

1 Q. **Load Forecast, Generation, and Purchases**

2 Further IC-NLH-93 above, please provide details if Hydro's own generation facilities
3 were impacted from "unanticipated plant outages" or lower 2016 actuals as
4 illustrated in Schedule 3-V [Volume I, Chapter 5] were only due to lower inflows?
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7 A. In 2016, Hydro's annual hydraulic production from its own generating facilities was
8 4,380.4 GWh, as indicated in Schedule 3-V [Volume I, Chapter 3]. This production is
9 below Hydro's 2015 Test Year forecast average hydraulic production of 4,603.6
10 GWh, as filed in Hydro's 2013 Amended General Rate Application.

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12 Hydro's generation facilities were not affected by "unanticipated plant outages"
13 resulting from hurricane Matthew in 2016. The observed lower than average
14 hydraulic generation resulted from the distribution of monthly inflows through the
15 year, rather than from overall low inflows. The annual inflow to the system for
16 2016 was 13% above average.

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18 Inflows to Hydro's reservoirs were significantly lower than average from September
19 2015 to January 2016, inclusive. The snow packs in all basins were low throughout
20 the winter, indicating risk that inflows could remain low through the freshet period.
21 In response, thermal generation was increased and held above normal for water
22 management purposes from early January 2016 through mid-April 2016. During this
23 time, hydraulic generation was reduced. Thermal generation, for the purposes of
24 water management, ceased in mid-April 2016. Higher than normal inflows in July
25 2016 and again in October 2016, largely as a result of hurricane Matthew, resulted
26 in increased reservoir levels, culminating in higher than average energy in storage at
27 the end of 2016.