lamp	\$16.11 per lamp per month
150 watt high pressure sodium lamp	\$20.92 per lamp per month
250 watt high pressure sodium lamp	\$26.89 per lamp per month
400 watt high pressure sodium floodlamp	\$31.05 per lamp per month
175 watt metal halide floodlamp	\$17.47 per lamp per month
250 watt metal halide floodlamp	\$21.94 per lamp per month
250 watt high pressure sodium floodlamp	\$21.94 per lamp per month
400 watt MH halide floodlamp	\$30.99 per lamp per month
70 watt high pressure sodium cobra head	\$14.92 per lamp per month

OTHER LIGHTING & MISCELLANEOUS SMALL LOADS

(Applicable to street lighting, sign lighting and similar unmetered loads where demand, time of use and energy consumption are known, and the Commission supplies power and energy only.)

<u>Demand Charge:</u>	\$18.25 per month per kilowatt.
<u>Energy Charge:</u>	\$0.1321 per kilowatt-hour.
<u>DSM Rider:</u>	\$0.00 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)
<u>2015 FAM adjustment:</u>	\$0.000000 per kilowatt-hour for all consumption. (included in energy portion of charge)



**SCHEDULE B
BERWICK ELECTRIC COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS**

(Effective for services rendered on and after January 15, 2021)

WIRING AND INSPECTION AND SCHEDULE OF WIRING INSPECTION FEES

PERMITS AND INSPECTION

Permits and inspections will normally be of three types:

- a) Regular Permits and Inspections
- b) Annual Permits and Inspections
- c) Special Permits and Inspections

a) Regular Permits and Inspections

All persons, firms or corporations within Berwick Electric Commission's inspection authority who are eligible to install electrical installations for the use of electrical energy shall, before commencing or doing any electrical installation of new equipment, or repairs, or altering or adding to any electrical installation or equipment already installed, submit and obtain approval in a manner prescribed by the inspection authority.

Individual permits shall be required for temporary and individual miscellaneous services and each dwelling unit of a single, duplex or row type housing, etc., whether supplied via an individual or multi-position metering devices.

Apartment type buildings, multi-tenant industrial and commercial installations shall be performed under one permit.

Permits are non-transferable.

Permits shall be issued only to the firm or persons performing the work described on the Permit and in compliance with Section 4, "Permit" of the regulations made by the Fire Marshall pursuant to the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.

Permit holders shall immediately notify the Electrical Inspection Authority upon the completion of an electrical installation requesting a FINAL inspection.

The fee for a Regular Permit and Inspection will be based on the Installed Value, including labour, material and sundries of the electrical installation, alteration, upgrade, repair or extension.

When a dispute arises regarding the cost of an electrical installation the permit applicant may be required, at the Inspection Authority discretion, to supply letter from the owner indicating the value of the contract and/or a bill of materials for the project.

The fees for a Regular Permit and Inspection, including the number of Inspection Visits, shall be based on the Installed Value of the installation as shown in the Inspection Fee Schedule.

b) Annual Permits and Inspections

An annual maintenance permit shall be issued for an establishment to cover all minor repairs as required under sections 4(a) (B), (2) and (3) of the regulations made by the Fire Marshal pursuant to the Electrical Installation Act.

Such a permit does not entitle the holder to effect major electrical alterations or additions.

The number of inspection visits shall be at the discretion of the Inspection Authority. Notwithstanding the above, at least one inspection visit shall be made in the year for which the permit is issued.

c) Special Permits and Inspections

Where the fee for a Regular Permit and Inspection are inappropriate the special permit and inspection fee shall apply. (i.e. Carnivals and traveling shows).

LATE APPLICATION FEE

Where an electrical contractor fails to obtain an electrical wiring permit prior to commencing the electrical work, an additional fee shall be payable in the amount of fifty percent of the regular up to a maximum additional fee of \$100.00.

PAYMENT OF FEES

Fees for permits and inspections shall be paid at the time of requesting the permit unless otherwise indicated by the inspection authority. Permits having fees in arrears in excess of 120 days shall be subject to cancellation and at the discretion of the inspection authority, no additional permits shall be issued to the holder of the unpaid permits until such time the outstanding fees have been adequately dealt with.

REFUND OF FEES

The holder of a permit may apply to the Inspection Authority for a refund less a \$10.00 non-refundable portion of the permit fee with respect to a cancelled or unused permit. No refund shall be issued where an inspection call has been made at the request of the permit holder.

EXPIRY OF PERMITS

A permit for electrical work is valid for 12 months from the date of issue in respect of residential and 24 months in respect of all others unless otherwise noted on the permit. Upon expiry, a renewal fee to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the original permit shall be charged.

REVIEW OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Inspection Authority may, prior to issuing a permit, request the submission of plans and specifications for any proposed electrical installation. Plans shall be submitted for all commercial, industrial institutional installations exceeding 250 volts or 250 amperes.

INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE:

(a) Regular Permits and Inspection

The fee for a regular permit and the maximum number of inspection visits, with respect to an installation will be calculated, as follows:

COST OF INSTALLATION	MAX. NUMBER OF INSPECTION VISITS	FEE
\$0 to \$2,000	1	\$69.00
\$2,001 to \$4,000	2	\$138.00
\$4,001 to \$6,000	2	\$233.00
\$6,001 to \$8,000	2	\$284.00
\$8,001 to \$10,000	2	\$330.00
\$10,001 to \$15,000	3	\$462.00
\$15,001 to \$25,000	3	\$587.00
\$25,001 to \$50,000	3	\$850.00
\$50,001 to \$100,000	3	\$1,206.00
\$100,001 to \$300,000	4	\$1,893.00
\$300,001 to \$500,000	5	\$2,365.00
\$500,001 to \$750,000	6	\$2,839.00
\$750,001 to \$1,000,000	8	\$3,785.00
Over \$1,000,000	10	\$4,626.00 + 0.15% Of installation cost in excess of \$1,000,000.

New Installations are subject to the following minimum inspection fees:

Residential-All Installations	\$138.00
Commercial/Industrial Institutional	
Up to 100 AMPS	\$138.00
Over 100 to 400 AMPS	\$330.00
Over 400 to 800 AMPS	\$462.00
Over 800 to 1000 AMPS	\$587.00
Over 1000 AMPS	\$850.00

(b) Annual Permit and Inspection

The fee for an annual permit and inspection for any one establishment shall be the appropriate hourly rate.

(c) Special Permit and Inspection

The fee for a special permit and inspection for any one project shall be the appropriate hourly rate.

(d) Plans Examination

The fees for the examination of electrical plans and specifications shall be per review:

0 - 1,000 amps	\$115.00
Greater than 1,000	\$115.00

(e) Primary Services

The fees for the inspection of a primary service (padmount, vault, etc.) shall be per installation \$124.00

(f) Letter of Acceptance

The fee for a Letter of Acceptance shall be \$32.00

(g) Hourly Rate Inspection

Note: All fees are per inspection visit.

Normal Working Hours

i)	For the first hour of fraction thereof	\$68.00
ii)	For each additional half-hour of fraction thereof	\$28.00

Outside Normal Working Hours

Extension of a regular work day (before or after)

- | | |
|---|---------|
| i) For the first hour or fraction thereof | \$91.00 |
| ii) For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof | \$39.00 |

Weekends and Statutory Holidays

Scheduled inspections on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) and statutory holidays:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| i) For the first hour or fraction thereof | \$151.00 |
| ii) For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof | \$ 54.00 |

Inspections in Excess of Maximum Number

For an inspection visit, in excess of the maximum number of visits permitted under the Regular Permit and Inspection Fee, the Special Permit and Inspection Fee shall apply.