

1 **Q. Does Newfoundland Power have an explanation as to why its estimate of required**
2 **new customer connections for 2015 was over as set out in the 2015 Capital**
3 **Expenditure Status Report, Appendix A at page 3 of 5?**
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5 A. Newfoundland Power's projection for new customer connections is primarily based on
6 the forecast of the number of housing starts provided by the *Conference Board of Canada*
7 ("CBOC") and *Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation* ("CMHC"). Detailed
8 information on how new customer connections are projected is provided in the response
9 to Request for Information CA-NP-012.
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11 The number of new customer connections for 2015 of 4,749, as set out in the 2015
12 Capital Expenditure Status Report, is based on Newfoundland Power's Customer, Energy
13 and Demand forecast dated April 11, 2014. At the time that forecast was prepared,
14 CMHC and CBOC were projecting 2,800 and 2,369 housing starts, respectively.
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16 Newfoundland Power's current Customer, Energy and Demand forecast dated March 13,
17 2015, projects new customer connections for 2015 of 3,798. At the time this forecast was
18 prepared, CMHC and CBOC were projecting 1,950 and 2,070 housing starts,
19 respectively.