

1 **Re: 2009 Capital Projects: \$500,000 and Over p. B-19 - Permanent**  
2 **Accommodations - Cat Arm**

3 Q. The following quote appears at page B-20;

4

5 “Considering the remoteness of the Cat Arm site and the potential problem  
6 with daily accessing it during the winter months, a need for on site  
7 accommodations exists. The Cat Arm access road is not plowed during the  
8 winter months and on-site accommodations are needed to respond to  
9 outages and repairs. A new permanent accommodations facility will provide  
10 Hydro personnel with modern, safe on-site living conditions that meet all  
11 current standards and guidelines.”

12

13 a) For how many weeks of the year is the access road to Cat Arm impassible  
14 due to snow accumulation?

15

16 b) During winter months, how does NLH’s staff access the Cat Arm station  
17 when the access road is blocked?

18

19 c) What is the rationale for paving the parking lot?

20

21 d) Is the access road to Cat Arm itself paved?

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23

24 A. a) The access road to Cat Arm is snow covered from December to late May,  
25 and during this time it is travelled by snowmobile. On occasion,  
26 approximately six to twelve times a year, the road is impassible for one or  
27 two days because of accumulated snow combined with blizzard conditions,  
28 and heavy ice conditions on the road.

1           b) When conditions improve, the snow is removed and the road is made  
2           passable by snowmobile.

3

4           c) The rationale for paving the parking lot is to improve the overall safety,  
5           tidiness and efficiency of the facility. A paved parking lot improves snow  
6           clearing and cleanliness, reduces the accumulation of dust and vegetation,  
7           and prevents mud from forming within the parking lot. In addition, a paved  
8           parking lot increases the level of safety with respect to flying debris created  
9           from the arrival and departure of a helicopter.

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11          d) No, the access road to Cat Arm is not paved.