

1 Q. In the System Operating Instructions (Appendix A of exhibit JRH-3) please  
2 explain the step one loading to “near full capacity” as opposed to full  
3 capacity. At what point in the progression are these units brought to full  
4 capacity?

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7 A. All units are not brought to full capacity in order to maintain frequency control  
8 of the power system. The power system is very dynamic with constantly  
9 changing load requirements. Therefore reserve capacity is maintained on  
10 generating units to control system frequency as the load changes. When load  
11 is increasing during peak periods the power system operator must ensure  
12 that the operating generating units have sufficient operating reserve to supply  
13 the increasing load without deterioration of the power system frequency.  
14 They have to account for the rate of increasing load in their decision when to  
15 start additional generating units. For that reason they are unable to allow the  
16 units to go to full capacity before going to the next step in the loading  
17 sequence.

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19 At times individual units referred to in step one may be brought to full  
20 capacity prior to going to step two. The units that are brought to full capacity  
21 first are normally the thermal units at Holyrood because the system  
22 frequency is controlled using the large hydro units.