Q. ***Tab 1.4 Tor's Cove Hydro Plant Refurbishment – Overhead Crane***

Newfoundland Power states that during normal operations, a crane is used infrequently. Please provide the usage of the crane over the last five years. Other than the planned hydro plant refurbishment, what further use of the crane does Newfoundland Power anticipate?

A. Newfoundland Power does not maintain a log on the usage of overhead cranes in its hydro plants.

It is correct that apart from the planned hydro plant refurbishment the crane is not heavily used during normal plant operations as stated. However, the crane is used during routine maintenance, repair, and inspection work where heavy lifting is required.

The work associated with the Tor's Cove Hydro Plant Refurbishment project will require considerable usage of the overhead crane during the construction period. This will involve lifting heavy pieces of equipment such as the draft tube, main inlet valve, turbine components, and generator components. These lifts will be completed during times when the plant will be undergoing multiple upgrade activities at one time with multiple trades working onsite. Replacing the crane with a new electric operated unit will improve worker efficiency and safety during the construction period.

The 5-year plan includes the refurbishment of the other 2 generators at Tors Cove plant with the refurbishment of G3 planned for 2017 and G1 planned for 2018.[1] The crane will also be required during these generator refurbishments.

The 73 year old crane is obsolete and replacement parts are no longer available. Failure of the old crane during plant refurbishment will delay work, and increase costs associated with refurbishments. Similarly, costs associated with maintenance, repair and inspection will increase.

Replacing the crane with a new electric operated unit prior to other construction work commencing will ensure the project is completed on schedule returning the plant to service before the winter season.

[1] Similar to G2 the refurbishment of G1 and G3 will involve generator rewinds and turbine overhauls.