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Q. 1 With reference to Appendix A of the 2013 Capital Projects Overview, at page A4, 2 Hydro asserts that non-prioritized projects in the table are either multi-year 3 projects or "necessary programs". Provide Hydro's criteria for how it determines that "Service Extensions and Upgrades", "Transportation", "Tools and Equipment" 4 and "Front End Engineering Design" are "necessary programs" and for how it 5 6 distinguishes between these unprioritized projects and those projects which are 7 assigned a priority. 8

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A.

The prioritization method is a screening tool to determine which capital budget proposals are submitted for approval in a given year. Where essential programs are already in place, the need has previously been evaluated and no annual review is required. The prioritization process was not designed to evaluate such recurring programs.