

1 Q. Please provide the wage information relied upon to support the statement on  
2 page 13 of Mr. Haynes' evidence that "without a wage increase, Hydro's  
3 lineworkers will be making up to 13% less per hour than the Atlantic  
4 Canadian average and NP's lineworkers". Please also provide the average  
5 proposed wage increase included in this Application for these types of  
6 positions.

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9 A. Lineworker wage information was obtained from other Atlantic Canadian  
10 utilities with collective agreements in place up to 2007. Hydro's current  
11 Lineworker hourly rate is \$24.51 compared to an Atlantic average of \$26.88,  
12 or 10% behind. Based on negotiated increases in other jurisdictions for  
13 2007, Hydro's current rate will be 13% behind the Atlantic average next year,  
14 which will then be \$27.67.

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16 The information obtained is as follows:

| <u>Utility</u>     | <u>2007<br/>Hourly Rate</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| NB Power           | \$27.53                     |
| Saint John Energy  | 28.29                       |
| Maritime Electric  | 27.20                       |
| Newfoundland Power | 27.66                       |
| Average:           | \$27.67                     |

17 An average proposed wage increase has not been included, as we are  
18 currently in negotiations with IBEW 1615, and to date, monetary items have  
19 not been discussed.