

1 Q. **Reference: Volume II, Wood Pole Line Management Program - Various, Tab 11, page 1, lines 2**  
2 **and 3**

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4 As wood poles age, their preservative retention levels decrease and the poles  
5 become increasingly subject to deterioration by different agents including fungi  
6 and insects.

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8 Has Hydro identified a significant amount of deteriorated wood poles due to insects or fungi? If  
9 yes, what type of fungi and insects were found?

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12 A. Since 2003, over 50% of the transmission poles replaced by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro  
13 (“Hydro”) exhibited decay. Hydro has not performed any testing to determine the types of fungi  
14 present in decayed poles.

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16 Since 2003, nearly 25% of the transmission poles replaced by Hydro were deteriorated by  
17 insects. In all cases the insects found upon inspection were carpenter ants.