In reference to Schedule "B", page 71 of 82, Facilities Management, project cost \$562,000:

Q. Please provide evidence of "declining industry support for Open VMS". What is meant by "declining industry support"?

A. Attachment A, entitled *Obsolescence and the OpenVMS Operating System - An Emerging Technology Issue at Newfoundland Power* was filed with the Board in response to Request for Information PUB-25.2 during the Company's 2002 Capital Budget Hearing. Attachment A provides evidence of the declining support for OpenVMS and explains what is meant by "declining industry support". Attachment A also outlines the Company's plans for managing the risks associated with the OpenVMS operating system.

A number of other organizations in Atlantic Canada are in the process of migrating their information technology systems away from the OpenVMS operating system. For example, the Department of Computing and Communications at Memorial University of Newfoundland has replaced most of its VMS-based systems, which were placed into production in the 1980s and 1990s. During the 1990s, Atlantic Lottery Corporation developed its mission-critical gaming applications on OpenVMS, but is now in the process of migrating its applications to Windows NT and Linux.

Newfoundland Power continues to monitor industry developments related to OpenVMS. Attachment B is a report from leading industry analysts, Gartner Group¹, which provides commentary on recent developments with respect to the decline of OpenVMS.

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¹ Gartner Group is a research and advisory firm that helps more than 10,000 businesses understand technology and drive business growth. Founded in 1979, Gartner is headquartered in Stamford, Connecticut and consists of 4,600 associates, including 1,400 research analysts and consultants, in more than 80 locations worldwide.