

1 Q. At page 35 of Hydro's Report, it is stated:
2 "Eventually the load will increase to the level that it will be impossible to take a
3 maintenance outage to the Oxen Pond 230 kV bus and connected equipment
4 without a customer outage."

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6 In what year would Hydro anticipate this situation would occur?

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9 A. As discussed in Section 5 of the capital budget submission, the ability for Hydro to
10 perform maintenance on 230 kV equipment at Oxen Pond Terminal Station is
11 limited due to the significant load supplied by the station. Outage planning is
12 further complicated as coordination with Newfoundland Power is essential to
13 ensure that lines within the St. John's 66 kV transmission system do not become
14 overloaded. As presented in the report, a threshold of 190 MW is specified as the
15 maximum load that can be reliably supplied to the Hardwoods-Oxen Pond Loop
16 with the Oxen Pond 230 kV bus out of service.

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18 Analysis has been therefore performed to assess the number of *maintenance*
19 *windows* that would be available for work at Oxen Pond Terminal Station in a given
20 year. A maintenance window is defined as a period of eight consecutive hours
21 during which the load is less than the 190 MW limit.

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23 Using the standard load shape and load forecast presented in the report, the
24 number of maintenance windows was determined for each year. The results of this

1 analysis are presented in Figure 1 below. As indicated, the number of maintenance
2 windows decreases dramatically over the study period¹.
3 It should also be noted that the scheduling of maintenance work is further
4 complicated by other aspects such as crew availability and, as discussed above, the
5 coordination of outages with Newfoundland Power.

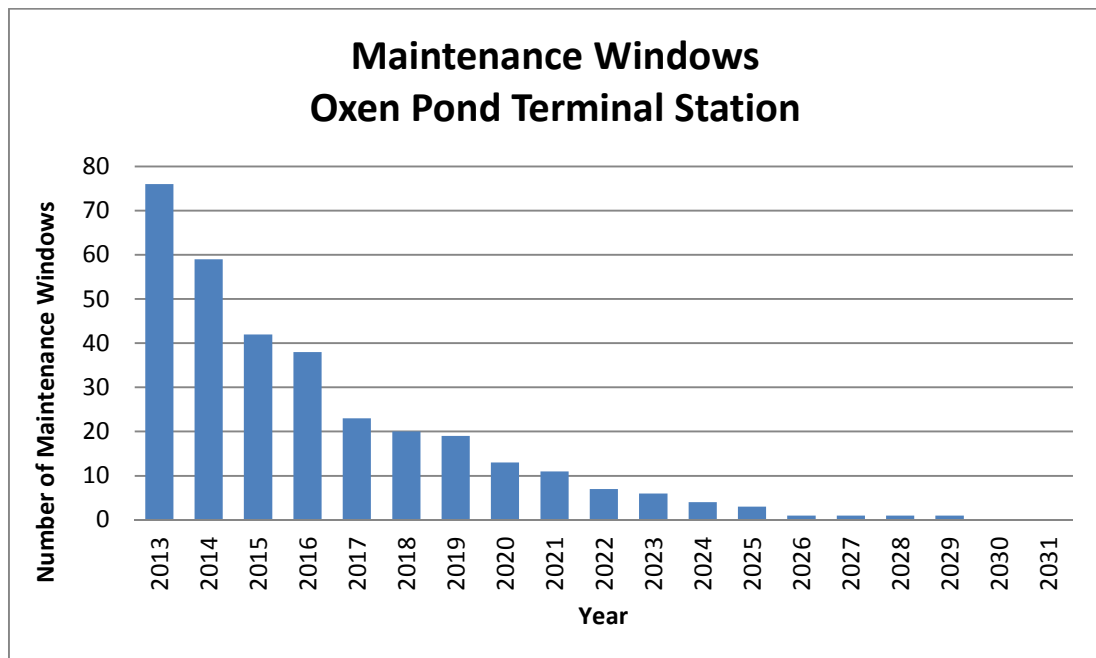


Figure 1: Opportunities for 230 kV Maintenance at Oxen Pond Terminal Station

¹ While actual outage durations will vary, the data presented in Figure 1 may be used as a benchmark to indicate the impact of forecasted load growth on maintenance windows at the Oxen Pond Terminal Station.