

1 Q. If available please provide the updated review of comparative practices in
2 other jurisdictions as noted on page 12 of 14 in the Discussion Paper on
3 Hydro Rural Deficit Issues (Corporate Overview evidence).

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6 A. Hydro recently surveyed the utilities shown on page 8 of 14 in the Discussion
7 Paper on Hydro Rural Deficit Issues (Corporate Overview evidence).

8 Updated data from ATCO Electric and Yukon Electrical was not available.

9 Several of the utilities surveyed indicated that the information in the survey

10 would only be provided if it were kept confidential. They specified that Hydro

11 could only display the results in an aggregate format such that individual

12 utility data could not be identified.

13

14 Based on 2002 data from other utilities, the average cost per kWh ranged

15 from 15¢ to 341.71¢. The operating deficit ranged from \$3 million to \$116

16 million and the deficit per customer ranged from \$3700 to \$9600. Based on

17 the 2002 Forecast Cost of Service filed in response to P.U. 7 and P.U. 16

18 (2002-03), Hydro's isolated rural deficit per customer of \$4,600, average cost

19 per kWh of 53¢ per kWh and operating deficit of \$21 million falls within the

20 range experienced by other utilities.

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22 The summary of rates policies for isolated systems customers across

23 Canada outlined in Appendix A in the Discussion Paper on Hydro Rural

24 Deficit Issues (Corporate Overview evidence) remains unchanged.