

Docket UE20723

BEFORE THE ISLAND REGULATORY AND APPEALS COMMISSION
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

IN THE MATTER of a filing by Maritime Electric Company, Limited of an application for approval of expenditures relating to the design, construction and commissioning of a combustion turbine generator with a nominal rating of 50MW to be located at the Charlottetown Plant Site.

Terms of Reference

**Independent Commission Staff
Expert**

August, 2015

Part 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission (Commission) has authorized Commission Staff (Staff) to retain the services of an independent energy consultant (consultant) for the purpose of providing independent expert advice on matters relating to Maritime Electric's application before the Commission for approval of expenditures relating to the design, construction and commissioning of a combustion turbine generator with a nominal rating of 50MW to be located at the Charlottetown Plant Site.

1.2 Staff's intention in seeking such independent advice is to ensure that a full and complete record in this matter is made available to the Commission.

1.3 Staff takes no position in this matter.

Part 2 SPECIFICS OF ENGAGEMENT

2.1 The consultant is engaged:

.1 to analyze the need for this expenditure taking into consideration the application evidence and related interrogatories;

.2 to assess: a) transmission capacity and b) generation capacity availability from both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to the NS/NB Border interchange at Memramcook and the interconnection with the PEI submarine cable system;

.3 to provide the Commission with information on the potential availability of firm energy capacity and transmission capacity from the "Muskrat Falls and Maritime Link" project;

.4 to provide the Commission with an assessment of the alternatives proposed, in light of the considerations of the information obtained as part of .2 above; and

.5 to draw to the attention of the Commission such other issues and make such other comments and recommendations on related matters as the consultant considers advisable.

2.2 While the necessity of a public hearing regarding the application has yet to be determined, the consultant shall be prepared to appear at a hearing before the Commission.

2.3 The consultant shall take care to ensure that his analysis is based on the principle that the resulting rates of a public utility are to be as low as possible, consistent with the public utility's duty to provide reasonable and adequate service.

2.4 The consultant may confer with, and issue written questions or interrogatories directly to, Maritime Electric provided both the written questions and written answers are filed with the Commission.

2.5 The consultant shall not confer with any Commissioner assigned to hear the application on any matter relating to this engagement.

Part 3 TIMING

3.1 The consultant shall deliver ten (10) copies of his written report to

J. Mark Lanigan CPA, CA
Director, Corporate & Appealate Services
Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission
134 Kent Street, P.O. Box 577
Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 7L1

On or before September 16, 2015. **NOTE: DEADLINE IS EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

THE ISLAND REGULATORY AND
APPEALS COMMISSION

Prince Edward Island
Île-du-Prince-Édouard
CANADA