

1 Q. Re: 2013 Capital Projects Overview, Appendix “A” – 2013 Project Prioritization:

2 At p. A-4 it stated, “The total of the projects included is determined based on  
3 balancing unit load, overall budget, and logistical considerations.” Please  
4 elaborate on how the “overall budget” is developed and taken into account in this  
5 process.  
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8 A. The five-year Capital Plan is reviewed and refreshed annually to optimize the plan in  
9 light of the most current asset condition information, system operating conditions  
10 and load projections. This technically driven baseline is further reviewed for  
11 constructability (e.g. availability of human resources and materials, outage  
12 coordination, specialized equipment, physical congestion of work sites, and lead  
13 times for detailed project execution planning). Hydro revises the plan as the  
14 implementation strategy develops and cost forecasts are refined, with the aim of  
15 addressing operational constraints and risk in the context of safety and reliability.  
16 The overall budget is considered in terms of consistency with the plan from the  
17 prior year, and major departures from that budget are given careful scrutiny. Hydro  
18 also reviews the timing of projects in the plan in an effort to identify projects that  
19 can be rescheduled within the short term.