

January 28, 2013

Doreen Friis
Regulatory Affairs Officer/Clerk
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M"
Halifax, NS B3J 3S3

Dear Ms. Friis:

Re: **Application by NSP Maritime Link Incorporated (NSPML) for Approval of the Maritime Link Project (Application) – Confidentiality Request**

NSPML is today filing its application with the Board for approval of the Maritime Link Project, under cover of a Notice of Application. Attachment 1 to that Notice is a listing of confidential sections of the Application, which are limited to one appendix to the Application, Appendix 6.04.

Pursuant to Board Regulatory Rule 12, NSPML requests that certain substantive information on pages 2-6 and 7 of Appendix 6.04 be held in confidence by the Board, for the following reasons.

Appendix 6.04 provides a number of key assumptions and inputs to the analysis undertaken on behalf of NSPML of alternatives to the Maritime Link Project. In each of the following cases, if such information were to be publicly disclosed, specific harm could arise as follows:

(a) Forecast Future Fuel and Energy Prices (pages 2-6)

It is in the interests of customers that suppliers of energy and fuels to NSPI not be made aware of NSPI's procurement plans, negotiating strategy, costing parameters, supplier relationships or matters of that nature. Knowledge of these details would allow a sophisticated supplier to anticipate the needs of the NSPI and adapt energy supply bids accordingly.

(b) Forecast Heat Rate Assumptions (page 7)

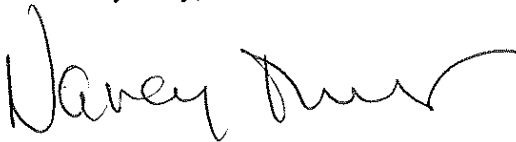
Disclosure of this information would also disclose specific NSPI plant characteristics, which could allow suppliers to respond to Requests for Proposals at prices that could, in the absence of this detailed knowledge, be otherwise lower. This would include heat rates, test burn results, or matters of this nature. Knowledge of these details would allow a sophisticated supplier to anticipate the needs of NSPI, to recognize which competitors would be excluded from bidding (due, for example, to fuel characteristic considerations, or the ability of other suppliers to meet fuel quantity demands) and to adapt fuel bids accordingly.

As such, NSPML submits that any interest in the public disclosure of the substantive information described above is outweighed by the desirability of avoiding the disclosure of such sensitive financial and commercial information, and requests that the Board order that Appendix 6.04 be held in confidence.

NSPML has provided a redacted version of Appendix 6.04 with the Application.

NSPML recognizes that parties to the Board's proceeding to consider the Application may have a legitimate interest in accessing the information that NSPML has asked the Board to hold in confidence. In that respect, NSPML would not object to providing such access, on such terms as the Board considers appropriate, including a confidentiality undertaking. A proposed form of such an undertaking is attached to this letter, and NSPML also requests that it be approved by the Board for the purposes of this proceeding.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy G. Tower", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy G. Tower

Chief Executive Officer