

The Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board

March 8, 2023

Mr. Chris Cullingham
Manager, Regulatory
481 Range Lake Road
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 3R9

Dear Mr. Cullingham:

Re: Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited (NUY) Electric Vehicle (EV) Rate Application

1. The Board is in receipt of NUY's letter dated March 3, 2023 respecting the establishment of an EV charging rate.
2. In its letter NUY states, the development of EV charging infrastructure aligns with the Government of Northwest Territories' (GNWT) 2030 Energy Strategy, which will make EVs a more viable option for Northerners, help them reduce their carbon footprint, as well as help establish an EV charging corridor between Yellowknife and the Alberta border. NUY states, both proposed EV stations are expected to be completed and available for use by June 30, 2023.
3. NUY acknowledged that the issue around whether EV fast-charging stations are utility-owned or competitively-owned may still be developing. However, NUY stated, for this Application, NUY is acting in accordance with the GNWT Contribution Agreement. More specifically, Appendix B Item 2 of the GNWT contribution agreement dated March 14, 2022 states:

By entering into this agreement, NUL will own, operate, and maintain the EV chargers as part of its normal NUL regulated operations, collected via the regulated revenue requirement.

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4. In Decision 1-2023 the Board ruled as follows with respect to a similar request for regulated treatment of EV charging stations by the northwest Territories Power Corporation (NTPC):

In the Board's view EV Charging is not a monopoly service, unlike other utility services. If NTPC wishes to give effect to Government policy and increase sales, the charging station ought to be owned and operated by a non utility arm of NTPC, while NTPC would supply electricity to the station. [para 31]

5. Similarly, with respect to NUYY, which is a regulated entity, the Board does not consider the service provided by an EV charging station owned and operated by NUYY, to be a monopoly regulated service. Therefore, NUYY's request to establish a regulated rate for services provided by EV charging stations owned and operated by NUYY is denied.

6. The Board notes, NUYY could fulfill the objectives of the GNWT by providing the same service as a non-regulated function within NUYY or, as a separate non regulated entity. Any electricity supplied by NUYY to the EV charging station owned by such a non regulated entity would be a regulated rate established by the Board.

7. If there are any questions please contact the Board secretary, Ms. Doris Minoza at 867-874-3944.

Yours truly,

Gordon Van Tighem
Chairman

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Enclosure