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Q. Has the company ever issued second mortgage bonds and are there any restrictions on their issue if they have? 3

- A. The Company has issued second mortgage bonds in the past under a Deed of Trust and Mortgage securing General Mortgage Bonds, dated September 15, 1966 and made by Newfoundland Power in favour of Montreal Trust Company ("General Mortgage Trust Deed"). The last time the Company issued general mortgage sinking fund bonds was in 1977, with a related redemption in 1992.
- 10The issuance of bonds under the General Mortgage Trust Deed requires a 2.0 times11interest coverage test. This is consistent with the Company's First Mortgage Trust Deed12except that the calculation of annual interest charges includes all of the Company's long-13term debt. For the purpose of the First Mortgage Trust Deed, the calculation of annual14interest charges is limited to that associated with first mortgage bonds.
- 16The issuance of bonds under the General Mortgage Trust Deed also requires the17Company's paid-up capital and retained earnings be one and one-half times the aggregate18principal amount of all general mortgage bonds to be outstanding after the proposed19issuance. This test is required under the General Mortgage Trust Deed since the20mortgages are not secured by a first charge on the Company's assets. This security is21only available under the First Mortgage Trust Deed.