Q. Re: Pre-filed Evidence of Mr. C. Douglas Bowman, page 5 [RSP]: Please confirm that "volatility of rates over the period through 2017" means rate impact to the Hydro customers (any by extension, the portion of the Newfoundland Power customer bills made up of charges from Hydro to Newfoundland Power).
A. Mr. Doug Bowman proposes that the parties develop during negotiations relating to the Amended 2013 GRA a methodology for using the RSP balances to smooth upcoming rate increases for Hydro customers, and by extension customers of Newfoundland Power. The RSP balances might be distributed in a manner whereby amounts and timing vary to coincide with upcoming rate increases. For example, if there is a drop in oil prices translating to an RSP-related rate decrease for Newfoundland Power customers, it might be preferable that a second rate decrease not be employed through the distribution of the RSP balance. It might be preferable in this case to save the RSP balance for application at a time when there is an increase in oil prices translating to an RSP-related rate increase for Newfoundland Power customers, thus making the rate increase more manageable.

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