

1    Q.    **Project C-13: Replace Station Service Breaker – Cat Arm**

2            At page 12 of Hydro's Report at Volume II, Tab 6, Hydro states that:

3            "Maintenance on the station service systems are  
4            performed by both Hydro and external contractors, based  
5            on availability of parts and technical experience. Both  
6            parts and technical expertise for these breakers and PLC is  
7            diminishing."

8            Is the diminishment of technical expertise due to diminishing expertise of current  
9            Hydro staff (ie. due to retirements, etc.)? If so, could this diminishment of expertise  
10           be filled by greater involvement of external contractors? If so, why does Hydro not  
11           consider this to be a viable option at present?

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14    A.    The reduction in technical expertise in the area of maintenance and repair of the  
15           Cat Arm station service is primarily from a supplier/contractor perspective and can  
16           be attributed to the obsolescence of this equipment. External contractors are  
17           currently involved with the maintenance and repair of this equipment and Hydro  
18           utilizes these resources as necessary. The effectiveness of this resource is  
19           diminished by the unavailability of the parts required to complete necessary  
20           repairs.