

UE20736 – MECL 2022 Supplemental Capital Budget Application

This application must not be approved based on perceived short comings in the Contingency Fund.

This fund was established to maintain the Provincially owned transmission system between Murray Corner and Bedeque. This system has been on-line since 1978 and is 44 years old. The fund has served us well during this time period. It is fully funded by PEI ratepayers.

The fund needs more capital. This is simply a matter of increasing contributions by ratepayers.

Transferring ownership only increases costs to ratepayers.

It does not save Government any money.

The only benefactors are shareholders of Maritime Electric.

A bigger question is the future of the complete 1978 transmission system between Bedeque and Memramcook in New Brunswick.

To this end I have submitted to Maritime Electric interrogatories as part of the 2023 Capital Budget application Docket UE20735(applicable text is copied below). Extending the life of the Bedeque to Richmond Cove Cable risers makes no sense without extending the life of the cables themselves and the associated New Brunswick Transmission System.

No Capital Replacement expenditures can be approved without a complete review of the complete system.

An even bigger question is the role of the PEI Energy Corporation in owning and maintaining transmission systems.

Government thru its energy programs is increasing demand for electrical capacity in the distribution and transmission systems.

Maritime Electric has more than doubled the Capital budget to meet system demand.

The Energy Corporation collects approx. \$8 million annually in surplus revenue from wind energy sales.

None of this revenue is reinvested in transmission capacity.

As a former contract employee of the Energy Corporation from 1980 to 1995, I question the direction of the Energy Corporation.

Text taken from interrogatories Docket UE20735

IR-4 138 kV Breaker Replacement Program (Justifiable) \$ 153,000. Transmission lines Richmond Cove Cable Riser Station to Bedeque Switching Station.

Setting aside ownership related matters. This transmission system, lines Y-101 and Y-103, is part of the original 1978 transmission system between Bedeque and Memramcook New Brunswick.

This breaker replacement is part of a six year \$9,470,000 capital replacement program.

What will be the expected life of this transmission system upon completion of this program?

What is the current expected life of submarine cables numbers one and two?

What is the expected life of the associated New Brunswick transmission system to Memramcook?

IR-5 Are lines Y-101 and Y-102 energized at all times? Are the lines metered separately?
What percentage of annual energy import to PEI comes across these two lines?