Q. In the assessment of ice berg strike risks, was there any assessment of the impact energy inherent for icebergs for the scours at depth long the cable route? Significant work was performed on ice berg model grounding events to formulate a scour rates, but a useful design quantity in the cable protection system would be impact energy anticipated from an iceberg strike.

A. It is not necessary to assess impact energy for the protection approaches chosen for the Strait of Belle Isle crossing.

The primary approach is to design for no impacts within the desired return period range (~$1X10^{-3}$ and lower). In regions where icebergs have higher probability of impact, horizontal directional drilling (HDD) in high strength rock has been utilized to avoid impacts. In each case, assessment of impact energy is not required.

Assessment of impact energy is useful with other protection approaches. Where trenching is used for example, assessment of impact energy is necessary in order to determine a target burial depth in the trench.