Because of the absence of free market determination of prices and regulation of services in an industry that is semi-monopolistic, regulation of electrical utilities has been attempted in most provinces. Neither Newfoundland nor Prince Edward Island has a provincially operated electric power system, although in the former province a Commission, known as the Newfoundland and Labrador Power Commission, was established by the provincial government in 1954 for the purpose of supplying electric power wherever needed throughout the province, particularly to rural areas. In Prince Edward Island, the town of Summerside and surrounding area is served by the municipally operated Town of Summerside Electric Light Department. The functions and activities of provincially operated electric power commissions in the other provinces are summarized in the following paragraphs.

Nova Scotia.—With total fixed assets of $123,770,097, including $22,705,033 worth of work in progress, the self-supporting Nova Scotia Power Commission is one of the largest businesses in the province, employing nearly 1,000 people. The Commission was created under the Power Commission Act of 1919 to exploit the limited but useful hydro potential of the province, as investigated by the Water Power Commission of 1915. The first objective was to develop remote sites to supply power and energy at lowest possible cost to new industry, particularly pulp and paper operations, and a few centres of population. The 1937 Rural Electrification Act, however, provided equalization grants and made it possible to carry out the formidable task of bringing power and energy to low-density farm and rural village areas. In the past 30 years the picture has changed markedly, with a progressive industrial climate providing both a stable base and strong opportunities for growth. The Commission's power development program, as at Dec. 31, 1966, is outlined on p. 670.

Today, more than 5,680 miles of transmission and distribution lines conduct the energy generated by about 300,000 kw. capability in 26 stations to and from every corner of Nova Scotia. Hydro power now constitutes only a fraction of base load, although it is put to optimum use for peaking purposes. Economical thermal power has risen greatly in importance during the past 10 years and holds most of the answers for the future—with the possible exception of Bay of Fundy tidal power.

11.—Capacity and Output of the Nova Scotia Power Commission, Year Ended Nov. 30, 1966

System[1] and First Year of Operation	Present Installed Capacity	Output	System[1] and First Year of Operation	Present Installed Capacity	Output
	kw.	kwh.		kw.	kwh.
Western Network—			St. Margaret (1921)	10,400	22,388,000
Harmony (1943)	600	2,767,000	Mersey—		
Roseway (1930)	888	3,512,650	Original development (1928)	21,780	64,717,000
Gulch (1952)	6,000	15,597,751	Cowie Falls (1938)	7,200	21,794,700
Ridge (1957)	4,000	6,344,730	Deep Brook (1950)	9,000	24,030,300
Portable (diesel)	200	450	Lower Great Brook (1955)	4,500	11,015,060
Sissiboo (1960)	6,000	17,491,780			
Weymouth (1961)	9,000	26,664,400	Canseau (diesel) (1937)	700	8,740
			Tusket (1929)	2,160	10,837,376
Eastern Network—					
Barrie Brook (1940)	360	723,820			
Dickie Brook (1948)	3,800	6,361,320	Cumberland—		
Malay Falls (1924)	3,600	7,683,340	Maccan (thermal) (1927)	26,850	83,606,400
Ruth Falls (1925)	6,970	23,910,160	Seaboard (thermal) (1930)	108,000	421,116,903
Liscomb (1957)	450	2,595,416			
Trenton (thermal) (1951)	60,000	283,899,200	**Totals**	**292,458**	**1,057,066,496**

[1] Hydro unless otherwise noted.