

JUL 08 2022

COR-2022-1030

Reg. #2192

Adam Scott
Newfoundland Power Inc.
P.O. Box 8910
55 Kenmount Road
St. John's, NL A1B 4P2
E-mail: AScott@newfoundlandpower.com

Dear Adam Scott:

RE: Grand Falls-Windsor to Glenwood Transmission Line Decommissioning (the Project)

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental environmental assessment screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by Part X of the Newfoundland and Labrador **Environmental Protection Act**, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Please be advised that the Project is **released** from further environmental assessment subject to the following conditions:

- You are required to uphold all commitments made in your environmental assessment submission to mitigate the effects of the Project on the environment.
- You are required to update the Environmental Assessment Division on the status of your Project, including a copy of all permits, licenses, certificates, approvals and other authorizations required for your Project, one year from the date of this release letter and to provide additional updates if required. Please email your Project updates to EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

Federal and provincial government departments and agencies that reviewed the Project during the environmental assessment provide the following advice:

The Climate Change Branch of my Department notes that heavy-duty equipment used for the Project should be operated in a manner to maximize fuel efficiency, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions that could contribute to climate change. For further information, please contact the Climate Change Branch at (709) 729-1485.

The Pollution Prevention Division of my Department recommends that you review the Treated Wood Waste Guidance Document at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/env-protection/waste/#wmmsgd> and contact them for information on PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) and waste management. The Pollution Prevention Division advises you to have a contingency plan and spill response equipment readily available on site in order to ensure a



quick and effective response to a spill event. For more information, please contact the Pollution Prevention Division at (709) 729-5782.

The Water Resources Management Division of my Department advises that a Section 48 permit is required for any work in or within 15 metres of a body of water (including wetlands) prior to the start of the work. Any effluent or runoff leaving the site must conform to the requirements of the Environmental Control Water and Sewage Regulations, 2003.

The Water Resources Management Division informs that a section of the transmission line route runs through the Indian Arm Brook Protected Public Water Supply Area for the community of Campbellton, and a Section 39 permit is required and work adjacent to or within this designated Protected Public Water Supply Area must comply with my Department's Policy for Land and Water Related Developments in Protected Public Water Supply Areas. For more information, please contact the Water Resources Management Division at (709) 729-4048.

The Government Service Centre (GSC) of the Department of Digital Government and Service NL advises Newfoundland Power of the requirements for the handling of waste and hazardous waste under the **Environmental Protection Act**. The GSC notes that the Project is within the buffer of an abandoned waste disposal site near Norris Arm, and it is the responsibility of the proponent, Newfoundland Power, to ensure that contamination is contained on site.

The GSC further advises that a development permit is required for any construction within 400 metres of the centreline of the Trans Canada Highway and that an access permit is required for any proposed access road onto a highway. For more information, please contact the GSC at (709) 256-1420.

The Occupational Health and Safety Division of the Department of Digital Government and Service NL advises you to ensure that the Project activities are conducted in compliance with the **Occupational Health and Safety Act** and its regulations. This includes the responsibility for ensuring that contractors hired to perform work also comply with this legislation.

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) advises Newfoundland Power to develop and implement appropriate preventative and mitigation measures to avoid incidental take of birds, nests and eggs. For information on avoiding harm to avifauna visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds.html>.

FFA informs that TL 101 is located within identified core habitat for Newfoundland caribou. Caribou on the island are of conservation concern and decommissioning within this sensitive caribou area should be kept to a minimum and all efforts should be taken to minimize additional stress on the animals. FFA further advises that the project activities should not interfere with any Agriculture leases and/or any agriculture activities in the areas surrounding



the dismantling, removal and disposal of the transmission line. For further information, please contact the FFA at (709) 637-2025.

The Department of Industry, Energy and Technology advises that any quarry materials that may be required for the Project must be obtained from an approved source. For more information, please contact the Mines Branch at (709) 729-5748.

The Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs advises that development permits are required where the Project overlaps with the Municipal Planning Areas of the Towns of Grand Falls-Windsor, Bishop's Falls, Glenwood and Norris Arm. They further advise that a development permit is required from the Department of Digital Government and Service NL under the Protected Road Zoning Regulations for areas outside of municipal boundaries. For more information contact Municipal and Provincial Affairs at (709) 729-3090.

The Parks Division of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation advises that the Project route intersects much of the Newfoundland and Labrador T'Railway Provincial Park (the T'Railway). For any work that will cross the T'Railway or be conducted on the T'Railway, a Temporary Vehicular Access (TVA) permit and a Construction and Use Permit are required prior to the commencement of the Project activities. Permit requirements are applicable to Newfoundland Power and its associated contractors. If access to the T'Railway is required, disturbance is to be kept to a minimum and disturbed areas are to be remediated.

The Parks Division further advises that the crossing of trestles and bridges with equipment in excess of 10,000 kilograms is not permitted unless an independent engineering assessment has been completed and weight restrictions determined. The Parks Division advises that use of the T'Railway must adhere to the **Provincial Parks Act** and Provincial Parks Regulations. For more information, please contact Parks Division at (709) 637-2040.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) informs that you have submitted a Request for Review to the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program and a letter of advice has been issued to you. If there are any changes to the Project outside of what was originally submitted to the Program, further review may be required. For more information please contact Fisheries and Oceans Canada at (709) 772-4140 or FPP-NL@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recommends that in order to avoid nest destruction and to accommodate the breeding season of migratory songbirds and waterfowl, operations should consider nesting locations between April 15 and August 15 in this region. ECCC provides a list of avian and non-avian species that are listed on Schedule 1 of the **Species at Risk Act**, and requests that any sightings be reported to ec.scfatldonneesei-cwsatliadata.ec@ec.ac.ca. ECCC further advises that the **Species at Risk Act** "General prohibitions" apply to the Project, and recommends that you complete an analysis of potential impacts on the migratory birds listed on Schedule 1 and take measures to avoid or lessen those effects. ECCC recommends that the proponent consult the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador's Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, Wildlife Division, regarding mitigations and management for species of bats, Newfoundland Pine Marten and Boreal Felt



Lichen that may occur in the Project area. ECCC requests that you provide a GIS file of the project boundaries and study area so that the Project can be mapped. For more information, please contact ECCC at (709) 772-2126.

The Navigation Protection Program of Transport Canada advises that the Project may meet the criteria for a Minor Works and Newfoundland Power should consult the online Project Review Tool and complete a self-assessment to determine any obligations under the **Canadian Navigable Waters Act**. For more information, please contact Transport Canada at (709) 351-3200.

Although the undertaking as proposed is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. A summary of the comments received from government agencies during the review is attached to provide an indication of likely applicable permits, approvals and legislative requirements. You shall comply with all relevant legislation and obtain all necessary permits and approvals. You are required to inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

Please note that in accordance with Section 17 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, the Minister's decision is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter. If you have not commenced the Project within this three year period, you may apply to extend the three-year period for a maximum of three one-year periods, if needed. Failure to apply for an extension will result in the expiry of the Minister's decision, and the Project will have to be registered again for environmental assessment, should you wish to proceed. For further information, please email EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director of the Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bernard Davis", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

HON. BERNARD DAVIS, MHA
District of Virginia Waters - Pleasantville
Minister

Cc: The Honourable John Haggie, MHA, District of Gander
Pleaman Forsey, MHA, District of Exploits
Chris Tibbs, MHA, District of Grand Falls-Windsor- Buchans

Enclosure