



HALIFAX CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

July 12, 2010

Honourable Bill Estabrooks
Department of Energy
4th Floor, Bank of Montreal Building
PO Box 2664
5151 George Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3P7

Dear Minister Estabrooks:

I am writing with grave concerns about Nova Scotia Power Inc.'s proposed power rate increase related to its fuel adjustment mechanism (FAM).

Our members are still feeling the heavy weight of the sluggish economy and have just been hit with a provincial 2% HST increase. This with a proposed bridge toll increase and an anticipated rise in city water rates, are serious burdens for our small business sector to bear.

I urge you, Minister, to work with NSP Inc. to consider options and alternatives related to the power rate increase to mitigate the impact to the business community and in particular the small business sector.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Payne
President and CEO

Copy: Murray Coolican, Deputy Minister, Energy
Rob Bennett, President & CEO, Nova Scotia Power