FAX TRANSMISSION

Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities

P.O. Box 21040, St. John's, NL. A1A 5B2 Tel: (709) 726-8600 - Fax: (709) 726-9604

PRESS RELEASE June 6, 2003

Public Utilities Board ("Board") issues Public Notice and Pre-hearing Schedule for the hearing of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's General Rate Application.

The following is a further update from the Board with respect to the proceedings and schedule of the hearing of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's General Rate Application received on May 21, 2003 for approval, among other things, of rates to be charged its customers.

The Board has decided that it will hold a public hearing to consider the Application. In advance of the public hearing the Board will convene a pre-hearing conference beginning at **2:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 10, 2003** in the Board's Hearing Room, Prince Charles Building, 120 Torbay Road, St. John's. The Notice of Application and Pre-hearing Schedule will be published in newspapers throughout the Province commencing Saturday, June 7, 2003. The Notice provides details of the application, information for interested persons or organizations to participate in the proceeding as well as a pre-hearing schedule of significant dates.

The purpose of the pre-hearing conference is to:

- 1. Provide focus to the issues to be heard;
- 2. Set specific dates and locations for public hearings, which may include setting of dates at other locations, both on the Island and in Labrador;
- 3. Establish the procedures to be followed during the public hearing;
- 4. Set the timetable for the hearing process; and
- 5. Settle any other matters, which come before the Board in connection with the hearing of the Application.

The filing deadlines for Intervenors have been set as follows:

- 1 Deadline for filing Intervenor Submissions with the Board Wednesday, June 25, 2003; and,
- 2. Deadline to submit Information Requests to Hydro Wednesday, July 16, 2003

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A copy of the Notice of Application and Pre-hearing Schedule, and copies of the Board's legislation, regulations and procedures governing public hearings can be viewed on the Board's website at <u>www.pub.nf.ca.</u> or may be obtained by contacting the Board Secretary as follows:

Office:Suite E210, Prince Charles Building, 120 Torbay Road, St. John'sBy mail:P.O. Box 21040, St. John's, NL, A1A 5B2By telephone:709-726-8600; 1-866-782-0006By facsimile:709-726-9604By e-mail:ito@pub.nf.ca.

Media Contact:

Cheryl Blundon, Board SecretaryPhone:709 – 726-8600E-mail:cheryl@pub.nf.caFacsimile:709 – 726-9604Long Distance:1-866-782-0006

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