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Multi-Page TM **February 23, 2012** Page 1 1 (10:30 a.m.) 1 2 CHAIRMAN: 2 Q. Good morning, everybody. Are there any 3 preliminary matters to come from our august 4 4 legal friends? No? 5 5 6 GREENE, O.C.: 6 Q. No, Mr. Chair, there are some process issues 7 we will address following the presentations, 8 8 but none at this time. 10 CHAIRMAN: 10 Q. So, Mr. Swinimer, sir, the stage is yours. 11 11 12 MR. SWINIMER: 12 A. Thank you very much indeed, Mr. Chairman. 13 Good morning to everyone. I am Jack Swinimer 14 14 from Holyrood and I thank everyone very much 15 15 16 for allowing me to make a presentation to you 16 today. I have been a member of the Holyrood 17 17 Environmental Care Committee since 2005 and I 18 18 have been a member of the Committee Liaison 19 19 Committee of the Holyrood Thermal Generating 20 20 Station since 2007. I am not here to speak to 21 21 22 you on behalf of either committee, but as an 22 individual. My mentioning these committees is 23 23 to establish my background. 24 24 On moving to Holyrood some ten years ago, 25 25 Page 2 I quickly became aware of the harmful 1 1 pollutants emitting from the smoke stacks at 2 2

interrupted a Florida holiday to fly home to be part of the panel. There were many testimonials of suffering and deaths. At this meeting, everyone left the meeting with the clear understanding that the Cantox report was a discredited report and could not be relied Residents wanted scrubbers and particulate removal of equipment installed at the Holyrood facility.

A petition was circulated by the present Mayor of Holyrood as an individual in the communities of Holyrood, Seal Cove and vicinities. This petition with over 5,000 signatures was then presented to the Legislature. The former mayor of Holyrood forwarded a letter to the Provincial Minister of Environment asking that scrubbers and particulate removal equipment be installed at the Holyrood facility. Additionally, he asked that other mayors on the Avalon join him in sending letters to the Minister. Other mayors did send letters, including the former mayor of St. John's.

In 2007, an Earth Day demonstration set up by the Holyrood Environmental Care

the thermal generating station. In 2003, I believe it was, the Holyrood Town Council held a meeting to allow residents to voice their concerns. Representatives of Hydro were there and we were informed there would be a risk assessment carried out and invited residents to attend a meeting with Cantox officials who would be conducting the assessment. I won't belabour the point, but this assessment carried out for Hydro and paid for by Hydro was completely discredited on presentation to Holyrood residents.

I have since learned when Hydro/Nalcor went to the Public Utilities Board for a rate increase to burn cleaner fuel, some of the members of your Board may have said words to the effect "based on the Cantox report, why do you need cleaner fuel?"

Anyway, what did we do next? A town hall meeting in Holyrood was convened with the Provincial Minister of Environment and officials of Hydro in attendance. This meeting was so important to me that I

Committee was held in front of the Hydro sign on Route 60. It was a well attended meeting and it is worth noting the leader of the NDP party stood shoulder to shoulder with us on that day.

With the foregoing as background, as you can imagine, residents of Holyrood were delighted that the Provincial Government and Nalcor, in their 2007 Energy Report on page 38 said, and I quote "in the long term, the current level of emissions from the Holyrood facility is unacceptable" and further on page 39 said, and I quote, "in the event that the Lower Churchill Project does not proceed as anticipated, scrubbers and precipitators will be installed at the Holyrood facility."

Let me back up a bit and tell you one of the major reasons the Holyrood Thermal Generating Station is so unacceptable. The stacks at Holyrood are continually pumping harmful metals in the air. Some 50 metals including antimony, arsenic, nickel and vanadium are disbursed at Holyrood. The particulate matter from these stacks can be broken down into two groups: coarse particles

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and smaller particles, those 2.5 microns and 1 2 smaller. The coarse particles will damage your house, your car and those things, but are 3 likely to be largely filtered out before 4 invading your body. However, the fine 5 particles travel deep into your lungs causing 6 7 lung damage and premature death. 8

If you go on the internet, you will find numerous references to particulate matter. I am providing just two pages -- two references and I've attached those pages. Many more references could have been provided but these two should give you an understanding of what is involved.

There could be those listening to my remarks who will say "yes, but these harmful toxins can be found in other sources" and I agree, but I go back to the Canadian Cancer Association's statement to the effect, and I will paraphrase, if we can prove something is harmful and you are releasing this in the air, we don't have to prove you cause any particular health problem. We simply have to hold to the fact that these emissions do cause health problems and should be discontinued.

assets to service the loan. Borrowing to finance the cost of scrubbers and particulate

removal equipment at Holyrood will only add to the provincial debt without any corresponding

Page 7

Page 8

increase in revenue producing assets. 5

I'll conclude with this and hopefully it will come over right. In multi-player hockey and baseball trades, it is held that the team that obtains the best player is the team that

wins the trade. With respect to Muskrat Falls, if you substitute most believable for

best player, then I think Ed Martin, the Ed 12 Martin and Wade Locke team is the winner. 13

Thank you very much. And if you do have 14 any questions, I'd be pleased to answer them. 15

16 CHAIRMAN:

Q. Mr. O'Reilly? 17

18 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Q. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

20 CHAIRMAN:

Q. Mr. Johnson? 21

22 MR. JOHNSON:

23 Q. No questions, Mr. Swinimer. Thank you very

25 CHAIRMAN:

Page 6

Q. Madame?

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2 GREENE, Q.C.:

3 Q. No questions, Mr. Chair.

4 CHAIRMAN:

Q. Any member of the panel?

6 VICE-CHAIR WHALEN:

Q. No, thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN:

Q. Thank you very much, sir. No questions.

10 MR. SWINIMER:

11 A. May I say I'm disappointed because I would

like to ramble on, but thank you very much. 12

13 CHAIRMAN:

Q. Well, I admire your candour and your sense of 14

humour, rare commodities these days. Thank 15

vou very much. 16

17 MR. SWINIMER:

18 A. My pleasure.

19 CHAIRMAN:

Q. I think we got to adjourn for the next setup, 20

21 have we, Madame Greene?

22 GREENE, Q.C.:

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Q. Yes, we do, Mr. Chair. The next presentation 23

is scheduled for 11. It's by video-24

conferencing, so we can't start before 11 and

My appearing before you today is to ensure that you are not taken in by the politicians, bloggers and talk show participants who would have you believe that the 600 million expenditure on scrubbers and particulate removal equipment is in some way

an attempt by Nalcor to come up with another

way to justify the Muskrat Falls Project.

9 Hopefully I have convinced you that the residents of Holyrood and all of Conception 10

Bay and indeed, all of the Avalon, have fought

long and hard to have the Provincial

Government undertake to correct a long 13 standing problem. It is extremely 14

disappointing that certain people make

statements without researching the facts.

I support the Muskrat Falls development. I won't try to give you reasons. There are others better qualified to do that than me.

But I do have 33 years in banking, largely in the commercial lending field, so I know the

difference between lending money to finance deficits and lending money to finance revenue

producing assets. Borrowing to finance 24 25

Muskrat Falls will see revenue producing

1			500 500 500 500 500
	Page 9		Page 11
1	we do need a few moments to set up. So we	1	make to you about the MHI report and the
2	need to adjourn until 11.	2	reference question more generally, and in
3	(BREAK - 10:45 a.m.)	3	particular with respect to the issues of the
4	(RESUME - 11:07 a.m.)	4	application of CDM in the load forecast, some
5	CHAIRMAN:	5	comments of fuel price forecasts and on the
6	Q. Okay. I guess we're back for the electronic	6	wind power assessment that was used in
7	part of our exercise this morning and I	7	preparing options.
8	understand we've got Philip Raphals of the	8	I'm very well aware of your Terms of
9	Grand River Keeper Labrador Incorporated. Is	9	Reference and that they do not include the
10	that correct, sir? Can he hear us?	10	review of other options and I will address
11	MR. RAPHALS:	11	these issues only in the context of the
12	A. Hello there.	12	analysis of the two options that are before
13	CHAIRMAN:	13	you.
14	Q. Okay, sir. I don't think there's any	14	I would like to produce several documents
15	preliminary matters, so you're able to start.	15	that I think you'll find useful. I e-mailed
16	MR. RAPHALS:	16	them earlier and I'll mention when, when
17	A. Okay. Thank you very much. Can you hear me	17	appropriate. The first is my PowerPoint
18	alright?	18	presentation, I believe you have and I suppose
19	CHAIRMAN:	19	we should call it GRK-1, and my CV, I don't
20	Q. Perfect.	20	know if you have it yet, but I think you will
21	MR. RAPHALS:	21	shortly, GRK-2.
22	A. Good morning, Mr. Chair, members of the Panel,	22	I'd also like to mention that I did
23	Mr. Johnson. My name is Philip Raphals. I'm	23	submit a number of information requests via
24	Executive Director of the HELIOS Centre, which	24	the Consumer Advocate, none of which have yet
25	is a non-profit energy research group in	25	been answered. For me, this is an unusual
	Page 10		Page 12
1	Page 10 Montreal and I'm here on behalf of Grand River	1	Page 12 situation. I testify often before regulatory
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Page 13 Isolated Island, as well as the Interconnected case." In other words, if I may paraphrase, we know that each scenario is optimal because it was produced by a computer program whose goal is -- whose purpose is to produce optimal scenarios, and we'll talk a little bit later about the criteria under which that optimization was performed. This seems to suggest that really all we need to find an optimal scenario is the right computer software.

To see what's wrong with this view, let's imagine that the Emera agreement didn't exist and the Lower Churchill Generation Project had gone ahead as initially planned. In this imaginary world, Gull Island and Muskrat Falls have already been built. The interconnection to Quebec has been reenforced. The open access reservation on the Hydro Quebec transmission system is in force and all the energy from those two projects was presold to buyers in New York City, making lots of money for Nalcor and the government, and the island of Newfoundland remains isolated. In that world, the Isolated Island scenario is indeed

Page 14

Newfoundland's resource plan. In that imaginary world, as we approach the year 2017, fuel prices are rising, according to the reference scenario, and everything else is unfolding just as set out in that Isolated Island scenario and rates are going up with no end in sight.

So what would have happened over the next 10, 20 or 50 years? According to the Isolated Island scenario, 25 megawatts of wind would come online in 2014, Island Pond in 2015, the Holyrood upgrade starting in 2015 and so on, and rates would continue to go up as forecast. And what would all of us be doing during those years? Apparently, we would be going about our business doing other things because the optimal solution has already been defined back in 2011. Obviously that's not the way things would go.

If that were the reality and the Isolated Island was the only reality under discussion, I think there are a great many very bright people, many of whom are in this room, who'd be working very hard to find better solutions to improve that scenario and I have no doubt

that they would succeed.

So what might those solutions include? Ways to control load growth for one thing. Utilities all over the world confronted with situations where the marginal cost of serving new load are much greater than the average cost of service existing load have been doing this for years, often with great success. For example, just to take one example, given the importance of electric heating in Newfoundland's load growth, I wouldn't be surprised to see programs to promote the use of heat pumps, which though they have a very high capital cost are much more efficient than resistant heaters and reduce overall electric demand.

Page 15

Strategist and the other programs like it are very powerful tools for exploring the consequences of different actions and strategies and inputs. I'm sure they would be put to very good use in the ongoing effort to find lower cost solutions to Newfoundland's energy needs. But while it's one thing to come up with these solutions over the years in real time, it's quite another to come up with

Page 16
them all at once in advance in a plan. But

them all at once in advance in a plan. But utilities have been doing this for many years too in processes called least cost planning or integrated resource plan. These processes also start with a load forecast, a set of resource options and their costs and an optimization program. But if all we needed was the program, these processes wouldn't exist.

I think it's clear that Strategist is just the beginning. Then it takes a lot of hard work to find ways to improve the plan to make it better and more robust to deal with the many changes in inputs that will occur over the years. And this indeed is, I think, one of the most important differences between the Interconnected scenario and the Isolated Island scenario. The former has had thousands of man hours of effort put into it to perfect, optimize, reduce uncertainty as we've heard. The Isolated Island scenario remains a draft. And there's another important difference. If the Muskrat projects go ahead, we have a very good idea today what the island power system will look like in 50 years, but if it doesn't,

Page 17

we really don't because chances are the future will not unfold precisely as set out in that scenario.

It's important to emphasize that these scenarios are optimized for a given set of assumptions. MHI made this point very clearly in the closing paragraph of its executive summary, which I'd like to quote. It said "with projects of this magnitude and considering the length of the analysis period, there are risks and uncertainties associated with the key inputs and assumptions. Changes in these key inputs and assumptions will affect the financial results and must be assessed to determine materiality. These changes in key inputs and assumptions can impact the results of the analysis and shift preference for what is the least cost option."

In other words, I think what they're saying is we don't really know which option is least cost because we don't know which inputs are going to turn out to be the right ones. The problem is that all of our assumptions and hypotheses will, in the end, most likely be contradicted by reality or at least refined by

greater or lower than the reference forecast, the need dates for resources will have to be adjusted. If the economic analysis underlying the wind power limitation is modified, just to take another example, or if new integration techniques were to become available, resource choices might change.

Page 19

Page 20

Given all this, I can't help think that had the government asked you to compare the Interconnected scenario to Isolated Island scenarios, plural, rather than comparing it to the Isolated Island scenario, singular, the substantial resources devoted to this exercise would have been better spent. But I understand that is not your mandate.

That said, I find that MHI has done an excellent job of pointing out the limitations of this scenario, limitations which would indeed be overcome if it were used in the first step in an in-depth planning process. However, I find that MHI has also missed a couple of points which I will focus on in the time I have left.

One of the key issues for the Muskrat Falls Project is the pricing policy. This is

Page 18

reality as it evolves. As MHI also wrote, this is from Volume 2, page 205, fuel price forecasts have a very short shelf life.

4 (11:15 a.m.)

So the real challenge is to find a plan that is optimal, not just based on current assumptions, but that is robust over a broad range of possible futures. The challenge is to try to understand the implications of the possible twists and turns of fate and to try to avoid taking irrevocable actions that would turn out badly if reality turns out to be different from the one we thought of in our planning assumptions. Preparing such a long term strategy is an iterative process in which programs like Strategist play a very important role, but the program's output represents the beginning of the planning process, not the end.

To take one example, the Northwest Power Plan produced by the Northwest Power Planning Council took years to produce and is 300 pages long with appendices -- plus appendices.

Clearly, the Isolated Island scenario is a scenario, not a plan. If load growth is

addressed in Exhibit 36 from Nalcor and in PUB-Nalcor 46 and other documents. February 15th, this issue came up when the Consumer Advocate asked "does the 2035 ratepayer have to pay more so the ratepayer can pay less?" That's from page 18 of the transcript. In response, Mr. Goudie correctly pointed out that under a conventional cost of service arrangement, the unit cost would be highest in the initial years and lowest in later years so that people 50 years from now would pay very little, page 19. Then Mr. Bennett pointed out that under the proposed PPA, people 50 years from now would pay the same price in inflation adjusted terms as in 2017. That's on page 20. And Nalcor then explained that the different cost recovery pattern set out in CAKPL 27, revision 1, are all equivalent. And I'm going to try to show you those curves. You can see the chart on the screen? So

this is from the document I mentioned, CAKPL 27, revision 1.

24 MR. JOHNSON:

Q. He's froze.

Page 17 - Page 20

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Page 21

1 GREENE, O.C.:

- O. Excuse me, the screen has frozen here in St. John's. We're just going to check now with 3 4
 - our technical people.
- 5 MR. RAPHALS:
- A. So you don't see the graph I've put up?
- 7 GREENE, O.C.:
- Q. No, we do not see the graph and as well -
- 9 CHAIRMAN:
- 10 Q. You're seized up.
- 11 GREENE, O.C.:
- 12 Q. Yeah, you're frozen.
- 13 MR. RAPHALS:
- A. Okay. I guess that's not going to work then. 14
- I thought that it would. Okay. 15
- 16 GREENE, Q.C.:
- Q. If you just give us a moment though until --17 there we are. We're back on now. 18
- 19 MR. RAPHALS:
- A. Okay. That's good. Take it away. Let me try 20 it once more and see if we can make it work. 21
- Okay. You don't see the -- do you see the 22
- 23 graph?
- 24 GREENE, Q.C.:
- Q. No, we do not.

the whole story.

of page five, the nominal levelized union energy cost where nominal payments remain the same from beginning to end. Thus, I might make the same monthly payment of \$1,000 a month for 25 years until the principal and interest of my mortgage are paid off. In reality, there's inflation during those 25 years which means that the real value of those constant dollar payments decreases. So even though I pay a flat \$1,000 a month, it'll hurt less in 25 years because the money will be worth less and hopefully my income will be greater.

Page 23

Now what about the escalating payment plan? Since the present value is the same, the bank could offer me the option of paying the same real dollar amount per year which would translate into nominal dollar payments that increase two percent a year with inflation. It would look a lot like the lower graph on page five. It would start, of course, at less than \$1,000 a month and would increase with inflation and end up much more than \$1,000 a month. And given the choice between these two plans, how many consumers

Page 22

Page 24 would choose the second one? Not many, I think. The idea of constantly increasing mortgage payments, even if they're theoretically the same in constant dollars,

would scare most of us off.

The question that was asked on the 15th was "does the 2035 ratepayer have to pay more so that the 2017 ratepayer can pay less?" and I think the answer is that yes, he does. Future ratepayers will indeed pay much more for Muskrat Falls power under the escalating payment plan than they would with levelized payments.

Now this all assumes that Muskrat Falls is owned by a non-regulated party, Nalcor, with the power sale governed by a PPA. If it were a regulated rate base asset, the situation would be very different. In Exhibit 36, Nalcor explained why it chose a PPA over cost of service, but frankly, I don't find the explanation very convincing. Traditionally, Hydro project have been developed as rate base projects under cost of service principles, which implies higher costs in the first years that decrease dramatically over time. That's

1 MR. RAPHALS:

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to refer you for a few moments to this 3 document, CAKPL 27, revision 1, which has 4 5 three graphs showing different cost recovery patterns. And so, as I was saying, back on 6 7 the 15th Nalcor was explaining that these different patterns are all equivalent, which 8 9 is of course quite true, but it's really not

A. Okay. So I'll get rid of that. So, I'm going

From an economic perspective, the three lines shown on pages four and five of this document are all equivalent. These three curves are, first of all, nominal annual cost, then nominal LUEC and what's referred to as escalating real LUEC. They all have the same present value and are thus interchangeable, from Nalcor's point of view, but that doesn't mean that they're equivalent from the

consumers point of view. To think this through, I suggest we use the image of a mortgage, with which we're all familiar. It's not an exact analogy, but it's close enough. The typical mortgage with a

payment plan is similar to the one at the top

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why the cost of Bay D'Espoir are so low now. If it had been built under a PPA instead of cost of service, it would cost Newfoundlanders far more today.

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In the exchange quoted earlier, Mr. Bennett also said, page 21 of the transcript, "and maybe, building on that point, the customers in 2068 who have an asset whose costs are fully recovered will have a similar situation as we've seen with Bay D'Espoir" and according to the transcript, the Chair then said "I can't wait." I believe you were referring to the expectation that eventually the cost of Muskrat Falls would be as low as those of Bay D'Espoir. I'm afraid though that you will be disappointed. Under the proposed regulatory framework, Muskrat Falls may never be a low cost resource. Let me explain.

The tables provided at the end of CAKPL Nalcor 27, revision 1, allow us to better understand the proposed pricing formula, which is meant to cover both the PPA of Muskrat Falls and the actual costs of the Labrador-Island link under cost of service pricing. I've prepared a new version of this table

figures are actually in nominal dollars, not real ones. I think it's clearer to refer to it as a real LUEC expressed in nominal dollars. In other words, we've converted the nominal LUEC to real dollars, then retranslated it back into nominal dollars at a price that escalates with inflation. These are the actual prices in current dollars that

will be charged to consumers for Muskrat power

dollars a megawatt hour in 2017 and increases

delivered to the island which starts at 152

Falls and transmission link components using

the same methodology described in Nalcor's note two, which results in a levelized nominal

LUEC for Muskrat Falls of 126 dollars and that

In column seven, I have changed the

title, but not the numbers. While Nalcor

refers to this as an escalating real LUEC, I

find this a confusing notion, since the

for the transmission link of 83 dollars.

Page 27

to 409 dollars in 2067, all in column seven. In column 7a, I've indicated the total annual payments, Muskrat Falls plus the transmission link, in current dollars and in column 7b, I subtracted from that the current

Page 26

which adds a few columns that separates out these two elements, which I've sent to you and I hope you have in front of you, and let's call it GRK-3.

Now Nalcor's column five shows the nominal annual cost in dollars per megawatt hour of the whole project. This cost remains relatively constant, varying from 190 dollars to 260 dollars a megawatt hour over the life of the project. My new columns, in yellow, 5A and 5B, break down this nominal annual cost between the components, the Muskrat Falls and the transmission link components, by dividing the incremental costs of each, columns two and three, by the total energy in column one. We see that while the nominal annual cost of the transmission link falls from 147 dollars a megawatt hour at the beginning to 13 dollars at the end, the annual cost of Muskrat Falls increases from 92 dollars at the beginning to 247 dollars at the end. These combined costs are then levelized on a nominal basis in column six, resulting in a fixed nominal dollar cost of 208 dollars a megawatt hour.

Page 28 dollar payments under the Muskrat Falls PPA --

sorry, I've subtracted from that the transmission link payments from column three to produce the current dollar payments under the PPA, and then in column 7c, I've calculated the current dollar cost of Muskrat Falls power by dividing by the energy amount in column one. Column c, 7c, therefore shows the actual price paid to Nalcor for Muskrat Falls power, which starts at five dollars a megawatt hour in 2017 and rises to 396 dollars in 2067. This result, which is much more extreme than the blended results, results from mixing the PPA and COS cost and from the fact that customers have to pay the full cost of the transmission link. In either case though, the important point is that the price to be paid for Muskrat Falls power under the PPA in 2067 comes in around 400 dollars a megawatt

Now if I'm not mistaken, the cost of Muskrat Falls power under a cost of service regime have not yet been produced in this file, but this information allows us to estimate them as well. Making the simplifying

hour or 40 cents a kilowatt hour.

Again, I've broken this down into Muskrat

Page 29 assumption that the capital structure and depreciation of the two prices are the same, we can simply inflate the transmission link payments in column three to correspond to the Muskrat Falls CPW. The result, which is shown in column 8a, shows the annual current dollar payments that would be required to cover Muskrat Falls under a cost of service regime identical to the one applied to the transmission link. These costs start at 407 million dollars in 2017 and fall to 90 million dollars by 2067. Column 8b then shows this amount divided by the total energy each year which gives the unit cost in dollars per megawatt hour for Muskrat Falls under a cost of service regime. That would start at 225 dollars a megawatt hour in 2017 and fall to 20 dollars a megawatt hour by 2067. Of course, if consumers were credited with revenues of third party sales, which would be normal in a cost of service approach, the earlier cost would be lower. What this little exercise reveals, and I

What this little exercise reveals, and I apologize for all the numbers, is the real difference between cost of service and PPA

PPA proposed here. But in the case of Muskrat Falls, it's Newfoundland consumers who will be paying the escalating prices. In my view, cost of service pricing would be far better from their point of view in the long term.

Page 31

I'd now like to turn to the question of conservation and demand management as integrated into the load forecast.

In Volume 1, page 31, of MHI's report, it explains in its generic description of the generation planning process that demand side management is treated as if it were generation as it represents a reduction from the baseload forecast. The economics of DSM programs should be evaluated to ensure they make a positive contribution to the overall financial well being of the province. That's from page 31 of Volume 1 of the report.

But the approach used by NLH is very different. Section 1.8 of Volume 2 begins, and I quote, "it should be noted that the domestic forecast does not include any specific exogenous adjustment for specific CDM programs. The NLH method of capturing and estimating CDM effects is through the

Page 30

pricing. With a PPA, Muskrat Falls prices are somewhat lower at first, but 20 times higher by 2067. So Mr. Bennett was quite right. If

Muskrat Falls were subject to cost of service regulation, in 50 years it would be almost as

cheap as Bay D'Espoir. But the real question is what happens after 2067. Under cost of

service, the price would continue to decline from 20 dollars a megawatt hour down. Under

the PPA scenario though, consumers would be paying 400 dollars a megawatt hour for Muskrat

Falls power in 2067. How much will it cost in

2068? We don't know. That'll be up to the government of the day. But frankly, I'd be

surprised if the price was suddenly cut to 20

dollars because it's all been paid off. Far more likely it would continue at the levels

charged earlier, which would of course produce a windfall profit for Nalcor and its

shareholders paid from the pockets of Newfoundland consumers.

At Churchill Falls, Hydro Quebec enjoys pricing very similar to cost of service pricing and Newfoundland and Labrador certainly wish the pricing were more like the

Page 32 technological change variable contained in the regression equations." MHI then points out this variable has a coefficient of minus 35.37 meaning that the average domestic use is forecast to decline by 35.37 kilowatt hours per year for the next 20 years.

I think there are important problems with this approach. First, it assumes, for no good reason, that CDM progress is linear, gradual and inexorable. More important, it assumes that it does not depend on utility actions. In Table 17, page 34 of Volume 2, MHI compares Nalcor with three other Canadian utilities, but unfortunately, the comparison does not include the methodology for capturing and estimating CDM effects. If it did, I think you would find that the other utilities do not follow this approach.

MHI criticized Nalcor for preparing its domestic forecast using only econometric modelling techniques which it explains are not the best utility practices in this area, Volume 2, pages 20 and 39. It points out that domestic load forecast is primarily driven by electric space heat and emphasizes the

LC	51 dai y 23, 2012 Widit
	Page 33
1	developing and end use forecasting model would
2	have many benefits, including improving the
3	design of CDM programs. I find it remarkable
4	how little attention is paid in the MHI report
5	to CDM programs as such. It's clear the
6	planning methodology described by MHI is not
7	applied by Nalcor and by failing to treat CDM
8	as a resource, it's impossible to assess the
9	optimal level of investment. I suggest that
10	the forecasting methodology identified by MHI
11	using end use forecasting may be one of the
12	main reasons for the weakness of NLH's CDM
13	programs to date. MHI clearly indicated that
14	the amount of variability due to potential
15	load changes is high and could materially
16	impact the results of the CPW analysis. Given
17	the clear relationship identified by MHI
18	between future loads and the CPW differential
19	between the new scenarios of the reference
20	question, this issue goes to the heart of the
21	Board's reflections.
22	(11:30 a.m.)
23	I previously had the opportunity to look
24	in some detail at the results of NLH's and
25	Newfoundland Power's CDM programs to date.
	D 24

scenario.

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How plausible is this as a scenario? How aggressive is an objective of reducing Newfoundland's load growth by half? To help us answer this question, I think it's important to refer to the study of CDM potential carried out by Marbek Resource Consultants in 2008. I'm not sure if this document is already in this file, but I know you have a copy of it and if it's not, I will ask you to record it in the file as GRK-4. It was filed in response to PUB Order PU-8 in 2007 which required NLH to file it, as well as a five-year plan for implementing CDM programs in 2008.

Page 35

The summary of the study findings, on page nine, identifies the upper and lower limits of achievable savings by the year 2026 at 951 and 556 gigawatt hours a year. This table is also found on page 25 of Nalcor's submission. According to the last page of Exhibit 43, the 50 percent reduction scenario would imply a reduction of 453 gigawatt hours by 2026. In other words, the one plausible CDM scenario explored by Nalcor is only 81

Page 34

This was last year. In the third year of their five-year joint CDM plan, they had accomplished less than half of the savings forecast for that date and CDM's funding through 2010 was also very much lower than planned. Surprisingly, the MHI report is silent about this. Why is this so important? Because as MHI has indicated, the perceived CPW difference between the infeed and the isolated island scenarios is very sensitive to load growth, which of course means load growth net of CDM.

Page 36 percent of the lower limit of achievable savings for 2026 identified by NLH's consultant in 2008. It can thus be thought of as a model of a modest CDM program.

Furthermore, there's good reason to believe that Marbek's estimates are conservative in today's context for the simple reason that they're based on 2008 avoided costs of under ten cents a kilowatt hour. That's on page four of the Marbek study. Given the data currently before us concerning the operating costs of Holyrood, the avoided costs for an updated CDM study would be obviously much higher, probably closer to 15 cents. The higher the avoided costs, the more conservation measures are cost effective and the greater incentive for consumers to participate in them. Thus, it's virtually certain that if Marbek were to update the study today, the achievable potential figures would increase.

I conclude from all this that MHI's study failed to properly take into consideration the impacts on load growth of a properly designed and executed portfolio of CDM programs over

We saw in Exhibit 43, revision 1, several load growth sensitivities. The first two of them, I think, are not particularly plausible, but the third one is important. The third one, scenario C, suggests that cutting the growth rate in half over the entire planning period would reduce the CPW difference by almost two-thirds, from two billion dollars to 763 million. This is a huge reduction. If coupled with other plausible scenarios, such as cost overruns or fuel price growth lower than forecast, it could certainly result in reversing the CPW advantage of the infeed

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the planning period. Had it done so, the CPW advantage of the infeed scenario would be greatly decreased, if not eliminated, even before considering other sensitivities.

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The fundamental problem here is that Nalcor's generation planning methodology is just that, a generation planning methodology. Back in 2007, in PU-8, the Board very properly, in my view, found that "an IRP, an integrated resource plan, undertaken as part of a generic process, as described in Order PU-14 from 2004, is an important planning tool and would enhance the information available to the Board and other parties regarding future generation and supply options of the province," page 60. Earlier on the same page, the Board quotes PU-14 from 2004 to say "implementation of integrated resource planning may present sound opportunities for coordinated planning and improved regulation involving both utilities. This process brings together strategic planning, future supply and demand, least cost analysis, demand side management options and environmental considerations."

also takes into account reductions of customer costs resulting from reduced electricity use.

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Page 40

To expand a bit more on this, I'd refer you to a recent study by the Regulatory Assistance Project in the US which states, and quote from page 73, "the goal of an IRP is to identify the least cost resource mix for the utility and its consumers. Least cost in this case means lowest total cost over the planning horizon given the risks faced. The best resource mix is typically the one that remains cost effective across a wide range of futures and sensitivity cases, the most robust alternative, and that also minimized the adverse environmental consequences associated with its execution." I have submitted to you an excerpt from this study, as well as the title page and table of contents, which I would like to label GRK-5.

Once again, you must distinguish between the generation scenario optimized on the basis of cost only on the one hand and a robust plan on the other. The isolated island scenario, I think, is a clear example of the former. Constitutes an important input in the

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Indeed, the generation planning methodology used by Nalcor explicitly excludes these last two elements, demand side management options and environmental considerations. On this last point, I'd refer you to MHI Nalcor 41, revision 1, which states "the chosen resource plans (generation expansion plans) were selected on the minimization of revenue requirement, Model S the minimization of utility cost objective function. As there was only one objective function used, it's weighting was 100 percent. There were no objectives tied together, only one objection function was used." That states clearly that the scenarios and particularly the Isolated Island scenario were based on cost minimization only, without taking into account other aspects.

As I'm sure you're well aware, energy efficiency programs are generally measured by a number of tests, most important of which is the total resource cost test, which measures the total cost to a society of the measure, not just the cost to the utility, thus unlike a minimization of utility cost function, it

development of a plan but should not be confused with a result.

I'd like to turn now briefly to the question of fuel price forecasts. I simply want to emphasize to you that fuel price forecasts are highly uncertain and is volatile, as I'm sure you already know. I believe the PIRA high and low forecasts were not made public, so to get an idea of the extent of the spread between such forecasts, I had to look to other sources. I've reproduced -- I meant to put it on the screen, but that's not working, but it's on my slides on page six, I believe. The fuel price forecast from the Northwest Power Planning Council 2009 power plan. By the way, I strongly recommend the NPPC as a reference for integrated resource planning methodologies.

As you can see, the high scenario shows prices more than twice as great as the low scenario, 120 dollars a barrel versus dollars in 2030. As MHI wrote in their report, these forecasts have a short shelf life. While they're a necessary evil, it's not a good idea to bet the farm that this

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year's fuel forecasts will come true.

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The next page of my slides, entitled EIA retrospective review, comes from a document put together by the Energy Information Agency in the US and its a summary and review of the accuracy of their own fuel price forecasts going back to 1982 and I've e-mailed the original document, one page that you see there, which we'll call GRK-6.

To summarize the results, to read this all of the blue numbers are over forecasts and the green numbers are under forecast and the numbers refer to the percent of over or under forecast. Again, if you have the full page version, it'll be easier to read. But to summarize it, you'll see that in the top left corner, the top and left parts of the chart are all blue and that's because from 1982 all the way to 1985, 1982 to '85, the EIA's forecasts were dramatically too high, over 100 percent. From '86 to 1995, they were still dramatically too high by 35 percent on average. But then, for the next ten years, from 1996 to 2005, they were uniformly and regularly too low, 32 percent on average.

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What's particularly interesting about this is that the errors aren't random.

They're systematic. We don't see a mix of green and blue in this chart.

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5 CHAIRMAN:

Q. That's interesting.

7 MR. RAPHALS:

A. When they started over forecasting, they 9 continued to do it for many years. Which means that the forecasters were not just a 10 little bit off, they were systematically wrong 11 in the same direction for years on end. For 12 over a decade, they consistently over forecast 13 oil prices and from 1995 until today, they've 14 15 consistently under forecast them. Unfortunately, that's doesn't mean that 16 today's forecasts are necessarily under 17 forecasts. We may well be at the point where 18 19 lows switches to high. It simply means that there is a very substantial chance that 20 today's forecasts will be wrong and that they 21 may be significantly wrong, and unfortunately, 22 we really don't know in which direction. That 23 needs to be kept in mind in evaluating 24

fuel price forecasts.

And now I'd like to move to my last subject which is the wind power assessment, the wind power component of the Isolated Island scenario. In Section 11.3 of Volume 2 of its report, MHI explains that it relied on Nalcor's 2004 assessment of the limitations for non-dispatchable generation, which is Exhibit 61, which in turn recommends an upper limit of 80 megawatts for wind. I was surprised to see that MHI did no analysis or commentary on this study. It simply affirmed that the 80 megawatt limit is reasonable.

Page 43

Page 44

In its submission on page 74, Nalcor explains that this study "established two limits regarding the possible level of wind generation integration on the Isolated Island system, an economic limit and a maximum technical limit." The economic limit is that over--above 80 megawatts, according to the 2004 study, there would be a significant increase in the risk of spill from the hydro reservoirs. With an additional 20 megawatts of wind resulting in an increase in expected spill from 9 to 19 gigawatt hours a year, with

a cost of 1.3 million dollars, and the technical limit could result and could require the curtailment of wind down to 130 megawatts during periods of light load. To avoid incurring these costs, NLH recommended limiting installed wind power to 80 megawatts. Obviously, hydro spillage and wind curtailment are to be avoided as much as possible, but in an economic analysis, it's the bottom line that counts. So I think we need to look a little bit closer at this issue.

First let's start with the cost of wind Nalcor's submission, somewhat surprisingly, relies on a pamphlet by the Pembina Institute in Albert NGO, to state the cost of onshore wind is 8 to 10 cents a kilowatt hour, pointing you the good wind sites on the island are at the lower end of this range. In fact, based on our studies and on data from the Canadian Wind Atlas, we estimated that wind costs on the island could be much lower, as low as \$66.00 a megawatt hour. That same dataset suggests that the capacity factor for island wind developments could be as high as 45 percent. In other

scenarios where key components are based on

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words, what we knew already, Newfoundland's wind resource is dramatically better than the average Canadian resources on which that 8 to 10 cent estimate is based.

Put together, this means that an additional 20 megawatts of installed wind capacity would produce 79 gigawatt hours a year at a cost of 5.2 million dollars, and that's a levelized cost. Now let's accept Hydro's conclusion that doing this would indeed result in increasing spillage, and let's charge all the spillage to the wind project. So there'd be a cost of 1.3 million dollars additional, and let's charge that to the wind project too. The result is we have almost 80 gigawatt hours for a total of 6.5 million dollars or about \$82.00 a megawatt hour, net the spillage. This is not to be sneezed at compared to the cost of either Muskrat Falls with transmission or Holyrood.

Of course, it goes without saying, and I know this has been discussed in earlier sessions, that you can't run a power system on wind alone, back up power is essential. Whether it can consist of the existing

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Holyrood Plant, a re-fired Holyrood, or some other combination of resources, is not an issue here since we're limited to examining the isolated island scenario, but, of course, in a future planning process, I presume these questions will be explored in detail.

As for the technical limit, the Nalcor submission states that for wind generation above 130 megawatts, it would not always be possible to maintain system stability during periods of light load, and during these periods wind generation would have to be curtailed, again reducing the economic benefit of additional wind generation. What this really means is the technical limit is an economic limit as well, and the curtailment is the solution. Obviously, wind generators don't like curtailment any more than hydro operators like spillage. Since the underlying energy is free, it hurts to throw it away, but sometimes system operations do require that. In areas with open wholesale markets, wind generators are now frequently required to curtail generation when so required. If new wind generation is economic, taking into

account the cost of curtailment and spillage, there's no reason to exclude it.

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Finally, it's important to mention that the 2004 study itself made very clear that it was a preliminary investigation. I quote, I think this is from page four of the study, "However, given the preliminary nature of this investigation, it would be prudent to further limit the initial quantities of wind generation into the system. Consideration should be given to a step-wise pattern of increased penetration levels over a number of years to gain direct operating experience with the technology and its integration into the island system. This would allow Hydro to further define the opportunities and constraints associated with the resource without subjecting customers to undue expense or power quality issues. As well, it would allow the industry to arrive at possible solutions, which along with the experience gained by Hydro, may permit penetration levels beyond those currently identified". Indeed the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador seems to continue to be interested in the

possibility of increasing wind penetration beyond the levels identified in the 2004 study. A request for proposals was recently issued by the Department of Natural Resources concerning onshore wind in Phase 2 of its Energy Innovation Roadmap process. I would like to enter that document into the record as well as GRK 7.

For onshore wind, one of the areas to be included in the roadmap is identified as grid inflexibility and integration. On page 8, the RFP states, "The ability of the grid to absorb higher penetrations of intermittent wind energy is a function of the flexibility of other generation supply, interconnection, customer loads, and the availability of electricity storage facilities. This is particularly challenging for Newfoundland and Labrador, given the absence of these features at the present time". One of the work products requested in this RFP is, page 9, "To assess the flexibility of existing generation capacity in Newfoundland and Labrador, particularly with respect to the integration of a significant amount of variable

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place.

Page 49 generation, e.g. wind power". The consultant 1 is also asked to, "recommend options and 2 technologies that could improve the 3 flexibility of the existing generating 4 facilities, to recommend options which could 5 6 lead to the development of new concepts for 7 the techno-economic integration of high wind penetration systems featuring hydro and 8 possibly gas and storage facilities, and to 9 10 recommend options for the development of power management strategies and system designs that 11 are tolerant of high proportions of wind 12 generated power and the consequence 13 fluctuations in energy supply, by providing 14 mechanisms such as storage loads of wide area 15 16 balancing that provide grid stability despite unpredictable supply characteristics". 17 Read together, the 2004 study and the 18 19

2012 RFP make it very clear that the 80 megawatt limit is not only preliminary, but that significant effort is underway as we speak to overcome it. While it may be prudent today to limit wind penetration to megawatts, it is, I think, not at all reasonable to assume that this limit will

solutions very different from the ones set out in the Terms of Reference. To me, that makes the reference question largely academic. Even if you were to find in the 2 billion dollar CPW difference between the two scenarios is accurate, that finding is of little significance in relation to the underlying question of whether or not the Muskrat Falls

commenters, you have ample reason to suggest

that given the many assumptions underlying the

isolated island scenario, in particular, and

the great uncertainties surrounding these

parameters, that that scenario is unlikely to

be realized precisely as defined in the Terms

of Reference. In other words, in the event

that the Muskrat Falls Project does not go

ahead, there's no reason to believe that this

If the Muskrat Falls Projects do not go

to evolve and will undoubtedly lead to

forward, your planning processes will continue

particular scenario will ever be put into

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Projects are in the public interest for the 23 people of Newfoundland and Labrador. 24

That concludes my comments. If you have

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remain in place for the next decade, much less for the next 50 years. Thus, it is incorrect to conclude that the isolated island scenario

includes the economically optimal level of on island wind generation.

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To conclude, normally I would conclude a presentation like this by suggesting a decision that I would make if I were in the regulator's shoes. In this case, this is particularly difficult because of the nature of the reference question. You've been asked whether or not the Muskrat Falls project represents the least cost option compared to the isolated island option, as defined in your Terms of Reference. On one level, that involves verifying that the costs attributed to each option are correct and that it appears that your consultants have done excellent work in this regard. On a deeper level, though, it also involves verifying that these scenarios make sense, though not going so far as to suggest that they might be changed. This is a

delicate line to walk and I don't envy you the

task. That said, I think that between MHI's

comments and mine, and those of other

questions, I'll be delighted to respond. 1 2

Thank you very much for your attention.

3 CHAIRMAN:

Q. Sir, do you have any questions?

5 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Q. No. Just for clarification from Mr. Raphals,

7 Mr. Raphals, my name is Tom O'Reilly, and I'm

counsel for Nalcor. Can you hear me? Can you 8

hear me, Mr. Raphals?

10 MR. RAPHALS:

11 A. Just barely.

12 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Q. I'm doing the best I can here. Any better?

14 MR. RAPHALS:

A. Okay, yeah, that's a little better.

16 O'REILLY, O.C.:

Q. Oh, good, okay. I just want -17

18 MR. RAPHALS:

A. Who's speaking?

20 O'REILLY, O.C.:

21 Q. My name is Tom O'Reilly, and I'm counsel for

Nalcor Energy.

23 MR. RAPHALS:

22

A. Thank you.

25 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Multi-Page TM **February 23, 2012** Page 53 Page 55 Q. I just wanted to bring you back to the slide 1 1 MR. RAPHALS: 2 presentation. We don't have the benefit of A. I believe so, yes. I'm reading it the same way you are. I don't have any intimate your written text that you read from, but we 3 3 do have reproduced a series of copies of knowledge of this document. 4 4 slides, and we've been trying to follow that 5 5 O'REILLY, Q.C.: as you go through your written text, but can Q. Mr. Chairman, I think that's all I have. I 6 6 you just flip over to page six of your slides was just interested, and again, I'm sorry, I 7 7 8 there. I just wanted to clarify - do you have 8 have had very little time to look at this, but that in front of you? I was looking at your CV and your educational 9 10 MR. RAPHALS: 10 background. A. That's the fuel price forecasts page? 11 MR. RAPHALS: 11 12 O'REILLY, Q.C.: A. Yes. 12 Q. Yes, okay. 13 O'REILLY, O.C.: Q. And I was just curious because am I correct, 14 MR. RAPHALS: A. Yes. you have a B.A., cum laude, in Philosophy, 15 15 16 O'REILLY, Q.C.: 16 from Yale? Q. This is forecast prepared by NWPPC. That is 17 MR. RAPHALS: 17 the Northwest Power Planning Council, is that A. Yes, that's right. 18 19 correct? 19 O'REILLY, Q.C.: Q. I'm not familiar with the Degree, M.M. that 20 MR. RAPHALS: 20 you got from Boston University in 1976. What 21 A. Yes, that's right. 21 22 O'REILLY, Q.C.: 22 is that? Q. Okay, and are they in the business of 23 MR. RAPHALS: 23 forecasting fuel prices? 24 A. That's a Masters in Music. 25 MR. RAPHALS: 25 O'REILLY, Q.C.: Page 54 Page 56 A. They're in the business of forecasting - of Q. A Masters in Music, okay. That's fine, that's 1 1 2 planning the power system for the Northwestern 2 fine. United States. 3 MR. RAPHALS: 3 A. In an earlier life, I was a professional 4 O'REILLY, O.C.: Q. Okay. cellist. 6 MR. RAPHALS: 6 O'REILLY, Q.C.: A. And the fuel forecasts, I didn't check to see Q. Good, Yo Yo Ma. 7 what their source is. I didn't dare submit 8 MR. RAPHALS: 8 the document either, it's hundreds of pages, A. Yes, a wonderful musician. 9 but certainly it's available on the internet. 10 O'REILLY, Q.C.: 10 11 You're welcome to -11 Q. Good for you. I don't think I have anything. We will address any issues involving what we 12 O'REILLY, O.C.: 12 consider to be errors of factual assumptions Q. Well, I think we're all gratified for that. 13 13 The other thing, on the left hand side of the and a response in our written submission that 14 14 margin, do I understand that this graph will be filed with the Board, Mr. Chairman. 15 15 portrays 2006 dollars? 16 MR. JOHNSON: 16 17 MR. RAPHALS: 17 Q. I just have, if I could, a question to clarify something, Mr. Raphals, and as you're probably 18

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20 MR. RAPHALS:

23 MR. JOHNSON:

A. Yes, apparently it does. 18

19 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Q. Okay. Is that correct? 20

21 MR. RAPHALS:

A. Yes.

23 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

24 Q. If we read it that way, we would be

interpreting it correctly? 25

Q. Yes, I'll certainly try. As you're aware can you hear me now?

speak closer to the microphone?

aware, Manitoba Hydro International -

A. I'm sorry, I can't hear you very well. Can you

Page 57 I MR. RAPHALS: A. Yes, that's better, thanks. MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Manitoba Hydro International has compared the cumulative present worth of each of the two options presented to the Board for that as regards the preference for the in-feed option over the isolated island option, Manitoba Hydro has said that whether a PPA is used or whether a cost of service methodology is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed option over the isolated option is not usignificantly affected. Do you agree with MHI's conclusion in that regard? Page 1 than what the total costs are. MR. JOHNSON: MR. RAPHALS: MR. JOHNSON:
2 A. Yes, that's better, thanks. 3 MR. JOHNSON: 4 Q. Okay. Manitoba Hydro International has 5 compared the cumulative present worth of each 6 of the two options presented to the Board for 7 study in this reference. My understanding is 8 that as regards the preference for the in-feed 9 option over the isolated island option, 10 Manitoba Hydro has said that whether a PPA is 11 used or whether a cost of service methodology 12 is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed 13 option over the isolated option is not 14 significantly affected. Do you agree with 15 MHI's conclusion in that regard? 16 MR. RAPHALS: 2 MR. JOHNSON: 3 Q. Just to question and clarify for people who 4 are going to be - 5 MR. RAPHALS: 6 A. I'm sorry, I can't hear you, sir. 7 MR. JOHNSON: 8 Q. Just to clarify for people who are reading the 9 transcript, MHI has indicated that in their 10 judgment the use of CPW, Cumulative Present 11 Worth, is a legitimate measure of determining 12 what is the least cost between these two study 13 options, and would you agree with MHI in that 14 regard? 15 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
3 MR. JOHNSON: 4 Q. Okay. Manitoba Hydro International has 5 compared the cumulative present worth of each 6 of the two options presented to the Board for 7 study in this reference. My understanding is 8 that as regards the preference for the in-feed 9 option over the isolated island option, 10 Manitoba Hydro has said that whether a PPA is 11 used or whether a cost of service methodology 12 is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed 13 option over the isolated option is not 14 significantly affected. Do you agree with 15 MHI's conclusion in that regard? 16 MR. RAPHALS: 16 MR. RAPHALS: 3 Q. Just to question and clarify for people who 4 are going to be - 5 MR. RAPHALS: 6 A. I'm sorry, I can't hear you, sir. 7 MR. JOHNSON: 8 Q. Just to clarify for people who are reading the 9 transcript, MHI has indicated that in their 10 judgment the use of CPW, Cumulative Present 11 Worth, is a legitimate measure of determining 12 what is the least cost between these two study 13 options, and would you agree with MHI in that 14 regard? 15 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
4 Q. Okay. Manitoba Hydro International has 5 compared the cumulative present worth of each 6 of the two options presented to the Board for 7 study in this reference. My understanding is 8 that as regards the preference for the in-feed 9 option over the isolated island option, 10 Manitoba Hydro has said that whether a PPA is 11 used or whether a cost of service methodology 12 is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed 13 option over the isolated option is not 14 significantly affected. Do you agree with 15 MHI's conclusion in that regard? 16 MR. RAPHALS: 16 MR. RAPHALS: 16 MR. RAPHALS: 17 MR. JOHNSON: 8 Q. Just to clarify for people who are reading the 9 transcript, MHI has indicated that in their 10 judgment the use of CPW, Cumulative Present 11 what is the least cost between these two study 12 option over the isolated option is not 13 options, and would you agree with MHI in that 14 regard? 15 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
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study in this reference. My understanding is that as regards the preference for the in-feed option over the isolated island option, Manitoba Hydro has said that whether a PPA is used or whether a cost of service methodology is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed option over the isolated option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI's conclusion in that regard? MR. JOHNSON: R Q. Just to clarify for people who are reading the present in their what is a legitimate measure of determining what is the least cost between these two study options, and would you agree with regard? MHI's conclusion in that regard? MR. JOHNSON: R Q. Just to clarify for people who are reading the present use of CPW, Cumulative Present what is the least cost between these two study options, and would you agree with MHI in that regard? MR. JOHNSON: R Q. Just to clarify for people who are reading the provide that in their provide that in their provide that is the least cost between these two study options, and would you agree with MHI in that regard? MR. RAPHALS: MR. RAPHALS: A. I would not dispute that statement.
that as regards the preference for the in-feed option over the isolated island option, Manitoba Hydro has said that whether a PPA is used or whether a cost of service methodology is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed option over the isolated option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI's conclusion in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI's conclusion in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI in that regard? Multiply affected option is not significantly affected. And I would not dispute that statement.
option over the isolated island option, Manitoba Hydro has said that whether a PPA is used or whether a cost of service methodology is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed option over the isolated option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI's conclusion in that regard? METABLES: The transcript, MHI has indicated that in their judgment the use of CPW, Cumulative Present Worth, is a legitimate measure of determining what is the least cost between these two study options, and would you agree with MHI in that regard? MRI. RAPHALS: A. I would not dispute that statement.
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11 used or whether a cost of service methodology 12 is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed 13 option over the isolated option is not 14 significantly affected. Do you agree with 15 MHI's conclusion in that regard? 16 MR. RAPHALS: 18 Worth, is a legitimate measure of determining 19 what is the least cost between these two study 10 options, and would you agree with 11 regard? 11 Worth, is a legitimate measure of determining 12 what is the least cost between these two study 13 options, and would you agree with 14 regard? 15 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
is used, the CPW preference of the in-feed option over the isolated option is not significantly affected. Do you agree with MHI's conclusion in that regard? MHI's conclusion in that regard? MR. RAPHALS: 12 what is the least cost between these two study options, and would you agree with MHI in that regard? 15 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
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14 significantly affected. Do you agree with 15 MHI's conclusion in that regard? 16 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
15 MHI's conclusion in that regard? 15 MR. RAPHALS: 16 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
16 MR. RAPHALS: 16 A. I would not dispute that statement.
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17 A. Well, yes, I do, because the - the difference 17 MR. JOHNSON:
between the two depends on how you pay for it, 18 Q. I just wanted to clarify your position. Thank
whereas the CPW refers to the cost of the 19 you very much for the presentation.
20 installations. So CPW is looking at the - you 20 MR. RAPHALS:
know, the present value or present worth cost 21 A. Okay. If I could just add one thing as well.
of these two options compared to each other 22 I should have mentioned it earlier. The Table
regardless of who pays for them or how or 23 I prepared, the one with the yellow columns,
when. The difference between the PPA and the 24 obviously I'm manipulating figures coming from
cost for service is a question of who pays for 25 Nalcor, and if Nalcor sees errors in that, or
Page 58 Page
them, when, and how, and how much. 1 would like - I'd be very interested in their
2 MR. JOHNSON: 2 directions. Thank you.
3 Q. But CP - 3 GREENE, Q.C.:
4 MR. RAPHALS: 4 Q. No questions, Mr. Chair.
5 A. I agree they're two different questions. 5 CHAIRMAN:
6 MR. JOHNSON: 6 Q. Anybody - well, I think - thank you very much,
7 Q. But the CPW is aimed at determining what the 7 sir. I don't think there's any further
8 least cost is. 8 questions. So we thank you for your
9 MR. RAPHALS: 9 participation.
10 A. Well, the CPW is the cost of each option for a 10 MR. RAPHALS:
given set of assumptions, and the 11 A. Thank you very much for your time.
sensitivities that they've examined show that 12 O'REILLY, Q.C.:
each time you change an assumption, the 13 Q. Thank you.
differential changes in some cases very 14 CHAIRMAN:
dramatically. 15 Q. And I guess there's no further matters, is
16 MR. JOHNSON: 16 there? Are there any further procedural
17 Q. I understand that, but is - 17 matters you wish to bring before us?
18 MR. RAPHALS: 18 GREENE, Q.C.:
19 A. I try to point out that I think that they 19 Q. Yes, there are, Mr. Chair.
20 could have gone farther in analysing the 20 CHAIRMAN:
impacts on that difference of a more thorough 21 Q. Okay.
22 sets of CDM options. I think that's a real 22 UNKNOWN SPEAKER:
hakuna in their study, but again whether it's Q. The audio feed and everything is gone now.
paid up front, whether it's paid - you know, 24 GREENE, Q.C.:
25 how it gets paid is a very different question 25 Q. Yeah, but you can see me now, which we don't

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need. 1

2 CHAIRMAN:

- What's wrong with that? 3 O.
- 4 GREENE, Q.C.:
- I prefer not to watch myself on TV. 5
- 6 MR. JOHNSON:
 - It wasn't a problem until then. O.
- 8 (12:00 p.m.)
- 9 GREENE, Q.C.:

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Yes, Mr. Chair, there's a few process We have now completed the matters. presentation part of the public consultation, and there are a few matters that we wanted to discuss and raise with the panel as this is our last opportunity to be together in this process.

The first relates to comments. As I have mentioned before, the Board welcomes all public comments with respect to the reference and the Terms of Reference before the panel. The deadline for comments is the 29th of February. As we have indicated in our notice and in the information on the website, the individual posting the comments identity will be protected. In terms of when the comments

number have been filed since the hearing process began, and approximately 55 have been filed since February 10th. So there are a number outstanding, and I would ask Nalcor to speak to the status of the outstanding requests for information to them. Before they do, I would advise that there were 19 requests for information filed of MHI. I anticipate that those responses will be filed later today or by tomorrow at the latest. So I would ask Nalcor to respond to the status of the outstanding requests for information that have not yet been answered, and wonder if they can provide us with an update at this time as to when they expect the responses to be filed. 16 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Yes, Counsel, Mr. Chair, members of the Q. Panel, the - I think by our count there are 94 RFIs that have to be responded to. Those remain outstanding. We expect that we will have 19 of those filed by tomorrow, and the others are currently a work in progress. As you can appreciate, some of these were received in the course of these proceedings and our resources have been somewhat

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are posted, only initials will be used.

However, in posting the comments, the

3 individual must identify their identity to the

Board to ensure the integrity of the process 4

with respect to the comments. So all comments 5

with respect to the Terms of Reference should

be posted at any time between now and the

close of business on the 29th of February. If

anyone has any additional questions about

that, they should contact the Board Secretary,

Ms. Cheryl Blundon.

The next item I would like to address is the issue of the outstanding requests for information. As of today, the Consumer Advocate, I believe, has had 270 requests for information. In terms of the process, now that the process has been completed, I wanted to advise the parties listening on the webcast that the Board has determined that all RFIs must be filed by the close of business on this Friday. There will be no requests for information filed after this Friday, tomorrow, which is February 24th. The next then is the issue of the

responses to the requests for information. A

Page 64 challenged by trying to deal with answering those RFIs and at the same time dealing with the process of the hearing itself.

Next week we, of course, have a deadline to put our written submission and there's a fair bit of work to do on that because we have to incorporate those things we heard, including some of the things we heard this morning. So it's proposed that over the next - we anticipate that we will be able to have all of those filed, everything completed not later than March 9th, and I think that given what we have been provided with in this case, and I can appreciate my learned friend has identified some that he regards as being more critical than others for a response, and he's advised us of those and we're taking those and putting those to the fore to get answers to those - responses to those RFIs done, you know, out of sync - out of timing to accommodate his request. So I can tell you that at the outside we would have everything completed not later than Friday, the 9th of March. 25 GREENE, Q.C.:

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1 Q. Mr. Johnson, do you have any com	ment with 1	advised that of the 19 for MHI, I believe 18
2 respect to the receipt of responses		were proposed by Mr. Raphals, or 18 of the 19,
3 Nalcor?	3	and as I indicated earlier, the responses from
4 MR. JOHNSON:	4	MHI will be filed if not by later this
5 Q. No, as - I think as Mr. O'Reilly indic	eated, I 5	afternoon, then by tomorrow at the latest. So
6 have communicated with him and c		that will be at least some of the RFIs posed
7 Counsel on the batch of questions	^	by Mr. Raphals.
8 wanted brought to the fore, so that I		MR. JOHNSON:
9 have them for the purpose of my		Q. Okay.
10 submission.	-	GREENE, Q.C.:
11 O'REILLY, Q.C.:	11	Q. And they were - we received them late last
12 Q. We're going to try to accommodate t	hat.	Thursday, the 16th of February. Unfortunately,
13 MR. JOHNSON:	13	we got them after MHI had left to catch their
14 Q. Yes. So I'm content that they are pu	t to the 14	plane. The next point then - so the schedule
15 fore.	15	then for RFIs shall be all RFIs must be filed
16 O'REILLY, Q.C.:	16	by tomorrow, February 24th, with all responses
17 Q. Yeah, yeah.	17	in from Nalcor by March 9th, with the
18 MR. JOHNSON:	18	exception that those identified by the
19 Q. So I accept them at that.	19	Consumer Advocate as required for the purpose
20 GREENE, Q.C.:	20	of his submission, Nalcor will do everything
21 Q. As has been mentioned, the normal p	process, of	possible to have those replied to in advance
course, is to have the record complete		of March 9th and as soon as possible.
written submissions. This, however,		The next issue then as the tidy up issue
24 an unusual process, not the normal re		relates to outstanding undertakings from the
process, and in light of the number		hearing. The Board Secretary has distributed
	Page 66	Page 68
that have come in in the last two w	_	a List of Undertakings. Three are outstanding
believe, Mr. Chair, that March 9th		at this point in time. The first relates to
reasonable date, subject to, as Mr. J		the analysis completed on the adequacy of
4 has just pointed out, he has identified		system integration studies. The next relates
5 RFIs that he would like responses to p		to the value of all tenders, contracts, work
6 that to assist him in writing his subm		packages, as shown in the Nalcor website on a
7 for the 2nd, and I understand Nalc		particular date. The last relates to the
8 undertaken to do that, so -	8	internal number Nalcor is using for
9 O'REILLY, Q.C.:	9	participation in energy projects for the price
10 Q. We're sensitive to that, yeah.	10	of oil for its investment purposes. So I
11 GREENE, Q.C.:	11	would ask Mr. O'Reilly, on behalf of Nalcor,
12 Q. In my view, the proposed response to		to address those three outstanding RFIs and
is satisfactory.	13	where they are in terms of responding.
14 MR. JOHNSON:		O'REILLY, Q.C.:
15 Q. Just a point too, and perhaps I should		Q. Yes, thank you. Mr. Chairman, the first
raised it, Mr. Raphals is correct, ther		undertaking identified on page two which
questions put to me and I put them		remains outstanding deals with the total value
record, I think the day that I receive		of the tenders and contracts that were
request, but again that was during -		identified on the Nalcor website that was the
few days ago, or the 16th, I believe,	·	position - we will have a response to that by
21 think there's been questions asked sin		tomorrow, to file a response. With respect to
but that's when, I think, those were		the second last - on February 16th
the record for Mr.Raphals.	22 23	undertakings dealing with the issue of the
24 GREENE, Q.C.:	23	analysis done by Nalcor on the system
1	24	integration we'll have a response for that

integration, we'll have a response for that,

Q. And on that point, I would point - I have been

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1	I'm told, by Tuesday. We will be able to file	
2	something by Tuesday. The last undertaking is	
3	somewhat problematic, and I can assure you one	
4	thing, that information is way above my pay	
5	scale and I submit this, that this really	
6	engages - to the extent that such a number	
7	exists, really a discussion in this forum	
8	about a matter that Nalcor would regard, I	
9	think, and reasonably so, as confidential	
10	information, and so in an effort to deal with	
11	that, I don't think that dealing with	
12	confidential information in this forum is	
13	consistent with that idea of confidential -	
14	keeping confidential information confidential.	
15	I would propose that we would file an answer	
16	on that as a confidential exhibit, as a	
17	confidential response, with the designation	
18	and determination that the matter is	
19	confidential. I can tell you, we will have an	

1 O'REILLY, O.C.:

Q. That's fine, in response to the undertakings.

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3 GREENE, Q.C.:

Q. Yes.

5 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Q. Yes, okay, that's understood.

7 GREENE, O.C.:

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Q. Okay, the last point then to raise today relates to a request that when Mr. Vardy presented earlier this week, he asked during his presentation, and then followed up with a

formal request to the Board, to file as part 12 of the record the report of the Joint Review 13

14 Panel on the Lower Churchill Generation 15

Project that was released in August of 2011.

At this time, I thought that we should ask the 16 parties who are here today if they have any 17

position or any comment they wish to make with

respect to the request to file that particular 19 report as part of the record in this 20

proceedings, which would then be available for

22 review by the Commissioners.

23 MR. JOHNSON:

Q. I guess the view I take of it, I don't feel strongly one way or the other. I mean if

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of oil, those two things are completely different, but at any rate, I think the proper forum in which to do that, the proper

procedure for us to follow would be to file a

issue on the relevancy of the thing because

analysis of what the risks are associated with

investing a certain sum of money, and a floor

price below which you start to lose money as

opposed to forward looking and what the price

one is related to the cost of the - an

confidential response to that in a confidential capacity for the Board's

7 consideration.

8 GREENE, O.C.:

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Q. And the timing on that response would be? 10 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

11 Q. We can have that for Tuesday.

12 GREENE, O.C.:

13 Q. Okay. Mr. Chair, based on the responses, I just wanted to point out a caveat to the 14 15 previous schedule we just discussed on all RFIs being due tomorrow. As I've indicated to 16 17 Nalcor before, depending on the responses that are filed to those undertakings, we may have 18 19 additional RFIs, which of course we can't have by tomorrow if we don't get the responses by 20 21 tomorrow. So I did want to point out that 22 there may be additional RFIs coming from the Board with - or from the Consumer Advocate 23 24 with respect to that new information that will 25 be filed by Nalcor.

someone wants the Board to have a document, if 1 2 the Board would find it useful for the purpose 3 of answering the question, I mean, it - it certainly hasn't played a role so far in the 4 5 number of requests and exhibits and MHI analysis, but I don't really have a firm 6 7 position on it one way or the other, to be 8 honest with you.

9 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

Q. Well, you know, I share - I guess I have a concern when you take a report prepared by a panel which was constituted under legislation, environmental legislation, provincial and federal, and they have a particular mandate, and then you take that report which has not formed a part of any of the discussion or analysis in these proceedings, and then just file it and leave it unexplained or without the person tendering the document to explain the purpose for putting it in, or in support of the particular person's views or whatever. It's very difficult to understand how that really could have any relevancy to these proceedings. When I say that, I recognize that, you know, this report is available

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l	1	online and people can access it. It's almost	1		the Panel has received evidence in this matter
l	2	like saying in a way, you know, not only don't	2		relating to that particular issue, which has
l	3	file it, but don't read it either, right, you	3		been tested through the RFI process and also
l	4	know, and that seems to be pushing the matter	4		through the presentations here by Nalcor. So
l	5	a bit far. It appears by filing the report,	5		that would be a factor as well that should be
l	6	it seems to be giving the report a status on a	6		taken into account by the Panel in making
l	7	matter that I consider as being irrelevant to	7		their decision as to whether this particular
l	8	these proceedings, irrelevant in the sense	8		report will help inform their consideration of
l	9	that it doesn't inform these proceedings, and	9		the Terms of Reference, and if there is a
l	10	it's really the result of a deliberation by a	10		decision to make as part of the record,
l	11	panel structured to do something completely	11		obviously there would have to be consideration
l	12	different than this panel is. So in the	12		given by the panel to the weight to be given
l	13	absence of - in the absence of an explanation	13		to any part of the report that could be
l	14	as to the purpose for having it filed to	14		relevant to the Terms of Reference before you,
l	15	support a particular position, or to extract	15		because you have your - the evidence before
l	16	from that a certain thing which could be the	16		you, which has been tested by the parties and
l	17	subject of comment or response by Nalcor, I	17		through this process, is the evidence that
l	18	think I'd have to raise an objection to filing	18		should be considered by the Panel in reviewing
l	19	the report holus-bolus, and in the sense of	19		the Terms of Reference and responding to the
l	20	filing it. That, I think, would be my	20		reference question.
l	21	position on the thing. Latterly, it wasn't	21	(12:1:	5 p.m.)
l	22	something that the Board obviously felt of its	22	CHAII	RMAN:
l	23	own volition was required because it came out	23	Q.	So what you're basically saying is that in
l	24	of a presentation by one of the presenters as	24		areas where there's commonality in the report
l	25	opposed to something the Board felt was	25		and in our Terms of Reference, we through this
		Page 74			Page 7
l	1	rational. So in the absence of an explanation	1		process have covered them off.
l	2	from the presenter as to what that is supposed	2	GREE	NE, Q.C.:
l	3	to support, what relevant part of these	3	Q.	And that you should take into account the
	4	proceedings that report is germane, I'm a	4		evidence that you would have. I'm really not
	5	little bit reluctant to accept that, yes, this	5		sure what weight the Panel should give, if
	6	should form part of the record and the Board	6		any, to the type of public report that was

count the n really not d give, if that was struck for another purpose that reviewed its

7 own evidence and made findings based on the 8

evidence it had before them. 9

10 CHAIRMAN:

11 Q. Okay. Well, I think I agree with you. I 12 don't know about the rest of you.

13 GREENE, Q.C.:

14 Q. I'm not sure if you would like to confer for a few moments or if you want to -15

16 CHAIRMAN:

17 Q. Do you want to just leave that with - I mean, you know, I think I'm -18

19 O'REILLY, Q.C.:

20 Q. I guess it's in your hands now, anyway.

21 CHAIRMAN:

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Q. We're going to take it under advisement, but I think - I think, you know, which way we're going to go. I think we're - I'm satisfied with the explanation of both Mr. O'Reilly and

11 the thing. 12 CHAIRMAN:

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13 Q. Do you have an opinion in this matter?

14 GREENE, Q.C.:

Q. Not really, Mr. Chair. I believe Mr. O'Reilly has outlined what the issues are that the panel should take into account. The report the panel that was struck to consider the issues and then release that report had a different mandate than the Terms of Reference before the Panel, and did cover quite a number of topics that are not part of the Terms of Reference before the Panel, which is - and, of course, on the one or two issues that were

common, which would be the need for the power,

is free to refer to it without the benefit of having the particular issue addressed - the

parties to address the particular issue on

that. So I think that would be my position on

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our counsel on the issue. I think that, you	_	l CERT	TIFICATE
know, we've had sufficient argument on	the 2	I, Judy Moss,	do hereby certify that the foregoing
matters where there is a common interest,			rect transcript of a hearing of the
don't know how adding this report would a	assist 4	Muskrat Falls R	eview, heard before the Board of
us, probably not legal, anyway, I don't kno	ow. 5	5 Commissioners of	of Public Utilities on the 23rd day of
5 VICE-CHAIR WHALEN:	6	February, A.D., 2	2012, in St. John's, Newfoundland and
Q. We're going to talk about it.	7	7 Labrador and was	s transcribed by me to the best of my
3 CHAIRMAN:	8	3 ability by means	of a sound apparatus.
Q. But we're going to talk about it, yeah. Go		Dated at St. John	
forbid, I mean, I don't - it's not like - is		23rd day of Febru	
it Lincoln's Cabinet, Lincoln voted "A" a		Judy Moss	-
there was 10 "Nays", and Lincoln said the		2 Discoveries Unli	mited Inc.
had it. It doesn't look that way around her	e,		
even if I am supposed to be Chairman. I gu	uess		
this concludes the proceedings, and I want	to		
thank Mr. O'Reilly and Nalcor, Mr. John			
the Consumer Advocate, and, of course, or			
staff, including our formidable Legal Cour			
who is a repository of great wisdom, and	we		
will proceed with the next stages in this			
process, and I guess the drama comes to ar	n end		
by the end of March. So thank you all for	or		
your participation.			
MR. JOHNSON:			
Q. Thank you very much.			
<u> </u>	Page 78		
O'REILLY, Q.C.:	Tuge 70		
2 Q. Thank you.			
3 (12:18 p.m.)			
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