

1 **Q. Reference: Tab 1.3 Hydro Production Increase – La Manche Canal:**

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3 **Please detail any communications or consultations the Company has undertaken, if**
4 **any, with Government departments/officials as regards to exploring whether it**
5 **would be permissible to proceed with raising the height of the Cape Pond Dam in**
6 **order to reduce spills?**

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8 A. Communication or consultations were not undertaken with Government
9 departments/officials as the legislation clearly does not permit such an undertaking as
10 outlined in the response to Request for Information CA-NP-010.

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12 Based on recent experience with storage increase projects, if it was possible to acquire
13 the necessary environmental approvals for the Cape Pond Dam project, significant time
14 and cost would be required.¹ For the Cape Pond Dam project it is believed that
15 exemption from the Act would also be required, further increasing the time necessary for
16 approval. Based on the original 2001 Hatch study, if the capacity of the La Manche
17 Canal was increased to 9m³/s, raising Cape Pond Dam would only contribute 0.41 GWh
18 of additional energy.²

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20 The Company decided at this time to move forward only with the La Manche Canal
21 portion of the work based on the risk to schedule and cost as well as the relatively low
22 amount of additional energy associated with increasing the height of Cape Pond Dam.

¹ For example, the project to Raise Sandy Lake Spillway to increase production, originally approved in the 2010 Capital Budget Application was delayed due to environmental approvals and subsequently completed as part of the 2011 Capital Budget.

² In Section 3.0 of Tab 1.3, Newfoundland Power states that “By not raising the height of the Cape Pond Dam the energy gain was decreased, but most of the increased energy production could be recovered by increasing the capacity of La Manche Canal” specifically, 2.47 GWh/yr of the original estimate of 2.88 GWh/yr could be recovered by increasing the capacity of the canal alone, meaning 0.41 GWh/yr would be the incremental energy associated with raising Cape Pond Dam.