

1 Q. At Section 4.1.2 on page 13 of Schedule 2, the revised application states:

2 Hydro's Original Application included the construction of 53 kilometres of 25 kV  
3 distribution lines interconnecting the communities of Charlottetown, Pinsent's  
4 Arm, and Port Hope Simpson and 25 kV voltage conversion in those  
5 communities. There is no change to these proposed distribution lines. The 25 kV  
6 interconnection will include the construction of a new 25 kV distribution line,  
7 comprised of 477 aluminum-stranded conductors, along highway Routes 510  
8 and 514 between Port Hope Simpson and Charlottetown. A short segment of 25  
9 kV line will also be constructed to connect to the existing distribution system in  
10 Port Hope Simpson. In addition, a fibre optic line will be installed for  
11 communication purposes. Also included are 25 kV voltage conversions for the  
12 existing distribution systems in each community and the installation of a 200 A  
13 voltage regulator at the Charlottetown end of the 25 kV interconnection.

14 With Hydro's acceptance of Midgard's recommendation to advance the full  
15 interconnection of all communities, the project scope (originally planned for  
16 Phases 2 and 3) now also includes the construction of an additional 80  
17 kilometres of 25 kV distribution lines interconnecting the communities of Mary's  
18 Harbour, Lodge Bay, and St. Lewis and 25 kV voltage conversion in those  
19 communities.

20 Based on the transmission requirements outlined in Hydro's proposed amended application,  
21 please comment on the ability of Indigenous Participation in the planned transmission. Does  
22 Hydro's plan include Indigenous Partners playing a role in this process? If so, please elaborate on  
23 Hydro's engagement plan for this collaboration.

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26 A. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's ("Hydro") plan includes Indigenous participation  
27 throughout the process, and anticipates better understanding of the form and extent of this  
28 participation as a result of consultation within the environmental assessment process. Hydro is  
29 open to discussions regarding arrangements that diverge from, and may in fact be preferable to,  
30 the typical practice of Hydro constructing, owning and operating transmission assets, subject to  
31 any legislative requirements or restrictions. Hydro welcomes any proposals for potential  
32 Indigenous participation in this regard, noting of course Hydro's legislated mandate to provide  
33 reliable service at least cost, in an environmentally responsible manner.