

1 **IN THE MATTER OF** the  
2 *Public Utilities Act*, (the “*Act*”)

3  
4 **AND,**

5  
6 **IN THE MATTER OF** an Application by  
7 by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for  
8 an Order approving: (1) its 2007 capital budget  
9 pursuant to s.41(1) of the *Act*; (2) its 2007  
10 capital purchases, and construction projects  
11 in excess of \$50,000 pursuant to s.41(3) (a)  
12 of the *Act*; (3) its leases in excess of  
13 \$5,000 pursuant to s. 41(3) (b) of the *Act*;  
14 and (4) its estimated contributions  
15 in aid of construction for 2007 pursuant to  
16 s. 41(5) of the *Act* and for an Order pursuant to  
17 s. 78 of the *Act* fixing and determining its average  
18 rate base for 2005.  
19  
20

## 21 **INFORMATION REQUESTS**

### 22 23 24 **B-5 Upgrade Access Road, Upper Salmon, \$674,500**

#### 25 26 **PUB 1.0 NLH**

27  
28 Provide details as to the current condition of the road which are causing the need for these  
29 expenditures, setting out full reasons as to why “the road requires significant upgrades to extend  
30 its service life and provide safe and reliable access”.

#### 31 32 **PUB 2.0 NLH**

33  
34 Provide details, including costs, of maintenance that has occurred on this road for the years from  
35 2001 to 2006F.

#### 36 37 **PUB 3.0 NLH**

38  
39 In 2005 and to date in 2006 have many deliveries of oil have been made in each year to the  
40 Upper Salmon site using this road?

#### 41 42 **PUB 4.0 NLH**

43  
44 Please describe any possible events that might lead to “major uncontrolled releases of fuel”.  
45 Have any such incidents occurred?

1 **B-6 Upgrade Burnt Dam Access Road, \$309,200**

2

3 **PUB 5.0 NLH**

4

5 Provide a detailed description of the Burnt Dam Access Road that illustrates the condition of the  
6 road and why it is necessary to upgrade the road at this time.

7

8 **PUB 6.0 NLH**

9

10 Provide details, including costs, of maintenance that has occurred on this road from 2001 to  
11 2006F.

12

13 **B-7 Upgrade Cooling Water System Units No's 1 and 2, \$112,200**

14

15 **PUB 7.0 NLH**

16

17 Provide a listing of instances of fouled or leaking piping that have required remedial attention  
18 during the years 2004 to 2006F.

19

20 **B-8 Station Service Control Replacement, \$105,200**

21

22 **PUB 8.0 NLH**

23

24 Describe the circumstances, including the costs of replacement and the effect on reliability of the  
25 replacement of the PLC's inverter in September 2003.

26

27 **PUB 9.0 NLH**

28

29 Has the loss of PLC control becomes less likely as a result of the upgrades outlined in the  
30 Telecommunications Plan – Revised August 2002?

31

32 **B-9 Replace Air Dryer, \$75,900**

33

34 **PUB 10.0 NLH**

35

36 How many incidents of corrective maintenance have been performed in each year 2001 to  
37 2006F?

1 **B-14 Holyrood Condition Assessment, \$3,334,900**

2

3 **PUB 11.0 NLH**

4

5 How has it been determined that the cost of a Holyrood Condition Assessment, with its various  
6 components, will cost \$3.3 M?

7

8 **PUB 12.0 NLH**

9

10 Why was 2043 chosen as the target date for the useful life of the plant?

11

12 **PUB 13.0 NLH**

13

14 What is the time line for the completion of the various components of the Holyrood Condition  
15 Assessment?

16

17 **PUB 14.0 NLH**

18

19 How will the Condition Survey 1999, which concluded that "...if the three plants [Holyrood  
20 Generation Station, Hardwoods Gas Turbine, Stephenville Gas Turbine] are operated in future in  
21 a manner similar to which they have been operated in the past, it can be stated conservatively  
22 that they can be expected to operate for at least another 20 years." be used to support and to  
23 minimize the cost of this undertaking?

24

25 **PUB 15.0 NLH**

26

27 What evidence can NLH provide to support the statement that "Utilities have found that it is  
28 financially viable to extend the lives of existing thermal assets rather than decommissioning  
29 existing sites and developing new ones."?

30

31 **PUB 16.0 NLH**

32

33 Please explain the difference between "dual firing (#6 oil/natural gas) and "combined cycle  
34 operation".

35

36 **B-16 Upgrade Unit NO. 3 Turbine/Generator, \$1,654,300**

37

38 **PUB 17.0 NLH**

39

40 When was the last time that this type of upgrade was performed on Unit #3 at Holyrood?

1 **PUB 18.0 NLH**

2

3 When was an equivalent upgrade performed on either of the other two units at Holyrood?

4

5 **PUB 19.0 NLH**

6

7 Has NLH undertaken a cost benefit analysis of similar maintenance options for Units 1 and 2 at  
8 Holyrood? If so, please explain.

9

10 **PUB 20.0 NLH**

11

12 Does NLH intend to similarly change the overhaul schedules of Units 1 and 2 at Holyrood?

13

14 **PUB 21.0 NLH**

15

16 Has the maintenance schedule of the units at Holyrood been affected by the decrease in load  
17 caused by the closure of Abitibi in Stephenville and by the capacity added to the system by the  
18 NUGS?

19

20 **PUB 22.0 NLH**

21

22 Is the planned change in the maintenance schedule at Holyrood related in any way to the  
23 proposed Holyrood Condition Assessment?

24

25 **PUB 23.0 NLH**

26

27 What changes have occurred, either to technology, expertise, or the information available to  
28 allow the overhaul interval of the units at Holyrood to change from four years to nine years?

29

30 **B-18 Construct Contaminated Water Treatment Pilot Plant, Holyrood, \$276,100**

31

32 **PUB 24.0 NLH**

33

34 Indicate the legislation being violated by the current practice of discharging wastewater streams  
35 to the environment.

36

37 **PUB 25.0 NLH**

38

39 Does Hydro have a tolerance for the violation of the regulations?

1 **PUB 26.0 NLH**

2

3 What penalties may be imposed on NLH for the continued violation of the legislation concerned?

4

5 **PUB 27.0 NLH**

6

7 To date, how has NLH avoided the imposition of penalties for the violation environmental  
8 legislation?

9

10 **B-20 Purchase and Install UPS Battery Monitoring System, \$79,100**

11

12 **PUB 28.0 NLH**

13

14 Provide a summary, including the age of batteries which have failed, of all battery failures at  
15 Holyrood over the period 2001 to 2006.

16

17 **B-22 Upgrade Unit 2 Air Preheater Steam Condensate System, \$598,500**

18

19 **PUB 29.0 NLH**

20

21 How old is the system currently being used?

22

23 **PUB 30.0 NLH**

24

25 How old were the systems on Units 1 and 2 when they were upgraded?

26

27 **PUB 31.0 NLH**

28

29 Even with the upgrades to Units 1 and 2, do there continue to be instances where condensate  
30 stagnation and water hammer occur?

31

32 **PUB 32.0 NLH**

33

34 Has a cost benefit analysis been undertaken for this project? If so, please provide a copy.

35

36 **B-23 Replace Fuel Piping, \$529,800**

37

38 **PUB 33.0 NLH**

39

40 Can an inspection or other form of assessment be carried out to determine the condition of the  
41 underground fuel pipes?

1 **PUB 34.0 NLH**

2

3 What remediation took place at the Hardwoods gas turbine site in 2005 to address the leaks  
4 caused by corrosion?

5

6 **PUB 35.0 NLH**

7

8 How old are the main fuel forwarding lines?

9

10 **PUB 36.0 NLH**

11

12 What is the usual service life for these types of lines?

13

14 **PUB 37.0 NLH**

15

16 What similarities exist to cause the conclusion that Stephenville would be in the same condition  
17 as Hardwoods? Are there any differences?

18

19 **PUB 38.0 NLH**

20

21 Are similar underground fuel pipes being used at other NLH sites? If so, please provide details  
22 including ages and condition.

23

24 **B-24 Gas Turbine Condition Assessments, \$307,100**

25

26 **PUB 39.0 NLH**

27

28 Provide details of operating problems, other than normal maintenance, experienced at the  
29 Hardwoods gas turbine site over the period 2001 to 2006F.

30

31 **PUB 40.0 NLH**

32

33 Provide details of operating problems, other than normal maintenance, experienced at the  
34 Stephenville gas turbine site over the period 2001 to 2006F.

35

36 **B-29 Reliability Upgrades-Frequency Converter, \$1,320,200**

37

38 **PUB 41.0 NLH**

39

40 Provide a breakdown of the costs of the components of this project.

1 **PUB 42.0 NLH**

2

3 Provide specific statistics in relation to the increasing maintenance and operational problems  
4 over the period 2001 to 2006F.

5

6 **PUB 43.0 NLH**

7

8 Provide specifics of the known problems within the controls synchronizing equipment,  
9 ventilation system and insulators.

10

11 **PUB 44.0 NLH**

12

13 Provide a copy of the internal Hydro report “Engineering Condition Assessment of the Corner  
14 Brook Frequency Converter – April 7, 2005”.

15

16 **PUB 45.0 NLH**

17

18 Provide a copy of the Acres Engineering report “Condition Assessment of 50/60 Cycle  
19 Frequency Final Report”, prepared for Hydro in September 1998.

20

21 **PUB 46.0 NLH**

22

23 What environmental legislation is being offended by the current condition of the oil spill  
24 containment, the drainage system around the main transformer, and the fire protection?

25

26 **PUB 47.0 NLH**

27

28 Over what period of time has the current set-up not been in compliance with legislation?

29

30 **PUB 48.0 NLH**

31

32 How has NLH dealt with the issue of non-compliance?

33

34 **PUB 49.0 NLH**

35

36 Will the cost of the replacement of the auto-synchronizer be reflected in the specific charges to  
37 Industrial Customers?

1 **B-32 Construct Transmission Line Equipment Off-Loading Ramps, \$402,000**

2

3 **PUB 50.0 NLH**

4

5 This project is classified as a Normal project; provide an explanation as to why this is not  
6 classified as a Justifiable project?

7

8 **PUB 51.0 NLH**

9

10 Is this access intended for routine or emergency access?

11

12 **PUB 52.0 NLH**

13

14 How often is it projected that these 30 Off-Loading Ramps will be used?

15

16 **PUB 53.0 NLH**

17

18 What is the total projected cost for the five-year program, including capital and operating costs?

19

20 **PUB 54.0 NLH**

21

22 Provide detailed statistics on the number of times that off-loading equipment required the  
23 blocking of traffic and the length of time this was necessary.

24

25 **PUB 55.0 NLH**

26

27 Provide the specifics of the long distances that must be travelled to safely and legally park  
28 vehicles.

29

30 **PUB 56.0 NLH**

31

32 Under what legislation can NLH be responsible for the construction and maintenance of all  
33 loading/access ramps on public highways in Newfoundland and Labrador?

34

35 **PUB 57.0 NLH**

36

37 Has Hydro obtained all necessary permissions, permits etc to make the proposed changes to the  
38 highway system?

39

40 **PUB 58.0 NLH**

41

42 Who will maintain these improvements and at what cost?



1 **PUB 59.0 NLH**

2

3 Is it intended to keep these accesses open in the winter?

4 If winter access is intended so who will do the snow clearing and if it is Hydro how much will it  
5 cost?

6

7 **PUB 60.0 NLH**

8

9 If winter access is not intended how will Hydro gain access to these areas in the winter?

10

11 **PUB 61.0 NLH**

12

13 Is the winter season a factor in the existing difficulties with access?

14

15 **PUB 62.0 NLH**

16

17 What liability will be taken on by NLH with regard to use by the public of these off-  
18 loading/access ramps?

19

20 **PUB 63.0 NLH**

21

22 Has NLH undertaken a cost benefit analysis with regard to the construction of these ramps? If  
23 so, please provide.

24

25 **PUB 64.0 NLH**

26

27 How do utilities in other provinces in Canada deal with the issue of accessing sites from public  
28 roadsides? If this information is not currently available, please provide the researched  
29 information as soon as possible, when it becomes available.

30

31 **B-35 Supply and Installation of a Bridge, \$211,900**

32

33 **PUB 65.0 NLH**

34

35 When was NLH notified of Abitibi's intention to remove the bridge?

36

37 **PUB 66.0 NLH**

38

39 How has the area of TL233 been accessed since the removal by Abitibi of the bridge?

1 **PUB 67.0 NLH**

2  
3 How many times has the area been accessed by NLH since the removal of the bridge?

4  
5 **PUB 68.0 NLH**

6  
7 Provide a map of the area that includes the position of TL233 relative to the location of the  
8 proposed bridge, any other rivers in the area and any roads in the area. Indicate any structures  
9 that may exist in the area.

10  
11 **PUB 69.0 NLH**

12  
13 Has NLH undertaken a cost benefit analysis of this project? If so, please provide a copy.

14  
15 **B-37 Install Disconnect Switch, \$94,300**

16  
17 **PUB 70.0 NLH**

18  
19 Provide a listing of the outages that have occurred on TL220 downstream of Conne River over  
20 the period 2001 to 2006.

21  
22 **B-42 Replace Insulators, \$313,000**

23  
24 **PUB 71.0 NLH**

25  
26 What is the total amount in capital expenditures, including terminals and lines, that NLH plans to  
27 spend on the replacement of insulators in 2007?

28  
29 **PUB 72.0 NLH**

30  
31 What total amount in capital expenditures for each year from 2001 to 2006F has NLH spent on  
32 the replacement of insulators?

33  
34 **PUB 73.0 NLH**

35  
36 When, and at what cost, does NLH anticipate that all of the defective insulators will have been  
37 replaced?

38  
39 **PUB 74.0 NLH**

40  
41 Provide a copy of a Safety Alert that has been issued regarding insulators that are prone to  
42 failure.

1 **B-44 Upgrade Circuit Breakers, \$257,800**

2

3 **PUB 75.0 NLH**

4

5 Has NLH undertaken an engineering study of the condition/refurbishment of its airblast  
6 breakers? If so, please provide a copy.

7

8 **PUB 76.0 NLH**

9

10 Provide a copy of the research that has been undertaken with regard to the problems that other  
11 utilities and owners of DCF/DCVF Breakers have experienced.

12

13 **B-47 Replace Instrument Transformers, \$79,700**

14

15 **PUB 77.0 NLH**

16

17 In each of the years 2001 to 2006F what has been the annual capital expenditure for the  
18 replacement of instrument transformers?

19

20 **PUB 78.0 NLH**

21

22 How many transformers have been replaced in each year from 2001 to 2006F?

23

24 **B-49 Replace Compressors, \$78,300**

25

26 **PUB 79.0 NLH**

27

28 Has NLH undertaken a cost benefit analysis of the replacement of compressors at the Hardwoods  
29 Terminal Station? If so, please provide a copy.

30

31 **B-50 Replace Battery Banks, \$71,700**

32

33 **PUB 80.0 NLH**

34

35 Provide a copy of the most recent reports resulting from routine maintenance tests and  
36 inspections of the battery bank to be replaced at each of the Stony Brook and Western Avalon  
37 Terminal Station.

1 **B-51 Replace Battery Chargers, \$71,600**

2

3 **PUB 81.0 NLH**

4

5 Provide a copy of the review that was conducted regarding the maintenance history on battery  
6 chargers.

7

8 **B-52 Replace Surge Arrestors, \$71,300**

9

10 **PUB 82.0 NLH**

11

12 In each of the years from 2001 to 2006F what has been the capital expenditure for replacement  
13 surge arrestors?

14

15 **PUB 83.0 NLH**

16

17 In each of the years from 2001 to 2006F how many surge arrestors have been replaced? Please  
18 indicate how many replacements have resulted from in-service failures, and how many have been  
19 replaced as a preventive measure.

20

21 **B-54 Provide Service Extensions, \$2,085,000**

22

23 **PUB 84.0 NLH**

24

25 For each of the years from 2001 to 2006F what has been the budgeted and actual capital  
26 expenditure for service extensions in each region of the province?

27

28 **PUB 85.0 NLH**

29

30 For each of the rural isolated systems, for the rural interconnected system on the island, and for  
31 the interconnected system in Labrador please provide a summary showing for each year from  
32 2000 to 2006: i) the number of customers, ii) the total number of kwhs sold for that year, iii) the  
33 average annual usage per customer, iv) the number of new service connections, not including  
34 street lights, and v) the number of new street light connections. Please note any anomalies, such  
35 as the addition of any large General Service customers.

36

37 **B-56 Upgrade Distribution Systems, \$2,035,000**

38

39 **PUB 86.0 NLH**

40

41 For each year from 2001 to 2006F provide a comparison of the budgeted and actual expenditures  
42 to upgrade distribution services for each region.

1 **B-58 Upgrade Distribution Feeders, \$1,383,200**

2

3 **PUB 87.0 NLH**

4

5 For each year from 2001 to 2006F provide a comparison of the budgeted and actual expenditures  
6 to upgrade distribution feeders for each region of the Province.

7

8 **PUB 88.0 NLH**

9

10 For each year from 2001 to 2006F provide SAIFI, SAIDI and SARI figure for the Harbour  
11 Breton System, the Farewell Head System, the Rocky Harbour System and the St. Anthony  
12 System, along with the overall utility average and the regional average for those years.

13

14 **PUB 89.0 NLH**

15

16 Are there areas of the NLH distribution system where performance is worse than or equal to that  
17 of the areas included in this project? If so, name them and provide reliability statistics for each  
18 in the years 2001 to 2006F.

19

20 **B-61 Replace Distribution Poles, \$744,000**

21

22 **PUB 90.0 NLH**

23

24 Provide copies of reports resulting from preventative maintenance inspections that indicate the  
25 condition of the poles to be replaced in 2007 in the three distribution systems included in this  
26 project.

27

28 **B-63 Replace Distribution Lines, \$740,500**

29

30 **PUB 91.0 NLH**

31

32 Provide copies of any recent inspection reports that explain the condition of the sections of the  
33 South Brook and Harbour Breton Systems that require replacement.

34

35 **B-65 Replace Diesel Unit 290 & Upgrade Fuel Storage System, Williams Harbour,**  
36 **\$479,300**

37

38 **PUB 92.0 NLH**

39

40 Provide a breakdown of the costs indicating the cost of replacing the diesel unit and the cost of  
41 upgrading the fuel storage system.

1 **PUB 93.0 NLH**

2

3 What is the policy of NLH with regard to the major overhaul/replacement of diesel units in rural  
4 systems?

5

6 **PUB 94.0 NLH**

7

8 How and why has this policy changed since 2000?

9

10 **PUB 95.0 NLH**

11

12 Has NLH undertaken a cost benefit analysis of the components of this project, and the overall  
13 project? If so, please provide a copy.

14

15 **PUB 96.0 NLH**

16

17 Over what period of time have the fuel tanks at Williams Harbour not been ULC complaint?

18

19 **PUB 97.0 NLH**

20

21 Over what period of time have the tanks and dykes at Williams Harbour not been compliant with  
22 legislation? Please indicate the legislation requiring compliance.

23

24 **PUB 98.0 NLH**

25

26 Have NLH undertaken any Demand Side Management initiatives in this system in an effort to  
27 reduce load?

28

29 **B-67 Upgrade Exhaust Stacks, \$150,700**

30

31 **PUB 99.0 NLH**

32

33 Does the release of soot from the exhaust stacks at the Grey River Plant offend any  
34 environmental or other legislation?

35

36 **PUB 100.0 NLH**

37

38 Is the release of soot from the stacks a problem encountered at other rural sites?

39

40 **PUB 101.0 NLH**

41

42 Has NLH undertaken a cost benefit analysis of this project? If so, please provide a copy.

1 **B-68 Purchase Spare Transformer, \$1,354,000**

2

3 **PUB 102.0 NLH**

4

5 How many similar units are in operation at the Upper Salmon Generating Station?

6

7 **PUB 103.0 NLH**

8

9 Is it possible to remove a transformer from another location and re-install it at Upper Salmon in  
10 the event of the failure of the unit to be replaced?

11

12 **PUB 104.0 NLH**

13

14 Provide a cost benefit analysis showing any options that have been considered in determining  
15 that the purchase of a spare transformer is the appropriate solution to the deterioration of the  
16 generating transformer at Upper Salmon.

17

18 **B-71 Automatic Meter Reading, \$695,000**

19

20 **PUB 105.0 NLH**

21

22 What is the anticipated service life of an AMR meter compared to that of a meter requiring a  
23 manual hand-held device?

24

25 **PUB 106.0 NLH**

26

27 Does the existence of a Service Agreement for the AMR system address the replacement cost of  
28 failing/failed meters?

29

30 **PUB 107.0 NLH**

31

32 Would the existence of a Service Agreement for existing meters have an effect on the NPV  
33 analysis provided on page B-73?

34

35 **PUB 108.0 NLH**

36

37 Provide a copy of the report on the AMR pilot program implemented in the St. Brendan's service  
38 area in 2003/2004.

1 **B-74 Meter Shop – Purchase Meters and Equipment, \$93,700**

2

3 **PUB 109.0 NLH**

4

5 Provide a comparison of the actual and budgeted capital expenditures on Meter Shop – Meters  
6 and Equipment for the years 2001 to 2006F.

7

8 **B-75 Install Fall Protection/Travel Restraint Systems, \$250,900**

9

10 **PUB 110.0 NLH**

11

12 Please indicate what provincial legislation requires that fall arrest/travel restraint systems be  
13 used.

14

15 **PUB 111.0 NLH**

16

17 Provide a progress report on the program of installation of fall arrest equipment that was  
18 proposed in the NLH 2005 Capital Budget. Include a comparison of budgeted and actual capital  
19 expenditures and an estimate of future expenditures.

20

21 **B-77 Replace Fuel Storage, \$222,200**

22

23 **PUB 112.0 NLH**

24

25 When were the two tanks to be replaced in Norman Bay initially installed?

26

27 **PUB 113.0 NLH**

28

29 Provide a copy of the most recent inspection report that indicates the current condition of the  
30 tanks.

31

32 **B-78 Upgrade Card Access Security Systems, \$131,000**

33

34 **PUB 114.0 NLH**

35

36 Provide a summary of the security related work that has been proposed and/or undertaken at each  
37 of these sites since 2001. Please include the cost of each of these upgrades.



1 **B-79 Survey of Hydro's Primary Distribution Line Right of Way, \$50,800**

2

3 **PUB 115.0 NLH**

4

5 Provide a progress report on the program to obtain easements that was begun in 2004, including  
6 budgeted and actual capital expenditures and projected future expenditures.

7

8 **B-80 Replace Off-Road Tracked Vehicle (7696), \$307,000**

9

10 **PUB 116.0 NLH**

11

12 Provide a copy of the cost benefit analysis that demonstrates that the purchase of a boom/dump  
13 combination unit is the least cost alternative.

14

15 **PUB 117.0 NLH**

16

17 Provide a copy of the 2003 fleet review and any subsequent fleet reviews that have been  
18 undertaken by NLH.

19

20 **B-85 Application Enhancements, \$121,500**

21

22 **PUB 118.0 NLH**

23

24 Provide a summary of the annual budgeted and actual expenditures for application enhancements  
25 for the years 2001 to 2006F, indicating whether the purchases are upgrades of the software, or  
26 whether they are primarily to expand the number of users who have access to the software.

27

28 **B-87 Corporate Application Environment, \$301,200**

29

30 **PUB 119.0 NLH**

31

32 Provide a summary of the annual budgeted and actual expenditures for upgrades to the Corporate  
33 Application Environment for the years 2001 to 2006F, showing a breakdown of actual  
34 expenditures by application.

1 **B-90 End User Evergreening Program, \$395,000**

2  
3 **PUB 120.0 NLH**

4  
5 Provide a report on the End User Evergreening Program for the years 2003 to 2006F, showing  
6 the budgeted annual amounts, the actual annual expenditures, and the number of notebooks,  
7 desktops and thin-client devices replaced in each year. Please include an evaluation of the  
8 benefits of this program compared to the previous program of replacement.

9  
10 **B-92 Peripheral Infrastructure Replacement, \$139,400**

11  
12 **PUB 121.0 NLH**

13  
14 Provide a comparison fo budgeted and actual annual expenditures for the years 2001 to 2006F,  
15 including the number of machines replaced in each year.

16  
17 **B-95 Server Technology Program, \$81,800**

18  
19 **PUB 122.0 NLH**

20  
21 Provide a comparison of the budgeted and actual capital expenditures for the years 2003 to  
22 2006F, including the number of machines replaced in each year. Please include an evaluation of  
23 the benefits of this program compared to the previous program of replacement.

24  
25 **B-97 Battery Replacements, \$485,000**

26  
27 **PUB 123.0 NLH**

28  
29 What criteria are used to determine when battery banks should be replaced?

30  
31 **PUB 124.0 NLH**

32  
33 How often is capacity testing performed on battery banks?

34  
35 **PUB 125.0 NLH**

36  
37 Provide details to explain “this type of equipment has recorded significant numbers of failures in  
38 recent years.” Please provide supporting documentation.

1 **PUB 126.0 NLH**

2

3 What is the age of the 48V battery at West Salmon Spillway that is proposed to be replaced in  
4 2007?

5

6 **B-98 Microwave Site Refurbishing, \$364,000**

7

8 **PUB 127.0 NLH**

9

10 Provide the most recent engineering report on the condition of the West Coast Microwave  
11 infrastructure showing upgrade work performed to date, a comparison of budgeted and actual  
12 capital expenditures over the years from 2001 to 2006F, options considered at this time, and  
13 future plans.

14

15 **B-99 Remote Terminal Unit Replacement, \$320,800**

16

17 **PUB 128.0 NLH**

18

19 Provide a summary of the nine-year program showing the RUSs that have been replaced, the  
20 years in which they have been replaced, a comparison of budgeted and actual capital  
21 expenditures in each year of the program, and the sites that remain to be included to the end of  
22 the program.

23

24 **B-100 Radio Replacement, \$225,600**

25

26 **PUB 129.0 NLH**

27

28 Provide a maintenance record for the years 2001 to 2006F of the radio providing service between  
29 Burnt Dam and the Bay d’Espoir Hydro Generating Plant.

30

31 **B-101 Install PC Device Time Synchronization, \$102,900**

32

33 **PUB 130.0 NLH**

34

35 In what measurable way will this project impact efficiency, reliability or safety? Please provide  
36 examples in which the availability of synchronization would have made a difference.

37

38 **B-103 Communications Network Technology Refresh, \$101,800**

39

40 **PUB 131.0 NLH**

41

42 Provide a copy of the policy dealing with the refresh life cycle for network devices.

1 **PUB 132.0 NLH**

2

3 Which network components are scheduled for replacement in 2007 under the refresh life cycle?

4

5 **PUB 133.0 NLH**

6

7 Provide a breakdown of costs, showing the replacements of existing network components  
8 separately from projects allowing expansion.

9

10 **B-105 Microwave Quad-Diversity Upgrade, \$114,200**

11

12 **PUB 134.0 NLH**

13

14 When was the current diversity configuration of the microwave radio system between Square  
15 Pond Hill and Sunnyside put in place?

16

17 **PUB 135.0 NLH**

18

19 Are there other NLH microwave areas that are experiencing problems similar to those in the  
20 Square Pond Hill/Sunnyside area?

21

22 **PUB 136.0 NLH**

23

24 Provide a listing of the intermittent outages to the microwave radio system that have occurred  
25 during the years 2001 to 2006F.

26

27 **PUB 137.0 NLH**

28

29 For the years 2004 to 2006F provide a listing of customer related events that have been causes or  
30 affected by outages to the microwave radio system.

31

32 **PUB 138.0 NLH**

33

34 Provide SAIFI, SAIDI and SARI figures for the years 2001 to 2006F for the Square Pond  
35 Hill/Sunnyside region of the system, showing a comparison to the company average for those  
36 years.

1 **B-107 Replace Vehicles and Aerial Devices, \$2,685,900**

2  
3 **PUB 139.0 NLH**

4  
5 Provide a summary of the number of vehicles and aerial devices purchased in each year from  
6 2001 to 2006F, including a comparison of the budgeted and actual expenditures.

7  
8 **B-108 Purchase Pick-Ups and Snowmobiles, \$842,200**

9  
10 **PUB 140.0 NLH**

11  
12 What methods of transportation, including the locations from which vehicles are being  
13 dispatched, are now being used in these areas?

14  
15 **PUB 141.0 NLH**

16  
17 How frequently is it anticipated that these vehicles will be used?

18  
19 **PUB 142.0 NLH**

20  
21 How will these vehicles be secured when not in use?

22  
23 **PUB 143.0 NLH**

24  
25 Does NLH currently own and maintain on and off-road vehicles and appropriate storage at other  
26 rural isolated sites? If so, which ones? If not, how are service issues addressed?

27  
28 **PUB 144.0 NLH**

29  
30 Has NLH undertaken a feasibility study of the purchase and storage of vehicles in these seven  
31 communities? If so, please provide a copy.

32  
33 **PUB 145.0 NLH**

34  
35 Provide SAIDA, SAIFI and SARI figures for each of those communities for the years 2001 to  
36 2006F, while showing overall company averages for each year and Labrador Isolated averages  
37 for each year.

1 **B-109 System Security Upgrades, \$667,900**

2

3 **PUB 146.0 NLH**

4

5 What are the general recommendations for security upgrades? Please provide copies of the  
6 consultant managed studies.

7

8 **PUB 147.0 NLH**

9

10 Have there been any specific security upgrades developed to date? Please provide a copy of the  
11 three-year plan.

12

13 **PUB 148.0 NLH**

14

15 What are the industry practices/standards is NLH proposing to meet in this three year program?

**DATED** at St. John's, Newfoundland this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2006.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Per   
G. Cheryl Blundon  
Board Secretary