



# NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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Eastward Energy Incorporated applied to the Nova Scotia Energy Board for approval of amendments to its Schedule of Rates, Tolls and Charges for the years 2027, 2028 and 2029.

This matter will be considered in a public hearing as follows:

**Hearing starts:** **Monday, June 22, 2026**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**(Continuing Tuesday, June 23 and Wednesday, June 24, 2026, if necessary)**

**Evening Session:** **Monday, June 22, 2026**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Hearing Location:** **Office of the Board**  
**Summit Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**1601 Lower Water Street**  
**Halifax, Nova Scotia**

### **Board Hearings are open to the public and you may participate as follows:**

- You may listen to the live hearing by visiting the Board's website at <https://nserbt.ca/nseb> and selecting the "Listen to Live Hearings" option. This will enable you to see the electronic document display as well as hear the audio of the proceeding.
- You may speak at the hearing. You must notify the Board by **Wednesday, June 10, 2026**
- You may make written comments by sending a letter to the Clerk of the Board at P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, NS B3J 3S3, or secure file transfer service by visiting <https://board.titanfile.com/NSEB/>, or by fax at (902) 424-3919 by **Wednesday, June 10, 2026**
- You may request formal standing as an Intervenor, subject to Board approval. This will allow you to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses. Your request must be received by the Board by **Thursday, February 19, 2026**, and a copy of your written evidence by **Wednesday, April 29, 2026**

### **Additional information about the application:**

The general rate application is for the test years 2027, 2028 and 2029. The Board does not regulate the cost of the natural gas commodity. The requested rate increases only apply to the distribution portion of the customer bills.

Eastward Energy only proposes rate increases to the Residential Service Class (RSC). There is a proposed increase to the fixed monthly customer charge for the General Service Class (GSC), but a decrease for this GSC class to the base energy charge for the first 15 GJs/month. No changes are proposed for Rate Class 3. Eastward Energy does not propose changes to the rate class structure. The average impact of the proposed rate increases on RSC customers is summarized in the following table:

<b>Impact of Distribution Rate Design on Rate Classes</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>RSC</b>	<b>GSC</b>	<b>RC3</b>
2026	0%	0.0%	0.0%
2027	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2028	8.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2029	9.0%	0.0%	0.0%

The average impact of the proposed rate increases (monthly average distribution bill increase) is summarized in the following table:

<b>Average Impact of Rate Increases – Monthly Customer Bill</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>RSC</b>	<b>GSC</b>	<b>RC3</b>
2027	\$6.85	\$0.00	\$0.00
2028	\$8.26	\$0.00	\$0.00
2029	\$9.91	\$0.00	\$0.00

If approved, the proposed rate increases would be as follows:

<b>Fixed monthly customer charge (\$ per month)</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Residential Service</b>	<b>General Service</b>	<b>Rate Class 3</b>
2026 Approved Rates	29.00	65.00	1995.54
Requested for 2027	30.00	67.50	1995.54
Requested for 2028	31.00	70.00	1995.54
Requested for 2029	32.00	72.50	1995.54

<b>Base energy charge (\$ per gigajoule)</b>					
<b>Year</b>	<b>Residential Service</b>	<b>General Service</b>			<b>Rate Class 3</b>
	<b>All volumes</b>	<b>First 15 GJs/Month</b>	<b>Next 400 GJs/Month</b>	<b>Additional</b>	<b>All volumes</b>
2026 Approved Rates	12.349	9.142	5.943	5.693	0.167
Requested for 2027	13.398	8.931	5.943	5.693	0.167
Requested for 2028	14.724	8.722	5.943	5.693	0.167
Requested for 2029	16.376	8.514	5.943	5.693	0.167

Eastward Energy also requests the following:

- Increase allowed return on equity from 10.65% to 10.80%, maintaining the cost of debt of 6.95% for existing debt and a proposed methodology to calculate the cost of debt for new debt issuances and refinancing of existing debt, and a debt/equity ratio of 55/45;

- An increase of \$5.5 million in its revenue requirement from \$51.7 million in 2026 to \$57.2 million in 2029;
- Continuation of the flexible Recovery Rate Rider, with adjustments, to continue recovery of Revenue Deficiency Account (RDA) deferral and then begin recovery of the Customer Retention Plan (CRP) deferral and a continuation of the allowed rate of return on the CRP deferral balance;
- Continuing the deferrals for the RDA and CRP, but reducing the cap on the RDA from \$50 million to \$25 million;
- Proposed new methodology for the treatment of income taxes in cash working capital;
- Continuing the Incentive Program for new multi-unit residential buildings and single-family homes, with adjustments;
- Changes to the weather normalization policy, related to the use of historical averages; and
- Amendments to the Distribution Service Rules, including revisions to fees and charges.

After reviewing the application, the Board, in its decision, may find that the proposed application should be approved as requested, or higher, or lower.

A copy of the Application and any timetable applying to this matter may be viewed on the Board's website at <https://nserbt.ca/nseb>, by clicking on "Matters & Evidence", and in the "Go Directly to Matter" search box, enter Matter No. **M12691**, and on Eastward Energy's website at <https://eastwardenergy.com>.

**To assist the Board in using correct forms of address and pronouns in our hearings and decisions, we invite all parties, lawyers, and all other participants to share their pronouns and titles with the Board and each other if they are comfortable doing so. There is no requirement to provide this information.**