Current year target met

target not met

Scorecard - Synergy North Corporation

											Target	
erformance Outcomes	Performance Categories	Measures			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Trend	Industry	Distribut
Customer Focus Services are provided in a manner that responds to identified customer preferences.	Service Quality	New Residential/Small Business Services Connected on Time			98.74%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0	90.00%	
		Scheduled Appointments Met On Time			100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	-	90.00%	
		Telephone Calls Answered On Time			87.51%	89.99%	90.53%	89.70%	86.91%	0	65.00%	
	Customer Satisfaction	First Contact Resolution			A+	A+	A+	A+	A+			
		Billing Accuracy			99.96%	99.93%	99.92%	99.93%	99.92%	0	98.00%	
		Customer Satisfaction Survey Results			Α	Α	Α	Α	Α			
Operational Effectiveness Continuous improvement in productivity and cost performance is achieved; and distributors deliver on system reliability and quality objectives.	Safety	Level of Public Awareness			84.00%	84.00%	87.00%	87.00%	88.00%			
		Level of Compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04			С	С	С	С	С			
		Serious Electrical Incident Index	Number of	General Public Incidents	0	0	1	0	0	0 0		
			Rate per 1	0, 100, 1000 km of line	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000			
	System Reliability	Average Number of Hol Interrupted ²	rs that Powe	r to a Customer is	0.75	1.28	1.28 1.40 1.15 1.17					
		Average Number of Time Interrupted 2	es that Powe	r to a Customer is	1.85	1.96	2.26	1.73	1.83	U		
	Asset Management	Distribution System Plan Implementation Progress			95.60	97.41	N/A	N/A	108%			
	Cost Control	Efficiency Assessment			3	3	3	3	3			
		Total Cost per Customer ³			\$641	\$651	\$755	\$829	\$863			
		Total Cost per Km of Line 3			\$28,793	\$29,384	\$33,928	\$37,275	\$38,957			
ublic Policy Responsiveness stributors deliver on bligations mandated by overnment (e.g., in legislation to in regulatory requirements	Connection of Renewable Generation	New Micro-embedded Generation Facilities Connected On Time			100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	•	90.00%		
cosed further to Ministerial ectives to the Board).												
nancial Performance	Financial Ratios	Liquidity: Current Ratio (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)			2.03	1.73	1.61	1.64	1.61			
Financial viability is maintained; and savings from operational effectiveness are sustainable.		Leverage: Total Debt (includes short-term and long-term debt) to Equity Ratio			0.79	0.74	0.81	0.86	0.89			
		Profitability: Regulatory		Deemed (included in rates)	8.85%	8.85%	8.85%	8.85%	9.21%			
		Return on Equity		Achieved	7.98%	7.82%	3.82%	4.74%	4.88%			
	2/04 assessed: Compliant (C); Needs Im		iant (NC).				L	egend:	5-year trend	down	1 flat	

3. A benchmarking analysis determines the total cost figures from the distributor's reported information.

2024 Scorecard Management Discussion and Analysis ("2024 Scorecard MD&A")

The link below provides a document titled "Scorecard - Performance Measure Descriptions" that has the technical definition, plain language description and how the measure may be compared for each of the Scorecard's measures in the 2024 Scorecard MD&A:

https://www.oeb.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/Report of the Board Reliability Measures 20150825.pdf

Scorecard MD&A - General Overview

Synergy North Corporation ("SYNERGY NORTH") owns, operates and manages the assets associated with the distribution of electrical power to approximately 56,000 customers in Northwestern Ontario communities. On January 1, 2019, SYNERGY NORTH was incorporated through Ontario Energy Board approval in a merger, amalgamation, acquisition, and divestiture (MAAD) application (EB-2018-0124) seeking approval to merge the two distribution Companies and operate under the new distribution license ED-2018-0233.

SYNERGY NORTH currently has two service areas:

- 1) Thunder Bay serving Thunder Bay and Fort William First Nation.
- 2) Kenora serving Keewatin and Kenora.

The scorecard results discussed herein relate to the 2024 results as well as historical results. SYNERGY NORTH monitors the scorecard measures on an ongoing basis and continuously seeks opportunities to improve its performance. The Company is committed to meeting the needs of its customers both today and in the future and discovering synergies within its Company. SYNERGY NORTH is confident that its focus on customer outcomes will allow it to continue to meet or exceed performance targets. SYNERGY NORTH is committed to continuous year over year performance improvement for 2025 and into the future.

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Service Quality

New Residential/Small Business Services Connected on Time - Industry Target Exceeded

The Ontario Energy Board's Distribution System Code (DSC 7.2) requires electricity distributors to connect and complete a new service request for low voltage (<750 volts) within five business days from the day on which all applicable service conditions are satisfied.

Over the 2020 to 2024 period, SYNERGY NORTH has achieved excellent results connecting our new residential, micro fit, and small business customers on time. These results are consistently above the OEB's industry standard of 90% for all distribution companies in Ontario. In 2024 SYNERGY NORTH achieved a result of 100% of all its new residential/small business services connected within five business days.

Scheduled Appointments Met On Time - Industry Target Exceeded

The Ontario Energy Board's Distribution System Code (DSC 7.4) requires that for appointments during regular business hours, the electricity distributor must offer a window of time that is no longer than four hours. The distributor must then arrive for the appointment within the scheduled time frame 90% of the time on an annual basis.

SYNERGY NORTH exceeded the industry target and achieved a result of 100% of scheduled appointments met in time during 2024. SYNERGY NORTH has consistently performed far better than the Ontario Energy Board industry quality standard of at least 90% of the time on an annual basis in both rate districts. SYNERGY NORTH has demonstrated strong performance throughout the years 2020 to 2024 achieving service levels of 100% appointments met on time. SYNERGY NORTH aims to continue meeting all new service connections and appointments 100% of the time across both rate districts in the future.

• Telephone Calls Answered On Time - Industry Target Exceeded

The Ontario Energy Board's Distribution System Code (DSC 7.6) requires that customer calls must be answered within a 30 second window 65% of the time. This measure can be highly influenced by factors such as the number of power outages in a year and front-line staffing levels, which can fluctuate greatly throughout the year.

SYNERGY NORTH has consistently performed better than the Ontario Energy Board quality standard of answering 65% of external calls that it receives within 30 seconds. SYNERGY NORTH sets a specific internal Company goal intentionally higher than the Ontario Energy

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Board mandated target as our continued commitment to our customer service quality. The Company has set a target rate of 90% of all calls answered within the 30 second window for all customers across both rate districts. For 2024, SYNERGY NORTH is pleased to report that it has achieved a rate of calls answered of 86.9% in fewer than 30 seconds, which is a slight decrease from 2023's performance measure of 90%. SYNERGY NORTH aims to maintain an internal key performance indicator above the OEB mandated rate, ensuring that the Company not only meets the mandated Board target of 65% but that it is exceeded every year by a wide margin.

Customer Satisfaction

• First Contact Resolution - Industry Target Not Established

First Contact Resolution is a measure of a distributor's effectiveness at satisfactorily addressing customers' complaints and inquiries. SYNERGY NORTH aims to minimize and address customer complaints as quickly as possible and at the first point of contact with an employee of the utility. In doing so, the organization tracks and monitors service inquiries.

When a customer from either rate district contacts SYNERGY NORTH, they expect to have their issue resolved within one call or interaction. SYNERGY NORTH recognizes this customer satisfaction measure and closely monitors the incoming call types and escalations for each customer interaction. Using this knowledge SYNERGY NORTH is regularly performing internal training for customer service and front-line representatives, to be able to answer customer inquiries at the first point of contact. SYNERGY NORTH also finds it extremely effective to update front line staff of industry changes related to billing, industry news, conservation measures, or internal operations, enabling them to quickly and efficiently respond at the first point of contact.

In 2024 SYNERGY NORTH has achieved a first contact resolution score (inquiries resolved at first point of contact) of "A+" on SYNERGY NORTH's scorecard. This result is consistent from 2020 through 2024 and is the standard of customer service that SYNERGY NORTH will aim to maintain on future scorecards.

• Billing Accuracy - Industry Target Exceeded

The OEB prescribes a measurement of billing accuracy which must be used by all electricity distributors. The uniform measure for billing accuracy is defined and calculated as:

Percentage of bills inaccurately issued = (total number of bills issued for the year - number of inaccurate bills issued for the year) / the total

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number of bills issued for the year.

In 2024 SYNERGY NORTH issued 684,520, measurable bills and achieved billing accuracy rate of 99.9 %. SYNERGY NORTH over the last five years has continued to exceed the Ontario Energy Board prescribed benchmark target of 98%. SYNERGY NORTH will continue this trend and be committed to providing customers with accurate and timely bills and aims for this measure to achieve a rating of 100%.

Customer Satisfaction Survey Results – Industry Target Not Established

Ontario Energy Board introduced the 'Customer Satisfaction Survey Results' measure beginning in 2013. As a minimum, distributors are required to measure and report a customer satisfaction result every other year. At this time, the OEB is allowing electricity distributors the discretion as to how they implement this measure.

SYNERGY NORTH's primary objective is to obtain valuable, unbiased, and statistically sound data that will support internal discussions for improving customer care at every level in the Company. During 2024, SYNERGY NORTH contracted 'Brickworks Communications' to conduct the customer satisfaction survey. Brickworks then conducted telephone interviews, surveying randomly sampled residential and small to medium sized business customers using a full customer listing supplied to them by SYNERGY NORTH for both rate districts.

The survey asked specifically about the customers' overall satisfaction with SYNERGY NORTH. 94% of customers responded that they are fairly satisfied or very satisfied with the utility's overall performance.

SYNERGY NORTH classifies this result as an overall ranking of 'A' for SYNERGY NORTH which is consistent with the ranking of 'A' achieved since 2020.

SYNERGY NORTH has maintained a very high level of performance with respect to service quality and customer satisfaction results and is consistently seeking improvements and efficiencies. This customer survey and other customer engagement practices will continue in the future for both of SYNERGY NORTH rate districts.

Safety

Public Safety

In 2015, the OEB introduced measures in the Safety performance category for reporting. The Public Safety measure is generated by the Electrical Safety Authority and is comprised of three components: (A) Public Awareness of Electrical Safety, (B) Compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04, and (C) Serious Electrical Incident Index. A breakdown of the three components is as follows:

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Component A – Public Awareness of Electrical Safety – Industry Target Not Established

The Public Electrical Safety Awareness survey measures the level of awareness of key electrical safety precautions among the public within the electricity distributor's service territory.

To produce a statistically sound survey SYNERGY NORTH engaged a third-party service 'Brickworks' to perform the Public Awareness of Electrical Safety Report in 2024. The results for the Public Awareness of Electrical Safety Survey are to be used on a bi-annual basis and Brickworks results are based on a telephone survey (Random Digit Dialing) among 400 members of the general public, 18 years of age or older, within the distributors' geographic service territory.

As a result of the survey performed, SYNERGY NORTH achieved a Public Safety Awareness Index Score of 88%. The awarded averages were determined using an index score calculation from six core measurement questions. Below are the questions asked to Thunder Bay and Kenora regional consumers and non-consumers, as well as the corresponding knowledge scores;

Six Core Safety Question	Customer Response
1) Likelihood to 'Call before you dig'.	87% Correct Response
2) Impact of Touching a Power Line.	96% Correct Response
3) Proximity to overhead power line	87% Correct Response
4) Danger of tampering with electrical equipment.	99% Correct Response
5) Proximity to downed power line.	83% Correct Response
6) Action taken in vehicle contact with wires.	98% Correct Response

Safety is a core value at SYNERGY NORTH, encompassing both internal and external practices. External safety initiatives include public awareness regarding electrical safety. In 2024 Synergy North implemented several initiatives in our service areas of Thunder Bay and Kenora:

Electricity Distributors Association Public Safety Excellence Award: On March 25, 2024, SYNERGY NORTH was presented with the Public Electrical Safety Excellence Award. The award recognizes a local utility demonstrating a strong commitment to improving public electrical safety. Looking for creative ways to share the "Call Before You Dig" message, the team launched the Digging Safely is More than Just a Call or Click video campaign in 2023.

Rebranding and Launch of School Age Public Safety Program: Our school age electrical safety program was re-branded and re-vamped. Formerly known as Hi-Line Hazard; the program has transformed into Be Power Safe. The presentation is geared towards grade 3 and 4

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students in our service areas. Synergy North staff reached over 500 students from 12 schools over the 4-week schedule in April and May.

Hit the Brakes Not Us Launch: One of the primary hazards for Synergy North's roadside workers continues to be traffic. The Hit the Brakes Not Us, is a public awareness campaign that reminds drivers to be safe for the safety of SYNERGY NORTH employees, and all other workers that work along the roadside. By promoting driver awareness and adherence to safety protocols, the campaign aims to ensure that every roadside worker returns home safely at the end of each workday. The campaign was relaunched this May with a new video which was promoted on social media and a Pit Crew which was present at public events throughout the spring educating the public. The Pit Crew was also promoting our message at the Partners in Prevention Regional Health & Safety Conference in November.

ESA Biannual Public Safety Survey: Every two years, SNC conducts a survey within our service area following standardized public safety questions mandated by the Electrical Safety Authority. The survey was conducted from June 21 to 24, 2024, reaching out to 400 residents in Thunder Bay and forty in Kenora. Overall, the findings reveal a positive trend, indicating heightened awareness among residents regarding the hazards associated with electricity. Particularly noteworthy is a significant 9.4% increase in residents' likelihood to call before digging, reflecting the success of our recent Digging Safely Campaign.

Bright Futures Camp 2024: SYNERGY NORTH sponsored Bright Futures camp which took place at Fort William First Nation from August 19-23. Bright Futures is a science camp for Indigenous youth aged 10-13. The camp is designed to inspire interest and promote careers in the electricity sector by engaging young people in hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) learning activities. SYNERGY NORTH staff were on site for an afternoon to deliver the Be Power Safe presentation, answer questions about electricity, electricity safety and our industry, and to show the students our Bucket and Boom trucks.

Public Safety Social Media Messaging: SYNERGY NORTH promoted public safety via its social media platforms throughout the year.

○ Component B – Compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04 - Distributor Target Met

The Ontario Energy Board requires all distributors to be in compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04, which outlines electrical safety requirements for the design, construction, and maintenance of electrical distribution systems.

Section 13 of Ontario Regulation 22/04 mandates that all distributors engage an auditor on an annual basis to review the distributor's compliance with sections 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the above regulation and provide a report of the findings. Audit, Declaration of Compliance, Due Diligence Inspections, Public Safety Concerns and Compliance Investigations make up a level of compliance with Ontario Reg 22/04 component of the score card. Each section is evaluated, and the auditor provides findings in terms of compliant (C), non-compliance (NC), needs improvement (NI) and not applicable (NA).

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SYNERGY NORTH has fully met the performance target level of compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04 attaining a 'compliant' rating, 'C'. SYNERGY NORTH continues to strive to maintain full compliance with the Ontario Regulation 22/04. This is consistent over the 2020 to 2024 reporting period as issued on the scorecard by the Electrical Safety Authority.

SYNERGY NORTH is committed to creating and maintaining a corporate culture where health and safety is the Company's top priority. SYNERGY NORTH has continued to enhance communication with employees, providing additional opportunities for staff to participate on committees and revamping communication tools. SYNERGY NORTH has re-branded its internal safety program 'My Safety Matters' comprising ten guiding principles which emphasize the importance of safety at work and home. As a merged Company, SYNERGY NORTH has continued this program under the new Company name for both rate districts.

SYNERGY NORTH's employees overwhelmingly acknowledge that safety is the Company's number one priority.

Component C – Serious Electrical Incident Index – Distributor Target Met

The Serious Electrical Incident Index component of the public safety measure is intended to address the consequential impact of improving public electrical safety on the distribution networks over time. It measures the number and rate of serious electrical incidents occurring on a distributor's assets and is normalized per 10, 100 or 1,000 km of line. Both the number of public incidents and the rate per km of line are shown on the scorecard.

For the 2024 reporting period SYNERGY NORTH reported no serious electrical incidents.

SYNERGY NORTH treats all safety incidents seriously, and safety is SYNERGY NORTH's top priority for both employees and the public. The Company regularly promotes powerline safety through social media, its website, on-bill messaging, and community engagement. SYNERGY NORTH will continue to promote its "Be Power Safe" and "Call before you Dig" programs to ensure awareness and promote knowledge of safety compliance.

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System Reliability

• Average Number of Hours that Power to a Customer is Interrupted – Distributor Target Met

For this measure, the OEB establishes baseline targets based on the average of the distributor's performance. For 2024, the target is based on the average for the period of 2019 – 2023. SYNERGY NORTH has achieved SAIDI metrics below the "Distributor Target"; 2024's result of 1.17 is better than the OEB's "Distributor Target" of 1.20. This result has increased slightly from 2023's achieved value of 1.15. SYNERGY NORTH continues to prioritize customer reliability and has implemented measures to reduce duration through automated devices.

SYNERGY NORTH continues to view the reliability of electricity service as a high priority.

• Average Number of Times that Power to a Customer is Interrupted - Distributor Target Met

For this measure, the OEB establishes baseline targets calculated as the average of the distributor's performance. For 2024, the target is based on the average for the period of 2019 – 2023. SYNERGY NORTH has achieved SAIFI metrics below the distributor target; 2024's result of 1.83 is better than the OEB's "Distributor Target" of 2.01. This result has increased since 2023's value of 1.73, primarily due to due to tree contact events. SYNERGY NORTH's Vegetation Management program is in year 3 of a 7 year program encompassing its entire distribution service territory.

SYNERGY NORTH continues to view the reliability of electricity service as a high priority.

Asset Management

Distribution System Plan Implementation Progress - Industry Target Not Established

The Distribution System Plan ("DSP") outlines forecasted capital expenditures over a five-year period required to maintain and expand SYNERGY NORTH's electricity system to service current and future customers.

The OEB requires that all Distribution System Plans optimize investments and reflect regional and smart grid considerations; services present and future customers; places a greater focus on delivering value for money; aligns the interests of the distributor with those of customers; and supports the achievement of public policy objectives.

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SYNERGY NORTH's 2024 Cost of Service Application (EB-2023-0052) was approved, with a new DSP in place for 2024 – 2028, which includes both Kenora and Thunder Bay service areas. SYNERGY NORTH reports achieving 108% of its DSP plans, which was primarily due to an increase in unexpected System Access work. SYNERGY NORTH experienced an influx of BBFA (Build Broadband Faster Act) projects from Bell Canada throughout the service territory. Due to the service area having been 97% serviced by the local telecommunications provider in the last 5 years, it was an unexpected amount of work and not in the DSP plan.

Cost Control

• Efficiency Assessment

Total costs for all electricity distribution companies are evaluated based on econometric modeling by the Pacific Economics Group LLC ("PEG") on behalf of the Ontario Energy Board to produce an efficiency ranking. A "predicted cost" is calculated by the model and the magnitude of the difference between distributor's actual and predicted costs governs the assignment of a distributor into one of five groups.

The 2025 rate year stretch factor assignments were released by the OEB in August 2024. For 2025, SYNERGY NORTH was placed in Group 3, which is defined as having actual costs in excess of +/- 10% of predicted costs and received a stretch factor of 0.30%.

Group 3 is considered industry average efficiency ranking. For the 2025 rate year, approximately 31% of the reported electricity distribution companies fell into this grouping with SYNERGY NORTH. SYNERGY NORTH continues to diligently manage expenditures to ensure efficiencies will be achieved such that the best group ranking will be achieved.

Total Cost per Customer

An evaluation by the Pacific Economics Group LLC ("PEG") on behalf of the Ontario Energy Board produces a cost per customer metric. This measure is the sum of total OEB Consultant's PEG model calculated capital and operating costs divided by the total number of customers that SYNERGY NORTH services.

Total costs include annual operating and capital costs. Operating costs are the costs associated with the maintenance, operation, billing and collection, and administrative and general expense of SYNERGY NORTH's distribution assets. Capital costs include enhancements, betterments and replacement of capital assets that are required each year to maintain a safe and reliable network. Capital costs fluctuate depending on the need to replace existing capital assets and additional infrastructure to support growth and development.

The change in costs is consistent with ongoing operating activities to replace, refurbish and modernize the utility's aged distribution system

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and to connect new customers. SYNERGY NORTH's cost performance result for 2024 is \$863 per customer, which represents a 4.1% increase from \$829 per customer in 2023. Post pandemic inflation and supply chain challenges combined with increasing capital costs and new capital plans have impacted the costs per customer in 2024.

SYNERGY NORTH is dedicated to searching for cost efficiencies to operate and maintain a reliable distribution system with the objective of minimizing impacts to customers.

Total Cost per km of Line

An evaluation by the Pacific Economics Group LLC ("PEG") on behalf of the Ontario Energy Board produces a cost per kilometre of line metric. This measure sums the total capital and operating costs and divides the cost figure by the kilometres of line that SYNERGY NORTH operates to serve our customers.

Total costs include annual operating and capital costs. Operating costs are the costs associated with the maintenance, operation, billing and collection, and administrative and general expense of SYNERGY NORTH's distribution assets. Capital costs include enhancements, betterments and replacement of capital assets that are required each year to maintain a safe and reliable network. Capital costs fluctuate depending on the need to replace existing capital assets and additional infrastructure to support growth and development.

SYNERGY NORTH's total cost per km of line in 2024 was \$38,957, compared to \$37,275 in 2023, a 4.5% increase. As in the total cost per customer, this metric is impacted both by rising operating and capital costs.

SYNERGY NORTH is dedicated to searching for cost efficiencies to operate and maintain a reliable distribution system with the objective of minimizing the impacts to customers.

Connection of Renewable Generation

• New Micro-embedded Generation Facilities Connected on Time - Target Exceeded

SYNERGY NORTH is required to connect small generation facilities that produce less than 10kW of power to the distribution system within five business days of the applicant informing the distributor that it has satisfied all applicable service.

In 2024, SYNERGY NORTH connected 100% of micro-embedded generation facilities within the 5-day time frame and will continue to strive to maintain this level of performance for upcoming micro-embedded generation projects.

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Financial Ratios

• Liquidity: Current Ratio (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)

The current ratio is a common way of measuring the financial health of a company. Current Ratio measures whether a firm has enough resources (assets) on hand to pay its debts over the next 12 months. A current ratio that is greater than 1 means good short-term financial strength, as it indicates that short term debts and financial obligations can be met, and that the organization is in good financial health.

At a Current Ratio of 1.61 to 1, SYNERGY NORTH maintains a strong liquidity ratio. This ratio has been relatively consistent over the period 2020 through 2024.

SYNERGY NORTH's target is to maintain a current ratio of greater than 1.1 to 1.

Leverage: Total Debt (includes short-term and long-term debt) to Equity Ratio

The OEB uses a deemed capital structure of 60% debt, 40% equity for electricity distributors when establishing rates. This deemed capital mix is equal to a debt-to-equity ratio of 1.5 to 1 (60/40).

SYNERGY NORTH's debt to equity ratio of 0.89 to 1 is less than 1.5 to 1 and indicates that the organization is less leveraged than the deemed capital structure.

Profitability: Regulatory Return on Equity – Deemed (included in rates)

The profitability measure is defined as the approved return on equity that is embedded in SYNERGY NORTH's distribution rates. This measure assesses whether distributors are earning a fair return on their investment. SYNERGY NORTH's current approved return on equity is 9.21%, which is an OEB Regulatory Return on Equity calculation from the 2025 Cost of Service Rate Application.

• Profitability: Regulatory Return on Equity - Achieved

In 2024 SYNERGY NORTH achieved a return on equity value of 4.88% which is considered under-earning as it is not within the 300 basis points of the current approved return on equity of 9.21. SYNERGY NORTH's shareholders made the decision to exit their rate minimization approach and began charging interest on their loan during 2024. In addition, rebased rates from the 2024 Cost of Service decision didn't take effect until May 1st 2024, contributing to the under-earning for the year.

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Note to Readers of 2024 Scorecard MD&A

The information provided by distributors on their future performance (or what can be construed as forward-looking information) may be subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual events, conditions or results to differ materially from historical results or those contemplated by the distributor regarding their future performance. Some of the factors that could cause such differences include legislative or regulatory developments, financial market conditions, general economic conditions and the weather. For these reasons, the information on future performance is intended to be management's best judgement on the reporting date of the performance scorecard and could be markedly different in the future.

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