

1 Q. (GRA, Volume II, Exhibit 14 – Holyrood Decommissioning Study, page 3.1)
2 Why is it preferable to install and operate a 50 MW gas turbine for peak loading
3 rather than continue operating an existing unit at Holyrood?
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6 A. In order to be used for peaking, a generation unit must be able to be started and
7 respond to changing loads very quickly. A gas turbine can be started, brought
8 online and shut down within minutes, making it very suitable for this type of
9 operation.
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11 The existing units at Holyrood take several days to be brought online from a cold
12 state. Alternately, a unit can be kept in a hot state, i.e., the boiler is hot, but this
13 consumes fuel without producing any electricity, and the unit would still take
14 several hours to come online.
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16 In order to be available for peaking, a Holyrood unit would have to be online and be
17 generating at an output of at least 70 MW. This would lead to consumption of tens
18 of millions of dollars of fuel every winter. As there will be no requirement for
19 Holyrood energy after in-service of Muskrat Falls and the Labrador – Island
20 Transmission Link, this would mean incurring unnecessary expense.