

**NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD****IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT**

- and -

**IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION** by the **TOWN OF ANTIGONISH**, on behalf of its **Electric Utility**, for Approval of Amendments to its Schedule of Rates and Charges for the provision of electric supply and services to its customers and its Schedule of Rules and Regulations

**ORDER**

**BEFORE:**



Richard J. Melanson, LL.B., Panel Chair

Steven M. Murphy, MBA, P.Eng., Member

Bruce H. Fisher, MPA, CPA, CMA, Member

The Town of Antigonish, on behalf of its electric utility, filed a general rate application (GRA) with the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board on November 28, 2023, for approval of certain revisions to its Rates, Charges and Regulations.

The Board issued its Decision on May 9, 2024. The Utility filed its Compliance Filing on May 17, 2024. The Board issued a letter on May 21, 2024, directing changes to be made to the Compliance Filing. The Utility filed a revised Compliance Filing on May 21, 2024.

The Board is satisfied that the revised Compliance Filing reflects the Board's Decision.

The Board orders that:

1. The Schedule of Rates for Electric Supply and Service is approved, effective June 1, 2024, attached hereto as Schedule A.
2. The Schedule of Rules and Regulations Governing the Supply of Electric Services is approved, effective June 1, 2024, attached hereto as Schedule B.
3. The Utility is directed as follows:
  - a. In its next general rate application, the Utility must:

- Provide a rate study using the basic customer method along with the current minimum system method.
  - Complete a study on the appropriateness of the declining block rate structure and to provide a proposal on moving forward with a justified block structure or plan to remove the declining block structure.
- b. File a rate study within three years of the installation of AMI. In that general rate application, the Utility must:
- Update the Board about its ability to determine class coincident and non-coincident peaks and the accuracy of the peaks determined for its general service class.
  - Assess the cost basis and reasonableness of its Time-of-Day Rates and provide analysis on advance rate design and if a new rate class should be created.
  - Assess if the General Service <3kW should be merged with general Service >3kW, or if a new rate class cut-off should be implemented.
- c. The Utility must also:
- Start billing the Pole Attachment charge.

**DATED** at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2024.

*Crystal Henwood*  
Clerk of the Board



## SCHEDULE "A"

### TOWN OF ANTIGONISH ELECTRIC UTILITY

#### SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR ELECTRIC SUPPLY & SERVICES

(Effective: June 1, 2024)

#### RATES

The rates requested below are the rates for electric supply and services when payment is made within 30 days from the date rendered as shown on the bill. An interest charge of 1.5% will apply to all overdue accounts after thirty (30) days.

#### "Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) Municipal Rate Class Increases"

In order to recover increased costs due to NSPI increases and upon notice by the Council of the Town Antigonish to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, (the Board), the Board may amend the Rates for Domestic service, Small General, General, and Street and Yard Lighting based on the following formula, without the necessity of a public hearing.

$$1) \quad A - B = C$$

$$2) \quad C \div D = E$$

- A = Estimated change in power purchase costs;  
B = Estimated change in revenue generated from Large General Class as a result of this action;  
C = Estimated change in power costs attributed to rate classes other than Large General customers.  
D = Estimated revenue from rate classes other than Large General customers;  
E = % change required to Town of Antigonish Electric rates to recover increased power purchase costs.

(Estimates to be based on most recently completed 12 month period)

The Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's Large General Service Demand and Energy Rates are to equal those of NSPI's Large General Rate Class, by virtue of Board Order dated October 30, 2008 and further Board Order dated June 10, 2014.

In the event of a change to NSPI's Large General Rate, within thirty (30) calendar days thereof the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility will apply to the Board for a corresponding amendment to the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's Large General Service Demand

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and/or Energy Rates, as provided for herein, and the Board shall amend the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's Demand and/or Energy Rates for the Large General Service as necessary to equal those of NSPI's Large General Rate Class. Any application or request for an amendment to Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's Large General Service Demand and Energy Rates is referred to an "Amendment Application". An Amendment Application may only be made upon the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility providing its Large General Rate Class customers with fifteen (15) calendar days advance written notice of the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's intention to file an Amendment Application with the Board and to seek such amendment, before filing, which notice must include the full details of any amendments and specific rates sought on the Amendment Application. The Board may grant such amendment requested under an Amendment Application without the necessity of a public hearing, unless a hearing is requested by a Large General Service customer of the Antigonish Electric Utility, in which case a public hearing relating to the Large General Class only shall then proceed on at least fifteen (15) calendar days advance written notice specifically to the customer.

The Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's Large General Service Demand and Energy Rates will be applied to the quantities determined by actual Large General Service meter readings, without adjustment for system losses.



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**Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) Municipal Rate Class Adjustments due to Fuel Adjustment Mechanism ("FAM") (AEU FAM)**

In order to recover FAM adjustments due to NSPI approved FAM adjustments and upon notice by the Council of the Town of Antigonish to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (the "Board") the Board may amend the kWh rates for Domestic Service, General, and Street and Yard Lighting based on the following, without the necessity of a public hearing.

For Domestic Service, General, and Domestic Service Time-of-Day Rate, the following formula will apply to energy purchased from NSPI only and resold to municipal customers:

$$A \times B = C$$

A = NSPI FAM Rate to Municipal Class (cents per kWh)

B = 4% system losses

C = Adjustment to Municipal Electric Rates as a result of FAM Charges (cents per kWh).

For Street and Yard Lighting Categories the following formula will apply:

$$D \times E = F$$

D = Adjustment to Municipal electric Rates as a result of FAM Charges (cents per kWh)

E = Annual kWh consumption based on NSPI rates or 4,000 hr.

F = Adjustment to annual charge per streetlight as a result of FAM Charges.

For the Large General customers, the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's FAM Rate applicable its Large General customers, shall be equal to the NSPI FAM Rate to NSPI Large General customers.

In the event of a change to the NSPI FAM Rate to NSPI Large General customers, within thirty (30) calendar days thereof the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility will apply to the Board for a corresponding amendment to the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's FAM Rate applicable its Large General customers, as provided for herein, and the Board shall amend the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's FAM Rate applicable its Large General customers to equal the NSPI FAM Rate to NSPI Large General customers. Any application or request for an amendment to the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's FAM Rate applicable its Large General customers is referred to as a "FAM Amendment Application". A FAM Amendment Application may only be made upon the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility providing its Large General Rate Class customers with fifteen (15) calendar days advance written notice of the Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's

intention to file a FAM Amendment Application with the Board and to seek such amendment, before filing, which notice must include the full details of any amendment and the specific rate sought on the FAM Amendment Application. The Board may grant such amendment requested under a FAM Amendment Application without the necessity of a public hearing, unless a hearing is requested by a Large General Service customer of the Antigonish Electric Utility, in which case a public hearing relating to the Large General Class only shall then proceed on at least fifteen (15) calendar days advance written notice specifically to the customer making the hearing request.

The Town of Antigonish Electric Utility's FAM Rate applicable to its Large General customers will be applied to the quantities determined by actual Large General Service meter readings, without adjustment for system losses.

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**Allocation of NSPI DSM charges to classes based on equivalent Efficiency Nova Scotia charges to equivalent NSPI customer classes.**

In order to have charges for Efficiency Nova Scotia programs more equitably levied to classes using those programs, an allocation, based on rates charged to equivalent NSPI customer classes, will be made and the rates charged to each class for Efficiency Nova Scotia charges will be amended without the necessity of a public hearing.

The allocation of Efficiency Nova Scotia Charges will involve the Domestic, General, Large General and Street lighting Classes. The rates to be charged to each of these classes will be the equivalent NSPI DSM rates for those classes, plus or minus an "Adjustment".

**Adjustment**

A = the total of kwh sales of all customer classes times the NSPI DSM rate charged to Municipal Electric Utilities times 104%

B = the total of kwh sales of all customer classes times the NSPI DSM rates charged to NSPI equivalent customer classes.

C = A - B

D = Adjustment Percentage, calculated as C/B.

E = Adjustment, calculated as D times the equivalent NSPI DSM rate for the equivalent class.

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## DOMESTIC SERVICE

Base Charge: \$12.74 per month.

Energy Rates: \$0.16051 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.

Minimum Bill: The Base Charge.

DSM Charges \$0.00586 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.

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## GENERAL SERVICES

### Up to 3 kilowatts connected load:

<u>Base Rate:</u>	\$10.64 per month per kilowatt of connected load.
<u>Energy Rates:</u>	\$0.19754 per kilowatt hour for the first 100 kilowatt hours per month per kilowatt of connected load. \$0.12380 per kilowatt hour for all additional consumption.
<u>Base Rate:</u>	\$10.64 per kw of maximum demand.
<u>Minimum Bill:</u>	The greater of the Base Rate or \$13.06.
<u>DSM Charges</u>	\$0.00546 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.

### Above 3 kilowatts connected load:

<u>Base Rate:</u>	\$10.84 per month per kilowatt of maximum demand.
<u>Energy Rates:</u>	\$0.19754 per kilowatt hour for the first 100 kilowatt hours per month per kilowatt of maximum demand. \$0.12380 per kilowatt hour for all additional consumption.
<u>Base Rate:</u>	\$10.84 per kilowatt of maximum demand.
<u>Minimum Bill:</u>	The greater of the Base Rate or \$13.06.
<u>DSM Charges</u>	\$0.00546 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.

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## LARGE GENERAL SERVICE

Demand and Energy Rates are equal to NSPI Large General Class Rates

### **2,000 kVA or 1,800 kW and over:**

- Demand Rate: \$13.845 per month per kVA of maximum demand of the current month or the maximum actual demand of the previous December, January, or February, occurring in the previous eleven months.
- Energy Rate: \$0.09850 per kilowatt hour (plus FAM).
- Transformation charges: 1.75% times Energy charges only (including FAM).
- DSM Rate: \$0.00568 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.

**DOMESTIC SERVICE TIME-OF-DAY RATE (OPTIONAL)**

## BASE CHARGE

**\$19.45 per month**

## ENERGY CHARGE

## December, January, and February

7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. \$0.32102 per kilowatt hour  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$0.16051 per kilowatt hour  
4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. \$0.32102 per kilowatt-hour  
10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. \$0.10538 per kilowatt-hour

The above rates apply weekdays (Monday through Friday inclusive), excluding statutory holidays. For Saturdays, Sundays, and statutory holidays, all consumption will be billed at the rate of 10.538 cents per kilowatt hour.

March to November

7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.      \$0.16051 per kilowatt hour 10:00 p.m.  
to 7:00 a.m.      \$0.10538 per kilowatt hour

The above rates apply weekdays (Monday through Friday inclusive), excluding statutory holidays. For Saturdays, Sundays, and statutory holidays, all consumption will be billed at the rate of 10.538 cents per kilowatt hour.

**MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE**

The minimum monthly charge shall be 19.45.

DSM Charges \$0.00586 per kilowatt hour for all consumption.

## AVAILABILITY

This rate is only available to customers employing Electric thermal Storage (ETS) equipment and electric in-floor radiant (i.e., hydronic) heating systems utilizing time shifting technology approved by the Utility. ***(Amended by Order dated November 30, 2009).***

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STREET LIGHTING

Multiple & Series Lighting 4,000 hours burning (includes DSM)

300 watts incandescent.....	\$259.02 per lamp per year
500 watts incandescent.....	\$494.37 per lamp per year
175 watts Mercury Vapour.....	\$260.14 per lamp per year
250 watts Mercury Vapour.....	\$332.21 per lamp per year
400 watts Mercury Vapour.....	\$488.53 per lamp per year
700 watts Mercury Vapour.....	\$916.78 per lamp per year

2 - 24" Fluorescent tubes - 80 watts....	\$187.65 per year
2 - 48" Fluorescent tubes - 130 watts...	\$347.28 per year
2 - 72" Fluorescent tubes - 250 watts...	\$449.30 per year
2 - 72" Fluorescent tubes - 500 watts...	\$795.00 per year
2 - 48" Fluorescent tubes - 220 watts...	\$356.28 per year

70 watts Sodium.....	\$218.10 per year	
100 watts Sodium.....	\$233.98 per year	
150 watts Sodium.....	\$288.37 per year	
250 watts Sodium.....	\$381.55 per year	
400 watts Sodium.....	\$517.58 per year 1,000 watts Metallic Additive.....	\$1,286.24 per year

LIGHT EMITTING DIODES (LED)

Base Charge + Service Charge + DSM rider = Total LED charge per year

**Base Charge**

\$58.43 per year

**Service Charge**

\$1.38401 x LED Wattage per year

**DSM Charge**

\$0.000537 per LED Wattage per year

**Example:**

55 Watt LED:

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58.43 + (55 watts x 1.38401) + (55 watts x 0.000537) = \$128.99 per year

60 Watt LED:

58.43 + (60 watts x 1.38401) + (60 watts x 0.000537) = \$135.41 per year

88 Watt LED:

58.43 + (88 watts x 1.38401) + (88 watts x 0.000537) = \$171.33 per year

### TRAFFIC LIGHTS

69 watts section.....	\$198.31 per year
100 watts section.....	\$284.06 per year
150 watts section.....	\$428.40 per year

### TELEPHONE BOOTHS

Each.....	\$167.61 per year
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**SCHEDULE "B"**  
**TOWN OF ANTIGONISH ELECTRIC UTILITY**  
**SCHEDULE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**(Effective: June 1, 2024)**

**1. DEFINITIONS**

**Annual Permit** - may be used to cover all minor repairs in a single calendar year where the industrial, commercial or other establishments has staff members which include qualified electrical personnel.

**Connected Load** - The maximum demand in kilowatts a customer could place on the Utility's system by the simultaneous use of all the electrical loads existing on the premises.

**Customer** -Any person or other entity who is receiving, intends to receive or has received electrical energy from the Utility.

**Demand** - The rate of flow of energy into an electrical installation measured in kilowatts; or where specifically indicated, the rate of flow of apparent energy measured in kilovolt amperes.

**Electric Service** - The provision of electrical energy to a customer subject to the rates and regulations fixed and approved by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

**Farming Unit** - A farming unit means farming business at one location, whether a single or family operation, partnership, or incorporated business.

**Good Standing** - Is achieved when the Customer has paid all accounts on or before the due date for the past 36 months consecutively. Good standing means the customer has rarely (no more than twice) made payments after the due date and have never had an arrears letter.

**Kilowatt (kW)** - Basic unit for the measurement of electric power. One kilowatt equals 1000 watts.

**Kilovolt Ampere (kVA)** - Basic unit for the measurement of the apparent power. One kilovolt ampere equals 1000 volt amperes.

**Maximum Demand** - The greatest demand that occurred during a specified period of time such as a billing period.

**Demand, Maximum Monthly 15-Minute** - The greatest rate at which electrical energy has been used during any period of 15 consecutive minutes in the billing period.

**Meter** -A device owned by the Utility and placed on the customer's premise for the purpose of measuring and recording the customer's demand and/or energy use.

**Meter Seal** - The seal placed on the meter by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Canada) or the seal placed on the meter terminal plate, meter band, or metering



enclosure to prevent fraudulent interference with the flow of electricity through the meter. This also includes the seal placed on the demand reset on demand indicating meters.

**Overhead Line Extension** - An extension of the Utility's overhead distribution facilities adjacent to a public road.

**Overhead Service Extension** - An extension of the Utility's overhead distribution facilities across private property to serve a single customer.

**Power** - The rate of flow of electrical energy in a circuit. Real power is measured in kilowatts. Apparent power is measured in kilovolt amperes.

**Power Factor** - The ratio of real power measured in kilowatts to apparent power measured in kilovolt amperes.

**Residential Customer** - Any individual non-commercial customer receiving service under the Domestic Service Rate (per Schedule A) at his/her permanent or temporary place of residence.

**Service** - The wires and equipment through which electrical energy is supplied to a customer.

**Service Entrance** - That part of a customer's electrical installation to which the Utility's service is attached.

**Temporary Service** - A service which by its nature will require the installation and removal of the Utility's service and equipment and where the duration of the service can be forecast to be limited to within two years.

**Utility** - Refers to the Antigonish Electric Utility

## **2. NO CONTRARY REPRESENTATION BINDING ON THE UTILITY**

No agent, representative, or employee of the Utility shall have any authority to make any agreement, promise or representation contrary to or inconsistent with these regulations. In the event that any such agreement, promise or representation was made or given it shall not be binding on the Utility.

## **3. AVAILABILITY OF SERVICE**

The supply of electric service by the Utility shall be conditional upon:

- (a) Possession by the customer of an internal electrical system complying with all relevant statutory requirements, including but not limited to the Electrical Installation Act; and
- (b) Provision by the customer of a suitable service entrance, including the weather head, conduit and meter base; a right-of-way acceptable to the Utility; and space for such Utility plant and equipment as may be necessary to supply the required service; and

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(c) Compliance with these regulations.

#### **4. APPLICATION FOR SERVICE**

No electric service whether temporary or permanent will be provided until the Utility "Service Application and Contract" form has been completed, signed by the prospective customer or his authorized agent and received by the Utility.

#### **5. REFUSAL OF ELECTRIC SERVICE**

The Utility may refuse to provide electric service to any premises if:

- (a) The customer applying for electric service has an outstanding electric service account and satisfactory arrangements for settlement have not been made, or
- (b) The customer applying is being represented by a third party agent, and that represented customer has an outstanding electric service account and satisfactory arrangements for settlement have not been made, or
- (c) The customer applying lives in a location in which any person or group of people on the lease are in arrears.

#### **6. LIABILITY FOR THE CUSTOMER**

The application for electric service cannot be assigned or transferred without the written consent of the Utility. If the customer leaves or abandons the premises or discontinues in any way the use of the electric service, the customer shall give the Utility notice of such action. If the customer fails to give such notice, they shall continue to be liable to the Utility for the value of all electric service supplied to the said premises both before and after their departure or abandonment thereof. In the event of dispute, proof of notice must be provided by the customer.

#### **7. CONNECTION CHARGE**

There shall be an initial charge of \$25.00 for each connection or re-connection to any premises. This is to cover a part of the cost of setting up customer records, special meter reading, etc. Temporary Services will not pay the standard charge, but are required to pay all costs of connecting and disconnecting service, said amount to be a minimum of \$50.00.

#### **8. DEPOSITS**

##### **RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC SERVICE**

When required, an applicant for service shall deposit with the Utility a sum equal to estimated charges for approximately 3 months of service. The following conditions are to be enforced in regards to deposits:

- (a) Customers who have been in Good Standing for a minimum of 36 months with a current or zero balance can set up an account without requiring a deposit.
- (b) After three years of account being paid on time, deposits will be applied to

customer's accounts with accumulated interest or if the customer ceases to use the service and has paid all bills, the deposit will be returned to them with interest. Good Standing will be determined and deposits applied to accounts on a yearly basis. The customer may, however, inquire at any point to see whether they can have the deposit returned.

- (c) If customers are late in making a payment on account for one period, they can obtain Good Standing by paying all balances on time for three years after the late payment date.
- (d) Interest shall be paid on deposits at the RBC rate of prime minus 1% based on the posted interest rate on January second of the current billing year.
- (e) Deposits from customers can be transferred from one account to another for customers who have been in Good Standing for a minimum of 12 months and have a zero or current balance.
- (f) Deposits will be collected for all first time customers unless a letter of Good Standing from a previous utility provider is provided to this Utility.
- (g) Customers receiving social assistance or other similar types of income security payments shall be required to make a minimum deposit of \$150 including those on a budget plan.

## **NON RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC SERVICE**

Deposits of commercial customers will be based on an average estimate of two months billing. The first half of the deposit will be returned including interest after 12 months of Good Standing. The remainder of the deposit shall be returned after 24 months of Good Standing.

### **9. TERMINATION OF SERVICE**

Customers are required to provide one week notice of termination of electric service. Termination can be done in person, via email or by phone. However, the onus is on the Customer to provide proof of termination.

The Utility will do its best to accommodate requests which provide less than one weeks notice, but cannot guarantee termination will be completed in less than a week.

Termination may also be effected by the Utility for cause in the manner prescribed by these regulations.

### **10. STANDARD ELECTRIC SERVICE VOLTAGES**

The following electric service voltages are to be considered as standard:

Single-phase, 3 wire, 120/240 volts  
Three-phase, 4 wire, 120/208 volts  
Three-phase, 4 wire, 347/600 volts

In addition, three-phase electric services at other voltages may be provided with special permission of the Utility. Any additional costs incurred by the Utility will be borne by the

customer.

## **11. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Residential meters shall be read and bills shall be rendered on a bi-monthly (every two months) basis wherever it is reasonably possible to do so, and bills covering such period of service shall be computed on a two-monthly basis using double the base rate and double the consumption specified for any block. Bill payments are due within thirty days after the date rendered.

Commercial meters shall be read and bills shall be rendered on a monthly basis wherever it is reasonably possible to do so. Bill payments are due within thirty days after the date rendered, with the exception of the Large General Service rate class, which is due within 21 days of the date rendered.

Bills rendered for part of a month shall be computed on a proportionate basis. The proportionate basis shall be as follows:

If the period includes part of a month, the Base Rate and Energy Rate for the fraction of a month shall be prorated to the nearest half month. (For this purpose, thirty days shall constitute a month).

The rates approved by the Board and set out in the Schedule of Rates for electric supply and services are applicable when payment is made within or after thirty days, or in the case of Large General Service customers, within or after 21 days, from the date rendered as shown on the bill. Each bill when rendered shall show the amount payable within thirty days, or within 20 days for the Large General Service customers, from the date rendered as shown on the bill and the interest rate to be charged when payment is made after thirty (30) days, or after 21 days for Large General Service customers, from the due date. Interest will accrue monthly after due date at the rate of 1.5% (nominally 18% annually).

## **12. ESTIMATED READINGS FOR BILLING PURPOSE**

If the Utility is unable to obtain a meter reading due to any cause, or if a meter has been tampered with, or if a meter is evidently working in an unsatisfactory manner, then the probable amount of energy consumed shall be estimated by the Utility on the basis of the energy used in a corresponding period of the preceding year, or in the preceding period in the current year if the record for the preceding year is not available.

In no circumstances may an estimated reading be used for more than two consecutive billing periods. It shall be the responsibility of the customer to make suitable arrangements with the Utility so the meter can be read at a reasonable time during business hours. When such actual meter reading has been obtained, the previous estimated bill or bills shall be adjusted if necessary.

## **13. BUDGET PLAN**

A customer may make application to the Utility, at any time during the year, for the Budget Plan which has a twelve-month budget period. This Budget Plan will meet the following conditions:

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- (a) All customers will have a January anniversary date, regardless of their month of entry to the Plan. A Budget Plan customer shall be billed bi-monthly. The bi-monthly billing shall be based upon the average kilowatt hour usage of the customer at the premises to which the application relates for the preceding budget period, as adjusted for normal weather.
  - (b) If the customer does not have the required budget period history at the premises, the Utility shall estimate the amount of the monthly bill.
  - (c) The Utility shall read the meter on a bi-monthly basis and at the end of the budget period of electric service, the Utility shall render a bill which shall show the new budget payment amount for the next twelve months and show the amount owing based on the meter readings less the amounts paid. The new budget payment amount will be increased or decreased by an amount sufficient to eliminate the difference between amount owing based on the meter readings less the amounts paid.
  - (d) If the total of the billing based on the meter readings is greater than the total of the monthly payments, the customer will pay the difference to the Utility; or if the total of the monthly payments is greater than the billing based on the readings, the customer may request a refund of the difference.
  - (e) The Utility may refuse to place a customer on the Budget Plan or remove an existing customer from the Plan if the customer has an unsatisfactory credit history. At the discretion of the Utility and for unusual circumstance, customers who enter into a Payment Agreement with the Utility can be placed on the Budget Plan with blended payments consisting of monthly usage and arrears
  - (f) The Utility will issue information to the customer on a bi-monthly basis, calculated on the readings. Such information shall be for the purpose of informing the customer of the actual charges which may be applicable to the customer's account.

#### **15. DISCONNECTION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF BILLS**

If a bill is left unpaid for thirty days from the rendered date, an arrears notice may be sent to the customer. After 40 days from the date rendered, a final notice may be sent to the customer. Unless the bill is paid within five business days after the issuance of the final notice and the amount of the bill is not in dispute, the Utility may discontinue service.

Should it be necessary for a Utility representative to call upon a customer for the purpose of disconnecting service for non-payment and payment is offered at the time of the call or an extension of services granted, then service will be deemed to have been disconnected and the standard \$25.00 connection charge will apply. In the same way, if any service is physically disconnected, the standard \$25.00 connection charge will apply.

#### **16. TIME OF DISCONNECTION**

The Utility may disconnect the electric service to a customer on, or after the date shown in the final notice and only during normal business hours. Electric service shall not be disconnected on a day, or a day immediately preceding a day when the general services of the Utility are not available to the public for the purpose of reconnecting a disconnected service. Electric service cannot be disconnected on a day colder than 0 degrees Celsius.

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## **17. SEAL OF METER**

Under no circumstances are meter seals to be tampered with. Where there is evidence of tampering, the person or persons responsible shall be liable for prosecution and immediate disconnection of service.

If the seal of a meter is broken than the probable amount of energy consumed shall be estimated on the basis of the consumption in a corresponding period of the next preceding year, or in the preceding billing period in the current year, or on an estimated basis if no indicative energy use figures are available, whichever is more appropriate under the existing conditions as determined by the Utility.

## **18. BILLING ADJUSTMENTS**

In the event that a meter reading is erroneous because of meter damage, broken seal, inaccuracy, erroneous reading, or for any other reason, the Utility shall estimate the probable amount of energy consumed, and where appropriate the probable demand, on the basis of the best data available and shall adjust the customers bill accordingly.

Should the adjustment increase the amount to be billed, the customer shall be responsible for payment retroactive for a period not greater than one year. If the customer has been overbilled because of an error in the amount of electricity consumed, the Utility will reimburse the customer for the full amount of any error contrary to, and as calculated in accordance with, the *Electricity and Gas Inspection Act*, R.S., 1985, C.E-4 and Regulations, as amended.

- (a) Where the error is caused by a meter registering outside allowable limits, the overbilling is calculated from the beginning of a 3-month period prior to the customers request to Industry Canada to test the meter or from the date on which the meter was last sealed if the sealing occurred within that period;
- (b) Where the overbilling is identified and the meter is more than 3 months past due for reverification, the overbilling shall be calculated from the date when reverification was due;
- (c) Where the overbilling has been caused by an incorrectly installed meter, or an incorrect use of registering the meter or an incorrect multiplier; the overbilling is to be calculated from three years prior. This type of overbill situation takes precedence over 1 and 2 above.

## **19. EXTRA METERS**

Service to any customer shall be metered at one point only. Were, due to the nature of a customer's installation, extra meters are required, the power and energy recorded on the extra meters shall be billed separately and at rates applicable to the loads served.

## **20. ACCESS TO METERS**

The representatives of the Utility shall have the right of access to meters or other

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appliances at all reasonable hours for the purpose of reading, testing or removing the same.

## **21. LOCATION OF METERS**

When suitable arrangements cannot be made to read a customer's meter which is readily accessible during regular meter reading periods, then the Utility, at its option, may require the installation of an outside meter. The cost will be borne by the customer.

If in the opinion of the Utility any customer of the Utility has failed to comply with this requirement as communicated aforesaid, the Utility shall have the right, after notice to the customer, to discontinue electric service to such customer. The standard \$25.00 connection charge will apply if service is subsequently re-connected.

## **22. PREMISES JOINTLY USED FOR RESIDENCE AND COMMERCIAL PURPOSES**

When a customer uses part of his premises as a residence and part for a small store or office or other commercial use, the domestic service rates shall be applied to the entire premises, provided the connected load in the commercial portion is not greater than 500 watts. Otherwise the general service rates shall be applied to the service and the commercial service shall be separated and the Utility shall install one meter on each. Then the domestic service shall be billed at the domestic service rate and the commercial service at the general service rate.

## **23. CHANGES IN CONNECTED LOAD**

Whenever a general service customer whose charges are based on connected load makes any changes in his installation which would affect the measurement of his connected load, he shall at once notify the Utility so that his bills may be properly adjusted

## **24. INSPECTION OF CONNECTED LOAD**

Representatives of the Utility shall have the privilege of visiting the premises of all customers during all reasonable hours for the purpose of checking the connected load. If the inspection shows the load to have been increased without notification to the Utility, the customer, at the option of the Utility, may be billed for such increased installation back to the time of the previous inspection (but not for more than six months if a longer interval than that has elapsed since the last inspection) or back to the date when the change was made.

## **25. TEMPORARY SERVICE**

(a) Temporary service shall mean and include service provided for temporary and non-permanent purposes, such as construction jobs, new houses, mobile homes, garden parties, picnics, circuses, sporting events, exhibitions, and the like. When the Utility is called upon to furnish temporary service, the customer shall be billed for the cost of installing and removing the necessary connections (per Section 7) and shall pay for the service at the applicable commercial rates.



- (b) If the temporary service is discontinued within 30 days, the service charge and kw/h block are pro-rated.
- (c) The Utility shall have the right to limit the term of temporary electric service. This shall include the right to review the temporary aspect of the electric service and to determine if the electric service should be disconnected, retained as temporary or changed to a permanent electric service.

## **26. CUSTOMER'S INSTALLATION TO BE SATISFACTORY**

The installation of all conductors, conduit, control, and other devices and equipment for conveying, distributing, controlling or utilizing electric power and energy which are used by a customer and are not the property of the Utility shall comply in all respects with the requirements of "The Canadian Electrical Code", latest edition, Part 1 - Safety Standards for Electrical Installation, the Provincial Fire Marshall, and the building code or by-laws of the Utility of Antigonish, in effect from time to time.

The Utility shall not be required to make a connection to the electrical installation until the applicant for service has satisfied the Utility that these requirements have been met. The supply of electricity to any customer may be discontinued at any time if, in the opinion of the Utility, the electrical installation hereinbefore mentioned fails in any way to comply with the above requirements, service shall not be re-established until the condition has been corrected to the satisfaction of the Utility.

## **27. METER TESTING**

Meters shall be tested by the Utility upon the request of the customer and if the test established the accuracy to within two percent (2%) either way, the customer shall pay to the Utility the cost of making such test, minimum \$25.00.

## **28. PROHIBITED APPLIANCES**

Service may be refused or discontinued by the Utility to any customer who installs or uses any device or appurtenance which may occasion sudden large demands of short or long duration, thereby overloading the Utility's plant and equipment or interfering with voltage regulation thereof, or which, in the opinion of the Utility, is unsafe or hazardous or has not been properly designed and constructed and satisfactorily maintained.

## **29. POWER FACTOR CORRECTION**

The Utility shall have the right to refuse electric service for the operation of any electrical equipment or lighting which is not equipped with power factor correction devices, so that the power factor of such equipment or lighting, when in operation, is not less than 90% lagging.

Where the Utility determines that a customer' power factor is less than acceptable. The Utility has the right to meter the customer in kVA demand and to calculate a kW billing demand based on 90% power factor.

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### **30. DISCONTINUING SERVICE FOR VIOLATION**

Whenever, in the opinion of the Utility, violation of any of these Rules and Regulations is existing or has occurred, the Utility may discontinue service to the premises where the violation is existing or has occurred. Service shall not be re-established until the Utility is satisfied that the cause for discontinuance has been removed.

### **31. SERVICE EXTENSIONS**

Service extensions shall be owned, erected and maintained by the Utility, over a cleared right-of-way provided by the customer. There shall be no charge for up to 150 feet from the centre of the highway when the Utility power line parallels the highway, or 150 feet from the Utility's nearest pole when the power line does not parallel the highway, to the customer's service entrance or outdoor distribution centre.

For any excess, the customer shall pay the cost of all the service line extension over and above the 150 foot limit and the cost shall be paid before the work is commenced by the Utility. Cost of any deviation from the shortest distance to the service entrance or outdoor distribution centre may be charged to the customer. The Utility shall have the right to service additional customers from the end or any part of the service extension.

### **DOMESTIC SERVICE**

### **32. AVAILABILITY**

The rates for domestic service shall be applicable to all electric energy used by any customer for residential purposes in any individually metered private residence, flat, apartment, single family dwelling, or building for lighting, cooking heating, and all other ordinary domestic and household purposes, except as provided in Regulation 21, as well as for churches using less than 6,600 kilowatt hours per year.

### **33. FARMING/FISHING UNITS**

Farming or fishing units may receive electric service at the domestic rate providing the following conditions are met:

- (a) Each unit may have connected up to 200 amps single or combined service, capacity, at voltages up to 240 volts, billed on the domestic rate. Service capacity in excess of the 200 amp allowance will be billed at the applicable non-domestic rate.
- (b) The service capacity must be served by no more than three separately metered services.

The residence or residences will be metered separately for the purpose of this regulation. A single metered service with capacity in excess of 200 amps will be billed on the applicable non-domestic rate. Service capacity of an accessory farm or fishing building serviced through the residence meter will be considered part of the unit total.



### **34. AVAILABILITY GENERAL SERVICE**

The rates for general service shall be applicable to all electric energy used by any customer for any purposes other than domestic service or street lighting service.

### **35. MEASUREMENT OF CONNECTED LOAD**

- (a) The total rated capacity of all installed electrical equipment, including signs, taken to the nearest 100 watts shall be used as a basis of the charges, except as hereinafter provided.
- (b) Empty sockets shall be counted as 100 watts each.
- (c) Portable motors or appliances of less than 500 watts aggregate capacity Shall not be included.
- (d) When a customer's connected load is less than 1,000 watts, the charge shall be based upon a connected load of 1,000 watts. When any customer connected load is greater than 1,000 watts then the total connected load to the next 500 watts shall be used as a basis for billing.
- (e) For the purpose of determining connected loads, motors of five horsepower or less shall be rated on a basis of one horsepower equal to 1,000 watts.

### **36. INSTALLATIONS UP TO 3,000 WATTS CONNECTED LOAD**

Where the connected load as determined above (see Clause 33) is not over 3,000 watts, connected load shall be used as the basis for billing.

### **37. INSTALLATIONS OVER 3,000 WATTS CONNECTED LOAD**

Where the connected load, as determined by Clause 33, is over 3,000 watts, then the maximum demand in kilowatts shall be used as the basis for billing.

### **38. MAXIMUM DEMAND**

Maximum demand shall be determined by the installation of a suitable demand indicator which shall record the maximum fifteen-minute demand during the billing period.

### **39. POWER FACTOR**

When charges are based on maximum demand they may, at the option of the Utility, be adjusted for power factor in the following manner:

The demand shall be measured in kilovolt amperes by means of an indicating KVA meter. The demand recorded by this meter shall be multiplied by 95% and the result shall be treated as the kilowatt demand for billing purposes.

### **LARGE GENERAL SERVICE**



#### **40. AVAILABILITY**

The rates for Large General Service shall be applicable to electric power and energy where the regular billing demand is 2,000 kVA or 1,800 kW and over.

Antigonish Electric Utility will withdraw the availability of this rate to any customer who does not maintain billing demands of at least 2,000 kVA or 1,800 kW on a consistent basis.

Antigonish Electric Utility reserves the right to have a separate service and/or operating agreement, if in the opinion of the Utility, issues not specifically set out herein must be addressed for the ongoing benefit of the utility and its customers.

#### **STREET LIGHTING**

#### **41. AVAILABILITY - UTILITY OF ANTIGONISH**

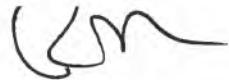
These rates shall be for incandescent, fluorescent and mercury vapour street lighting service furnished to the Utility of Antigonish and shall be for all night service every night (approximately 4,000 hours per year) and shall include maintenance of street lighting circuits and equipment and renewal of lamps.

#### **42. AVAILABILITY - GENERAL**

These rates shall be for standard street, yard and floodlighting units, incandescent, fluorescent or mercury vapour lighting service furnished, including fixtures, automatic switch, all electrical energy and any brackets and/or hardware required for regular mounting of the lighting unit on an existing pole or private property. The customer will be responsible for the cost of any extraordinary pole changes and for providing any easements required for private property. The Utility will supply and maintain any such standard lighting fixtures except lamps broken due to damage other than fair wear and tear. Broken lamps shall be billed to the customer and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall include the throwing of stones, etc.

#### **43. INSPECTION AND FEES OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS**

- (a) The Utility of Antigonish Electric Light Utility shall be the Inspection Authority.
- (b) Every electrical installation shall be constructed in conformity with the Electrical Installation and Inspections Act (and regulations made thereafter) and Inspection Authority standards. A wiring permit as per Rule 2-004 of the Canadian Electrical Code Part 1, 1994 (and as revised from time to time), shall be obtained before work is commenced on new or existing installations. The inspection authority shall not be required to authorize a connection to any installation until it is satisfied that such installation is in accordance with all applicable regulations and standards.



The Inspection Authority shall have the further right to re-inspect any electrical installation. If any violations of applicable codes and standards are found, on such reinspection, which in the opinion of the Inspection Authority constitute hazard to life or property, the Inspection Authority may disconnect the electric service until the hazards are rectified.

#### **43.01 General Requirements**

- (a) Electrical contractors, or others responsible for carrying out the electrical work, shall obtain a wiring permit from the Inspection Authority prior to commencing work with respect to the installation, alteration, repair, or extension of any electrical equipment.
- (b) Fees for a wiring permit and inspections shall be paid at the time the wiring permit is obtained in accordance with the fee schedules identified in these regulations.
- (c) The Inspection Authority may, prior to approving a permit application, request the submission of plans and specifications for any proposed electrical installation. Plans shall be submitted when the cost of the installation exceeds \$10,000.

#### **43.02 Refund of Fees**

The holder of a Permit may apply to the Inspection Authority for a refund of fees with respect to a cancelled or unused permit. No refund shall be issued for a permit under which an inspection has been requested and carried out.

#### **43.03 Expiry and Renewal of Permits**

A permit for electrical work is valid for 12 months from the date of issue in respect of residential installation, alteration, repair, or extension and 24 months in respect of all non-residential work unless otherwise noted on the permit. Upon expiry a renewal fee to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the original permit may be charged. Permits are not transferable.

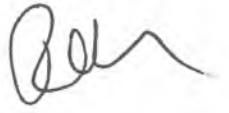
#### **43.04 Acknowledgement of Acceptance Respecting Inspection**

The Electrical Inspector will sign the job site copy of the electrical permit, at each inspection stage, indicating his approval or disapproval of the installation. An acknowledgement of acceptance shall appear in the form of the Electrical Inspector's signature on the "Final Approval" section on the wiring permit. There is no additional fee for same.

#### **43.05 Permits and Inspections**

Permits and inspections will normally be of three types:

- (a) Regular Permit and Inspection;
- (b) Annual Permit and Inspection; and
- (c) Special Permit and Inspection.



#### **43.06 Regular Permit and Inspection**

A Regular Permit will be issued for any electrical installation, alteration, repair, or extension to a building or structure. The only exemption from a Regular Permit would be for work performed under an Annual or Special Permit as described below.

The fee for a Regular Permit and Inspection will be based on the full installed value, including all labour, material and sundries, of the electrical installation, alteration, repair, or extension.

When calculating the installed value, the following costs are not included:

- (a) The costs of individual meters, generators, and power consuming electrical equipment, however, the cost to supply and install the associated control and protective equipment, and the control and power cables connecting this equipment to the electrical system would be included.
- (b) The costs of switches and controls forming an original and integral part of power consuming electrical equipment.
- (c) The costs, in excess of \$5,000 of each transformer and each factory assembled unit of switchgear.

When a dispute arises regarding the cost of an electrical installation the permit applicant may be required, at the Inspection Authority's discretion, to supply a letter from the owner indicating the value of the contract and/or a bill of materials for the project.

The fees for a Regular Permit and Inspection, including the number of inspection visits, will be as per the attached Inspection Fee Schedule.

#### **43.07 Annual Permit and Inspection**

An Annual Permit does not entitle the holder to effect major electrical alterations in, or additional to, the establishment as determined by the Inspection Authority.

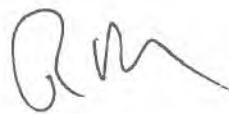
The holder of an Annual Permit shall maintain a current and accurate record of all minor repairs and shall make it available to the electrical inspector on request.

The fee for an Annual Permit and Inspection will be as shown in the Inspection Fee Schedule attached.

#### **43.08 Special Permit and Inspection**

If, in the opinion of the Inspection Authority, the fees for a Regular Permit and Inspection are inappropriate for the inspection of unique electrical installations the Special Permit and Inspection fees will prevail.

Additionally, if inspection visits, greater than the number specified under the Regular Permit and Inspection, are necessitated by the owner or contractor, they will be billed under the Special Permit and Inspection fees.



The fees for Special Permit and Inspection are based on an hourly rate appropriate for the time the inspection is performed. The fees will be as shown in the Inspection Fee Schedule, attached.

### INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE

#### Regular Permit and Inspection

The fee for a regular permit, and the maximum number of inspection visits, with respect To an installation will be calculated as follows;

COST OF INSTALLATION	MAX. NUMBER OF INSPECTION VISITS	FEE
\$ 0 to \$ 2,000	2	\$ 45.00
\$ 2,001 to \$ 4,000	2	75.00
\$ 4,001 to \$ 6,000	2	115.00
\$ 6,001 to \$ 8,000	2	155.00
\$ 8,001 to \$ 10,000	2	195.00
\$ 10,001 to \$ 15,000	3	250.00
\$ 15,001 to \$ 25,000	3	350.00
\$ 25,001 to \$ 50,000	3	500.00
\$ 50,001 to \$ 100,000	3	800.00
\$ 100,001 to \$ 300,000	4	1,200.00
\$ 300,001 to \$ 500,000	5	1,600.00
\$ 500,001 to \$ 750,000	6	2,100.00
\$ 750,001 to \$ 1,000,000	6	2,600.00
Over \$1,000,000	10	\$2,600.00 + 0.15% of installation cost in excess of \$1,000,000.

#### Annual Permit and Inspection

The fee for an annual permit and inspection for any one establishment shall be **\$ 75.00**

#### Special Permit and Inspection

Note: All fees are per inspection visit

##### **Normal Working Hours**

- i) For the first hour or fraction thereof **\$40.00**
- ii) For each additional half-hour or fraction thereof **\$20.00**

#### **44. POLE ATTACHMENT RATES & CHARGES**

All pole attachments for communications utilities, **\$22.00** per pole per year telecommunication common carriers, or broadcaster, where joint use agreement is not in effect