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1    Q.    **Project C-37: Perform Wood Pole Line Management Project**

2            With reference to the “Justification” for the 2015 Wood Pole Management project  
3            set out on page 5 of the Tab 15 report, and Hydro’s statement that “Full scale tests  
4            of poles at Memorial University since 1999 indicate a 25% reduction of average pole  
5            strength over a 35-year period”, what is the industry standard for a safe or prudent  
6            level of pole strength retention?

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9    A.    Pole strength deteriorates over time, and normal practice is to retain a safe in-  
10          service pole strength value which is 2/3 of the average pole strength at the time of  
11          installation.