

NOVA SCOTIA REGULATORY AND APPEALS BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION about the **HALIFAX REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION's** cyber security readiness and a remediation assessment

BEFORE:



Roland A. Deveau, K.C., Vice Chair



Julia E. Clark, LL.B., Vice Chair



Bruce H. Fisher, MPA, CPA, Member

HEARING ORDER

Halifax Water was the subject of a 2023 Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System audit by the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) Auditor General, who identified various deficiencies in the utility's cyber security readiness. The HRM Auditor General made 21 public recommendations and one confidential recommendation that were accepted by management. In April 2025, the HRM Auditor General reported on its Follow-up Review of the Halifax Water SCADA System audit, concluding that only 10 of 21 recommendations had been implemented.

The Board opened an investigation to assess Halifax Water's cyber security readiness, including the utility's response to the HRM Auditor General's recommendations. Board Counsel has engaged MNP Digital, cyber security consultants, to assist the Board in its review of Halifax Water's response to the HRM Auditor General's recommendations and Halifax Water's cyber security readiness generally. MNP Digital filed its Remediation Assessment Report on July 29, 2026. A redacted version of the report was filed on August 14, 2026.

This matter will be canvassed in a paper hearing process.

The Board orders that:

1. The following timetable shall apply to this hearing:

Notice of Formal Intervention

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Information Requests (IRs) to
Halifax Water and MNP Digital

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Halifax Water and MNP Digital
Responses to IRs

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Letters of Comment from the public

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Evidence filed by Halifax Water

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Rebuttal Evidence from MNP Digital

Monday, November 30, 2026

Written Submissions by all Parties

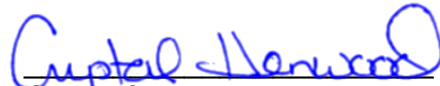
Monday, December 14, 2026

Written Reply Submissions by all Parties

Monday, December 21, 2026

2. The *Board's Regulatory Rules* will apply to this application, including *Rule 7(3)* with respect to filing by **2:00 pm** on any date a document is due.
3. The Clerk of the Board will cause the Hearing Order to be posted on the Board's website and its social media accounts and will provide a copy of the Hearing Order to the list of those interested in Halifax Water matters. Halifax Water is directed to post the Hearing Order on its website.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 31st day of August 2026.


Clerk of the Board