Q. In reference to the elements associated with the load forecast data and underlying mechanisms, to what extent is projected energy efficiency savings from CDM incorporated into the load forecast? How are such effects incorporated into the forecast and does the forecast distinguish between the effects of historical energy efficiency improvement trends and potential increases in energy efficiency (relative to historical trends), from either customer behaviors or CDM programs?

A.

Hydro's current long term planning model construct for projecting energy efficiency savings in future periods relies on linear regression model estimated efficiency gains measured within the historical load data, which is then extrapolated to the forecast period. The amount of efficiency savings projected in future periods is adjusted based on the load forecasters judgement and can be greater than, lower than or equal to the trend in the historical period that the trend was measured from. The methodology used does not distinguish between Utility-sponsored CDM or customer-driven CDM savings. Note that Hydro receives a Newfoundland Power forecast of efficiency savings attributable to the "TakeCharge" program and considers the forecast of CDM savings as part of the planning load forecast analysis and process.