THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES OF NEW BRUNSWICK

IN THE MATTER OF a Generic Hearing to establish the need for and the evidence to be provided in connection with any specific hearing held to review the maintenance or upgrading of a generating facility of New Brunswick Power Corporation.

ORDER

WHEREAS New Brunswick Power Corporation ("NB Power") has applied to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities (the "Board") by Application dated March 1st, 2001 for a Generic Hearing to establish the need for and the evidence to be provided in connection with any specific hearing held to review the maintenance or upgrading of a generating facility of New Brunswick Power Corporation.

AND WHEREAS NB Power is required, pursuant to Subsection 40.1(1.1) of the Public Utilities Act, Chapter P-27 RSNB ("the Act") to make application to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities ("the Board") before making an expenditure exceeding *\$75* million for the maintenance or upgrading of a generating facility, and the Board is required to hold a public hearing to review such an application;

AND WHEREAS, NB Power is considering two such projects, one involving environmental improvements, life extension and conversion from oil to OrimulsionTM fuel of the Coleson Cove generating station and the other involving the retubing and refurbishment for an extended life of the Point Lepreau generating station;

AND WHEREAS, The Board and NB Power believe that it would be appropriate to conduct a generic public hearing in advance of the actual hearings on the specific applications to consider the following three questions:

- 1. Is it reasonable to believe that NB Power will require the electricity presently generated by Coleson Cove and/or Point Lepreau or replacement facilities in the future?
- 2. What are the relevant issues to be reviewed during any subsequent specific generating facility upgrading and/or maintenance hearing?

3. What is the nature and scope of the evidence that NB Power should provide for those hearings?

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (a) That the Board will hold a generic hearing to review the three questions set out above, together with any related matters.
- (b) That a pre-hearing conference shall be held in Ballroom C of the Delta Brunswick Hotel, Saint John, NB, on Tuesday the 17th day of April, 2001, commencing at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon and from day to day as necessary, when and where intervenors and NB Power should attend and make representations as to the date of the full public hearing and the procedure to be followed prior to and at the public hearing and as to any other relevant matters.
- (c) Notice of the date for the holding of the Pre-Hearing Conference in respect of the application and the procedure the Board intends to follow to facilitate the participation of intending intervenors, be published, in the form or substantially in the form attached hereto marked "A", in either the English or French language as may be appropriate having regard to the principal language of publication, twice in each of the following newspapers:

Dailies

Times-Transcipt	Moncton
LAcadie Nouvelle	Caraquet
The Saint John Times Globe	Saint John
The Telegraph Journal	Saint John
Daily Gleaner	Fredericton

and once in each of the following newspapers:

Weeklies

The Observer Hartland Le Madawaska Edmundston The/La Cataracte Grand Falls Kings County Record Sussex Sackville Tribune-Post Sackville Bugle (Henley Publishing Limited) Woodstock Saint Croix Courier St. Stephen Tribune Campbellton L'Aviron Campbellton

Victoria County Record Miramichi Leader Northern Light Perth-Andover Miramichi Bathurst

On or before the 2nd day of April.

(d) The Application, the Filing Memorandum, a copy of the Board's Order and NB Power's Evidence will be placed on file, on the 2nd day of April, 2001, for examination by interested parties during normal business hours, in the offices of this Board and in all NB Power's business offices in New Brunswick. Copies of the Board's full Order may be obtained by calling (506) 658-2504 or in writing to:

Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities P0 Box 5001 Saint John, NB E2L 4Y9

DATED at the City of Saint John this 2nd day of March, 2001.

BY THE BOARD

Lorraine R. Legere Secretary New Brunswick Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities