

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION by **NOVA SCOTIA POWER INCORPORATED**
for approval of 2024/2025 Time-Varying Pricing Tariffs

BEFORE:



Roland A. Deveau, K.C., Vice-Chair
Steven M. Murphy, MBA, P.Eng., Member
Richard J. Melanson, LL.B., Member

DECISION AND ORDER

Nova Scotia Power Incorporated (NS Power) applied to the Board on July 31, 2024, for approval of 2024/25 Time-Varying Pricing (TVP) Tariffs, continuing a pilot project, with revisions to a Domestic Service Critical Peak Pricing (CPP) Tariff and Domestic Service Time-of-Use (TOU) Tariff, and proposing that these revised Tariffs become standard offerings. NS Power also proposed a new pilot Multi-unit Residential Building (MURB) TOU Tariff, effective November 1, 2024. The proposed MURB TOU Pilot Tariff would be available to General class customers that have a house meter (common area metering) and a minimum of 10 units occupied by residential tenants.

The application was supported by a Consensus Agreement signed by stakeholders, including NS Power, Polycorp Properties, Energy Storage Canada, the Consumer Advocate and the Small Business Advocate.

The Board allowed Information Requests (IRs) to NS Power and submissions by the parties and issued a Notice of Paper Hearing on August 8, 2024.

On September 5, 2024, written submissions were filed by Synapse Energy Economics on behalf of Board Counsel, and by the Small Business Advocate. NS Power filed Reply Submissions on September 12, 2024, confirming further revisions to the three CPP Tariffs which the Board accepts.

The Board finds that the terms of the Consensus Agreement are reasonable and accepts its terms with the following exceptions:

- 1) Given that the Domestic Service TOU Tariff and the Domestic Service CPP Tariff remain subject to evaluation and enrolment continues to be limited, these Tariffs will continue as part of the pilot and will not be standard offerings;
- 2) The 2024/2025 Areas of Focus for the stakeholder engagement will also include the issues identified in Synapse's comments dated September 5, 2024, pages 4 and 5;
- 3) To allow a more effective review of the tariffs in anticipation of future revisions for November 1, 2025, the annual Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) report will be filed by July 31, 2025.

The Board finds that the application should be approved, as amended by the Board.

The Board orders that:

1. Effective November 1, 2024, NS Power's existing Small General and General TOU Tariffs remain unchanged for the fourth year of the TVP Pilot.
2. Effective November 1, 2024, NS Power's Small General and General CPP Tariffs be amended for the fourth year of the TVP Pilot per the following attached Schedules:
 - a. Schedule A – Small General Critical Peak Pricing Tariff
 - b. Schedule B – General Critical Peak Pricing Tariff
3. Effective November 1, 2024, NS Power's Domestic Service TOU and CPP Tariffs be amended for the fourth year of the TVP Pilot per the following attached Schedules:
 - a. Schedule C – Domestic Service Critical Peak Pricing Tariff
 - b. Schedule D – Domestic Service Time-of-Use Tariff
4. NS Power's MURB TOU Pilot is approved.
5. Effective November 1, 2024, NS Power's new MURB TOU Tariff be approved for the first year of its pilot per the following attached Schedule:
 - a. Schedule E – Multi-unit Residential Building Time-of-Use Tariff
6. NS Power is directed:
 - a. To continue its stakeholder collaborative process and to identify potential tariff changes which could improve customer participation in the TVP

program, load shifting and alignment with the highest cost hours, including the 2024/2025 Areas of Focus outlined in the Consensus Agreement and the issues identified in Synapse's comments dated September 5, 2024, pages 4 and 5.

- b. To report on the Year Four findings no later than July 31, 2025.
- c. To file the annual Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) report no later than July 31, 2025.
- d. To file no later December 31, 2024, a list of the proposed MURB TOU Tariff evaluation metrics, and their definitions, along with an explanation of how it will measure the impact and difference in revenue received under this Tariff, compared to that which would have been received under the General tariff.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 23rd day of September 2024.

Crystal Henwood
Clerk of the Board



SMALL GENERAL CRITICAL PEAK PRICING TARIFF

PURPOSE

This is an optional tariff designed to promote the shifting of load from peak to off-peak periods. This tariff is available to customers who are eligible for service under the Small General Tariff.

CUSTOMER CHARGE

	Per month
Effective February 2, 2023	\$21.28
Effective January 1, 2024	\$21.28

ENERGY CHARGE

	During a Critical Peak Event	For the first 200 kilowatt-hours per month after Critical Peak Event usage	For all additional kilowatt-hours
Cents per kilowatt-hour			
Effective February 2, 2023	143.145	14.025	12.681
Effective January 1, 2024	144.604	15.485	14.140

The Critical Peak Event is of a four-hour duration and can be called at any time between 6:00 AM and 11:00 PM, Monday to Sunday, during the Winter Period November 1 through March 31.

The Critical Peak Event pricing applies when a Critical Peak Event is called. In all other hours in the Winter Period, and for all hours in the Non-Winter Period, the rate shall be the Non-Critical Peak Hours Rate in the table above.

CRITICAL PEAK EVENT PROCEDURE

1. In the Winter Period, Critical Peak Events exclude all hours on the following holidays: January 1, Nova Scotia Heritage Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, November 11, December 25 and December 26. If January 1, November 11, December 25 or 26 fall on a weekend, the Critical Peak Events also exclude the weekday the holiday is observed.
2. Critical Peak Events will be scheduled, at the sole discretion of NSPI, when NSPI is expecting conditions including, but not limited to, high energy (kWh) usage, high market energy costs, or generation or transmission outages.
3. When a Critical Peak Event is scheduled, subscribers to this tariff will be notified in advance and the Critical Peak Event Energy Charge (higher rate) will be in effect for all kWh consumed by the customer during the period. The notification is a signal to the customer to reduce the

- amount of electricity they are using.
4. Critical Peak Events will only be scheduled to occur during the Winter Period
 5. No more than 18 Critical Peak Events may be scheduled per Winter season (November through March inclusive). No more than three Critical Peak Events will be scheduled per week (Monday to Sunday). No more than three Critical Peak Events per Winter season may be scheduled on a weekend.
 6. Customers will be notified of a Critical Peak Event in advance. By 4:00 pm the day prior to the event, the Customer will receive a notification message. The Customer is responsible to watch for this message, and to notify NS Power in advance if their contact information changes.

FUEL ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (FAM)

The FAM Actual Adjustment (AA) and Balance Adjustment (BA) charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the FAM Tariff, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

DSM COST RECOVERY RIDER

The Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Charge (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

STORM COST RECOVERY RIDER

Storm Cost Recovery Charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Storm Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE

The minimum monthly charge shall be as follows.

	Per month
Effective February 2, 2023	\$21.28
Effective January 1, 2024	\$21.28

AVAILABILITY CONDITIONS

- a) The customer must commence service under this tariff on November 1st, unless NSPI grants a waiver.
- b) The customer must be equipped with a standard Smart Meter.
- c) The customer must be on electronic billing and have a MyAccount profile.
- d) NSPI may limit the number of customers who may subscribe to this tariff at a time, and/or close enrollment for any period of time.
- e) The customer cannot be taking seasonal service from NSPI under Regulation 3.3.
- f) The customer cannot be taking Net Metering service from NSPI under Regulation 3.6.



GENERAL CRITICAL PEAK PRICING TARIFF

PURPOSE

This is an optional tariff designed to promote the shifting of load from peak to off-peak periods. This tariff is available to customers who are eligible for service under the General Tariff.

DEMAND CHARGE

	Per month per kilowatt of maximum demand.
Effective February 2, 2023	\$10.554
Effective January 1, 2024	\$10.554

32 cents per kilowatt reduction in demand charge where the transformer was owned by the customer prior to February 1, 1974, or under Special Condition (2) as set out below.

ENERGY CHARGE

	During a Critical Peak Event	For the first 200 kilowatt-hours per month per kilowatt of maximum demand after Critical Peak Event usage	For all additional kilowatt-hours
	Cents per kilowatt-hour		
Effective February 2, 2023	151.171	10.480	8.640
Effective January 1, 2024	152.209	11.518	9.678

The Critical Peak Event is of a four-hour duration and can be called at any time between 6:00 AM and 11:00 PM, Monday to Sunday, during the Winter Period November 1 through March 31.

The Critical Peak Event pricing applies when a Critical Peak Event is called. In all other hours in the Winter Period, and for all hours in the Non-Winter Period, the rate shall be the Non-Critical Peak Hours Rate in the table above.

CRITICAL PEAK EVENT PROCEDURE

1. In the Winter Period, Critical Peak Events exclude all hours on the following holidays: January 1, Nova Scotia Heritage Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, November 11, December 25 and

December 26. If January 1, November 11, December 25 or 26 fall on a weekend, the Critical Peak Events also exclude the weekday the holiday is observed.

2. Critical Peak Events will be scheduled, at the sole discretion of NSPI, when NSPI is expecting conditions including, but not limited to, high energy (kWh) usage, high market energy costs, or generation or transmission outages.
3. When a Critical Peak Event is scheduled, subscribers to this tariff will be notified in advance and the Critical Peak Event Energy Charge (higher rate) will be in effect for all kWh consumed by the customer during the period. The notification is a signal to the customer to reduce the amount of electricity they are using.
4. Critical Peak Events will only be scheduled to occur during the Winter Period.
5. No more than 18 Critical Peak Events may be scheduled per Winter season (November through March inclusive). No more than three Critical Peak Events will be scheduled per week (Monday to Sunday). No more than three Critical Peak Events per Winter season may be scheduled on a weekend.
6. Customers will be notified of a Critical Peak Event in advance. By 4:00 pm the day prior to the event, the Customer will receive a notification message. The Customer is responsible to watch for this message, and to notify NS Power in advance if their contact information changes.

FUEL ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (FAM)

The FAM Actual Adjustment (AA) and Balance Adjustment (BA) charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the FAM Tariff, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

DSM COST RECOVERY RIDER

The Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Charge (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

STORM COST RECOVERY RIDER

Storm Cost Recovery Charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Storm Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

MAXIMUM PER KWH CHARGE/MINIMUM BILL

The maximum charge per kWh, applying to that portion of the bill which is not concerned with determination of the cost of the Critical Peak Events, will be that for a billing load factor of 10% except that the minimum monthly bill shall not be less than the following.

	Per month
Effective February 2, 2023	\$21.28
Effective January 1, 2024	\$21.28

AVAILABILITY CONDITIONS

- a) The customer must commence service under this tariff on November 1st, unless NSPI grants a waiver.
- b) The customer must be equipped with a standard Smart Meter.
- c) The customer must be on electronic billing and have a MyAccount profile.
- d) NSPI may limit the number of customers who may subscribe to this tariff at a time, and/or close enrollment for any period of time.
- e) The customer cannot be taking Net Metering service from NSPI under Regulation 3.6.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

- (1) Metering will normally be at the low voltage side of the transformer. Should the customer's requirements make it necessary for the Company to provide primary metering, then the customer will be required to make a capital contribution equal to the additional capital cost of primary metering as opposed to the cost of secondary metering. Adjustment to the metered kWh usage will be made when metering is on the high voltage side. Meter readings shall then be reduced by 1.9%.
- (2) When the customer requires non-standard service provisions, the Company may require the customer to own any transformer normally provided by the Company.
- (3) The customer will make all necessary arrangements to ensure that its load does not unduly deteriorate the integrity of the power supply system, either by its design and/or operation.
- (4) In assessing issues which might unduly affect the integrity of the power supply system the following would be considered: reliability, harmonic voltage and current levels, voltage flicker, unbalance, rate of change in load levels, stability, fault levels and other related conditions.



DOMESTIC SERVICE CRITICAL PEAK PRICING TARIFF

PURPOSE

This is an optional tariff designed to promote the shifting of load from peak to off-peak periods. This tariff is available to customers who are eligible for service under the Domestic Service Tariff.

CUSTOMER CHARGE

	Per month
Effective January 1, 2024	\$19.17

ENERGY CHARGE

	During a Critical Peak Event	Non- Critical Peak Hours
	Cents per kilowatt-hour	
Effective January 1, 2024	142.256	14.290
Effective November 1, 2024	169.310	14.222

The Critical Peak Event is of a four-hour duration and can be called at any time between 6:00 AM and 11:00 PM, Monday to Sunday, during the Winter Period November 1 through March 31.

The Critical Peak Event pricing applies when a Critical Peak Event is called. In all other hours in the Winter Period, and for all hours in the Non-Winter Period, the rate shall be the Non-Critical Peak Hours Rate in the table above.

CRITICAL PEAK EVENT PROCEDURE

1. In the Winter Period, Critical Peak Events exclude all hours on the following holidays: January 1, Nova Scotia Heritage Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, November 11, December 25 and December 26. If January 1, November 11, December 25 or 26 fall on a weekend, the Critical Peak Events also exclude the weekday the holiday is observed.
2. Critical Peak Events will be scheduled, at the sole discretion of NSPI, when NSPI is expecting conditions including, but not limited to, high energy (kWh) usage, high market energy costs, or generation or transmission outages.
3. When a Critical Peak Event is scheduled, subscribers to this tariff will be notified in advance and the Critical Peak Event Energy Charge (higher rate) will be in effect for all kWh consumed by the customer during the period. The notification is a signal to the customer to reduce the amount of electricity they are using.
4. Critical Peak Events will only be scheduled to occur during the Winter Period.
5. No more than 18 Critical Peak Events may be scheduled per Winter season (November through

Effective: November 1, 2024

March inclusive). No more than three Critical Peak Events will be scheduled per week (Monday to Sunday). No more than three Critical Peak Events per Winter season may be scheduled on a weekend.

6. Customers will be notified of a Critical Peak Event in advance. By 4:00 pm the day prior to the event, the Customer will receive a notification message. The Customer is responsible to watch for this message, and to notify NSPI in advance if their contact information changes.

FUEL ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (FAM)

The FAM Actual Adjustment (AA) and Balance Adjustment (BA) charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the FAM Tariff, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

DSM COST RECOVERY RIDER

The Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Charge (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

STORM COST RECOVERY RIDER

Storm Cost Recovery Charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Storm Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE

The minimum monthly charge shall be as follows.

	Per month
Effective January 1, 2024	\$19.17

AVAILABILITY CONDITIONS

- a) The customer must commence service under this tariff on November 1st, unless NSPI grants a waiver.
- b) The customer must be equipped with a standard Smart Meter.
- c) The customer must be on electronic billing and have a MyAccount profile.
- d) NSPI may limit the number of customers who may subscribe to this tariff at a time, and/or close enrollment for any period of time.
- e) The customer cannot be taking seasonal service from NSPI under Regulation 3.3.
- f) The customer cannot be taking Net Metering service from NSPI under Regulation 3.6.

Optional Green Power Rider

Customers taking service under this rider may choose to support NSPI's Green Power program by purchasing "blocks" of Green Power. For every block purchased, NSPI will provide 125 kWh per month from green energy sources, thereby displacing energy from fossil fuels. Blocks may be purchased at a cost of \$5 per month. This charge shall be over and above the customer's normal bill for service taken under the Domestic Service Critical Peak Pricing Tariff.

Special Terms and Provisions

1. Green Power, as defined for the purposes of this rider includes energy produced from renewable resources that have minimal impact on the environment, and could be independently certified by third party environmental organizations.
2. Service under this rider may be limited at the discretion of the Company, based on the expected level of green energy available.

PURPOSE

This is an optional tariff designed to promote the shifting of load from peak to off-peak periods. This tariff is available to customers who are eligible for service under the Domestic Service Tariff.

CUSTOMER CHARGE

	Per month
Effective January 1, 2024	\$19.17

ENERGY CHARGE

Non-winter Period April 1 through October 31	Cents per kilowatt-hour
	All hours
Effective January 1, 2024	11.719
Effective November 1, 2024	11.426

Winter Period November 1 through March 31	On-peak (morning)	Off-peak	On-peak (evening)	Off-peak
	7:00 am to 11:00 am	11:00 am to 5:00 pm	5:00 pm to 9:00 pm	9:00 pm to 7:00 am
	Cents per kilowatt-hour			
Effective January 1, 2024	32.120	16.931	32.120	16.931
Effective November 1, 2024	33.862	16.931	33.862	16.931

Note 1: In the Winter Period, the off-peak price also applies to all hours on Saturdays, Sundays, and the following holidays: January 1, Nova Scotia Heritage Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, November 11, December 25 and December 26. If January 1, November 11, December 25 or 26 fall on a weekend, the off-peak price shall apply on the weekday the holiday is observed.

FUEL ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (FAM)

The FAM Actual Adjustment (AA) and Balance Adjustment (BA) charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the FAM Tariff, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

DSM COST RECOVERY RIDER

The Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Charge (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

STORM COST RECOVERY RIDER

Storm Cost Recovery Charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Storm Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE

The minimum monthly charge shall be as follows.

	Per month
Effective January 1, 2024	\$19.17

AVAILABILITY CONDITIONS

- a) The customer must commence service under this tariff on November 1st, unless NSPI grants a waiver.
- b) The customer must be equipped with a standard Smart Meter.
- c) NSPI may limit the number of customers who may subscribe to this tariff at a time, and/or close enrollment for any period of time.
- d) The customer cannot be taking seasonal service from NSPI under Regulation 3.3.
- e) The customer cannot be taking Net Metering service from NSPI under Regulation 3.6.

Optional Green Power Rider

Customers taking service under this rider may choose to support NSPI’s Green Power program by purchasing “blocks” of Green Power. For every block purchased, NSPI will provide 125 kWh per month from green energy sources, thereby displacing energy from fossil fuels. Blocks may be purchased at a cost of \$5 per month. This charge shall be over and above the customer’s normal bill for service taken under the Domestic Service Time of Use Tariff.

Special Terms and Provisions

- 1. Green Power, as defined for the purposes of this rider includes energy produced from renewable resources that have minimal impact on the environment, and could be independently certified by third party environmental organizations.

2. Service under this rider may be limited at the discretion of the Company, based on the expected level of green energy available.



SCHEDULE E

MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS TIME-OF-USE TARIFF

Page 1 of 2

PURPOSE

This is an optional tariff designed to promote the shifting of load from peak to off-peak periods. This tariff is available to customers who are eligible for service under the General Tariff.

ENERGY CHARGE

Non-winter Period April 1 through October 31	Off-peak	On-peak
	9:00 pm to 7:00 am	7:00 am to 9:00 pm
Cents per kilowatt-hour		
Effective November 1, 2024	11.430	13.573

Winter Period November 1 through March 31	On-peak (morning)	Mid-peak	On-peak (evening)	Off-peak
	7:00 am to 11:00 am	11:00 am to 5:00 pm	5:00 pm to 9:00 pm	9:00 pm to 7:00 am
Cents per kilowatt-hour				
Effective November 1, 2024	28.574	14.287	28.574	12.144

Note 1: in both the Winter and Non-winter Periods, the applicable peak price also applies to all hours on Saturdays, Sundays, and the following holidays: January 1, Nova Scotia Heritage Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, November 11, December 25 and December 26, including on the weekdays the holiday may be observed.

FUEL ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (FAM)

The FAM Actual Adjustment (AA) and Balance Adjustment (BA) charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the FAM Tariff, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

DSM COST RECOVERY RIDER

The Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Charge (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Demand Side Management Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

STORM COST RECOVERY RIDER

Effective: November 1, 2024

Storm Cost Recovery Charges or credits (in cents per kilowatt-hour) applicable to the Tariff for the current rate year, shown in the Storm Cost Recovery Rider, shall apply, in addition to the energy charge.

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE

The minimum monthly charge shall not be less than the rates in the table below.

	Per month
Effective November 1, 2024	\$21.28

AVAILABILITY CONDITIONS

- a) The tariff is available to Multi-Unit Residential Buildings with a house meter and a minimum of 10 units.
- b) The customer must commence service under this tariff on November 1st, unless NSPI grants a waiver.
- c) The customer must be equipped with a standard Smart Meter.
- d) NSPI may limit the number of customers who may subscribe to this tariff at a time, and/or close enrollment for any period of time.
- e) The customer cannot be taking seasonal service from NSPI under Regulation 3.3.
- f) The customer cannot be taking Net Metering service from NSPI under Regulation 3.6.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- (1) Metering will normally be at the low voltage side of the transformer. Should the customer's requirements make it necessary for the Company to provide primary metering, then the customer will be required to make a capital contribution equal to the additional capital cost of primary metering as opposed to the cost of secondary metering. Adjustment to the metered kWh usage will be made when metering is on the high voltage side. Meter readings shall then be reduced by 1.9%.
- (2) When the customer requires non-standard service provisions, the Company may require the customer to own any transformer normally provided by the Company.
- (3) The customer will make all necessary arrangements to ensure that its load does not unduly deteriorate the integrity of the power supply system, either by its design and/or operation.
- (4) In assessing issues which might unduly affect the integrity of the power supply system the following would be considered: reliability, harmonic voltage and current levels, voltage flicker, unbalance, rate of change in load levels, stability, fault levels and other related conditions.