

NOVA SCOTIA COURT OF APPEAL

Citation: *Robinson v. Nova Scotia Power Inc.*, 2012 NSCA 93

Date: 20120905

Docket: CA 371423

Registry: Halifax

Between:

Lorraine Robinson

Appellant

v.

Nova Scotia Power Incorporated
Attorney General of Nova Scotia
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

Respondents

Judge: The Honourable Mr. Justice Jamie W.S. Saunders

Appeal Heard: June 5, 2012

Subject: **Public Utilities. Administrative Law. Regulatory Oversight. Nova Scotia Power Incorporated. Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. Public Utilities Act, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 380. Utility and Review Board Act, S.N.S. 1992, c. 11. NSPI Regulation 2.1. Outstanding Arrears. Undue Influence. Standard of Review.**

Summary: A consumer complained she was treated unfairly by having to pay arrears on an electric bill she said was incurred by another individual, before NSPI was prepared to provide electric service to her home. The Utility and Review Board dismissed her appeal, finding that Regulation 2.1 was fair; that she had not

been the victim of undue influence; and that NSPI was right to require that the outstanding account be paid before electricity was restored to the premises she shared with the person who had initially incurred a portion of the arrears. She appealed.

Held:

Appeal dismissed. The Board's decision was reviewable on a standard of reasonableness. The Board's analysis concerning the interpretation and application of Regulation 2.1 was reasonable and did not produce a result which is inconsistent with the values and objectives the legislation is intended to protect. The Board did not err in finding that NSPI's actions complied with the Regulations.

This information sheet does not form part of the court's judgment. Quotes must be from the judgment, not this cover sheet. The full court judgment consists of 22 pages.