

1 **Q. NP estimates that 35% of its 2012 Capital Expenditures will be as a result of load**
2 **growth. What information, identified by source, is used to forecast the number of**
3 **new customers that will be added to the system in 2012?**
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5 A. The forecast of the number of new customers that will be added to the system in 2012 is
6 primarily based on the forecast of the number of housing starts which is provided by the
7 *Conference Board of Canada*, an independent forecast service, and by *Canada Mortgage*
8 *and Housing Corporation*, a federal Crown corporation.
9

10 Please refer to Response to Request for Information CA NP 016 for details regarding the
11 calculation of forecast new customer connections, as well as copies of the forecasts
12 provided by the *Conference Board of Canada* and *Canada Mortgage and Housing*
13 *Corporation*.