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1 Q. Re: Pole Replacements, Vol. II, Tab 14

On page 9, NLH states: "The deteriorated poles identified on each of these lines were classified as "B" (one to five years of remaining life) condition during the last inspection in 2006 and are scheduled to be replaced in 2010".

Does NLH, as part of its inspection regime, revisit previously inspected poles to determine if their current condition is consistent with its previous assigned grade/condition and/or to test the accuracy of previously assigned grades?

A. No, Hydro does not revisit previously inspected poles to determine if their current condition is consistent with its previous assigned grade/condition and/or to test the accuracy of previously assigned grades. Hydro is confident with the inspection procedure and submits proposed work to the Public Utilities Board based on the results obtained from the inspection. A reassessment of this type would result in additional cost that would not be a justifiable expense. However, at the time of replacement, the Hydro on-site representative will do a visual inspection of the pole prior to removal to ensure that the previously given grade is correct.