

1 Q. What recent initiatives has Hydro undertaken to cooperate with NP to reduce  
2 the cost of supply to consumers?

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5 A. NP and Hydro employees meet and exchange information at a variety of  
6 levels and departments to apply best practices to achieve least cost reliable  
7 electricity for the consumer. These exchanges and cooperative activities  
8 include training, safety issue discussions, power system operation and  
9 planning, and public communications. Activities include:

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- 11 • common promotion in public safety issues;
- 12 • review and exchange of information of provincial preparedness for
- 13 transmission and distribution system major storm damage;
- 14 • review of planning for meeting growing load requirements in the St.
- 15 John's region;
- 16 • development of a switching training program for high voltage switching by
- 17 both utilities thereby enabling more rapid and safe restoration of service
- 18 during system emergencies;
- 19 • development of more comprehensive generation cost information
- 20 ensuring least cost supply of customers load during periods of high load
- 21 or base load generation shortfalls;
- 22 • joint training with NP relating to Department of Environment and
- 23 Conservation/Department of Fisheries and Oceans Memorandum of
- 24 Understanding relating to application of the Fisheries Act to hydroelectric
- 25 utility operations;
- 26 • combining with NP in 2005 in joint meetings with Department of
- 27 Environment and Conservation officials to seek clarification of and
- 28 changes to the *Used Oil Control Regulations*;

- 1           • combining with NP for shipment of PCB waste to reduce cost; and
- 2           • sharing equipment and services to facilitate equipment maintenance
- 3           (such as the use of Hydro's transformer oil degasifier).

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5           As well, in 2006 Hydro and NP updated their Sharing of Services and  
6           Equipment agreement. The intent of this document is to help utilities share  
7           services and equipment mainly during emergencies, with an intention to  
8           improve reliability and reduce cost to both utilities.