

April 17, 2014

Doreen Friis
Regulatory Affairs Officer/Clerk
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
3rd Floor, Summit Place
1601 Lower Water Street
Halifax NS B3J 3P6

Dear Ms. Friis,

I am writing to you to express our support for Nova Scotia Power's application for Small General and General Demand Threshold Revision. While our 1,700 members come from a variety of sectors and have a wide range of interests, energy costs are an issue that resonates with all businesses.

Nova Scotia Power is looking to provide General customers who use between 32,000 to 45,000 kWh of energy per year the option to use Rate Class 10 or Rate Class 11. This is an innovative proposal that would allow businesses to reduce their energy costs and increase their competitiveness. These new rules would provide significant benefits to a large number of businesses in Halifax and would be welcome news for our members.

This proposal was developed through a collaborative process that involved many stakeholder groups. The Chamber, and its Energy Committee, were pleased to be involved in the development of this proposal and hope that this serves as an example for future initiatives. In light of this collaboration and the benefits these changes would bring, I strongly encourage you to approve Nova Scotia Power's application.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Valerie A. Payn
President and CEO
Halifax Chamber of Commerce