

1 Q. **Re: B-12, Install Plant Operator Training Simulator – Holyrood \$1,028,200 in**
2 **2012 and \$1,072,700 in 2013.**

3 In the report provided in Volume I, Tab 5, *Install Operator Training Simulator*, Hydro
4 has reported that there will be savings realized by optimizing plant efficiency and
5 operations, which includes improving the heat rate (page 12), decreasing the time it
6 takes to bring a unit online (page 13), and decreasing operator overtime (page 16).
7 Why was a cost/benefit analysis that included these savings not undertaken on this
8 project?

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11 A. The justification for an Operator Training Simulator was made on the basis of
12 providing an accelerated, reliable and low risk to the system training program for
13 new operators in light of concerns over losing operators to both retirements and
14 new job opportunities in the last few years of plant service. In addition,
15 consideration was given to augmenting the training syllabus to cover anomalous
16 incidents which could only be done using a simulator. Industry experts have
17 indicated the potential for heat rate improvements but no quantifiable savings by
18 other similar plants were found. The cost savings related to decreasing operator
19 overtime and time to bring a unit online are marginal and insufficient to justify the
20 Operator Training Simulator over the remaining years of plant service in a cost
21 benefit analysis.