

1 Q. **Re: p. B-137 Replace VHF Mobile Radio System \$2,914,800** Since the
2 options being considered by NLH do not include the sharing of a system with
3 the RCMP, please provide details of why this option is not now, or would not
4 be considered in the future, appropriate for the needs of NLH. If costs are an
5 issue, please include the specific relevant costs in the details.

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8 A. Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro has not considered use of the RCMP
9 system to be an appropriate solution because of cost. The RCMP system is
10 a public safety system, with much higher costs of acquisition for equipment
11 than for the system being proposed by Hydro. Preliminary estimates
12 obtained from the RCMP in a presentation in April 2003 indicated that a
13 capital expenditure of approximately \$25 million would be required to add
14 Hydro to the RCMP system. Mobile and portable radios as well are several
15 times the cost of those required for the system being proposed by Hydro.