

1 **Q. Project B-25, Replace Emergency Diesel Generator (Bay d'Espoir):**

2 At Volume II, Tab 9, page 8, Section 3.10, Hydro states that sequential restarts of
3 essential load is a practice that is unsafe and exposes operators to unnecessary risk.
4 Are there any safety issues that would arise from this practice, other than those
5 described at Volume II, Tab 9, page 8? Confirm this practice would only be
6 necessary in a black start (black plant) condition, which last occurred in 2003. For
7 how long have the safety issues in relation to this practice existed, and what steps
8 has Hydro previously taken to mitigate those issues?

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11 **A.** Yes there are safety issues that arise from this practice other than those described
12 at Volume II, Tab 9, page 8. During a black plant condition there is potential for trips
13 and falls by operations personnel due to poor or absent lighting as workers move
14 throughout the plant in their effort to restore power in the shortest time possible.

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16 It is confirmed that this practice is only necessary in a black start condition which
17 last occurred in 2003.

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19 The safety issues related to this practice did not exist when phase 1 of the plant
20 went into service in 1967 with four hydro generating units installed. However, these
21 issues evolved over time as the facility was expanded to house its present day
22 number of seven generating units.

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24 To mitigate these safety issues, Hydro has performed proper maintenance to the
25 diesel genset, with consideration to the limited availability of spare parts, to ensure
26 it can perform when called upon. In addition, to reduce load on the undersized
27 genset, emergency lighting is primarily supported by rechargeable batteries,

1 however, batteries can only provide light for a short period of time before they
2 discharge. If this project is approved it will not only eliminate the safety issues
3 described above but will meet the primary objective which is to provide reliable
4 black start capability of the plant.