

1 Q. Labrador City Terminal Stations: Please explain why the project construction work
2 did not substantially commence until 2011.

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5 A. The original concept for the project was to expand the existing Vanier station to
6 accommodate the additional equipment and to re-use the Quartzite station
7 location by staging the construction.

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9 Following detailed design in 2009, the required sizes of the buildings and the layout
10 of the high voltage electrical equipment were reviewed against the existing Vanier
11 and Quartzite stations. The detailed design required a separate ventilated battery
12 room (a safety issue due to the potential buildup of hydrogen gas) and basic
13 amenities for personnel performing their duties (i.e., washrooms) which did not
14 exist in the original station buildings.

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16 As a result of the outages required and logistics of doing the work in an existing and
17 operating building which, among other things, required additions to the old metal
18 clad switchgear, in a small metal enclosed building, the decision to expand and
19 refurbish the existing Vanier station was not deemed practical or safe. This resulted
20 in the requirement to build a new station for Vanier. A new prefabricated building
21 was chosen to house the protection and control panels, washroom facilities and the
22 required AC and DC station service supplies. Similar to Vanier, it was determined
23 that there was insufficient area within the existing Quartzite location for the
24 required building to accommodate the new equipment.

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26 In addition to the building requirements, to eliminate the scheduling and safety
27 issues involved with staging the construction of the high voltage equipment within

1 energized stations, it was decided to procure new land for both Vanier and
2 Quartzite stations.

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4 Construction work was delayed to complete the identification of and acquisition of
5 the land required for the new stations. The Quartzite station work required the
6 acquisition of land from the Town of Labrador City. The Vanier station work
7 required Hydro to acquire land from the Iron Ore Company of Canada. These
8 activities were not completed until the middle of 2010.