Q. From discussions with Nalcor, MHI understands that a mechanical fuse concept has been adopted for the HVDC transmission line. The conductor design will drop the conductor to save the tower due to high icing and wind loading over ratings. Have sufficient investigations been done to prove the concept of the mechanical fuse to save the tower during a catastrophic event? Please provide supporting information why this technology was chosen. What is the risk of an incorrect mechanical fuse failure and how would this be prevented/mitigated?

A. This concept has not been adopted for the Labrador Island Transmission Link. Nalcor has no plans to utilize the mechanical fuse concept, or any other load control device, in the design of the HVac or HVdc overhead line systems.

Nalcor will coordinate the structural design of the various components of the transmission line in accordance with the methodologies outlined in CAN/CSA-C22.3 No. 60826:06.