Q. At page 4, lines 4-6, of Hydro's Report regarding the Replacement on Excitation Transformers (Bay d'Espoir), Hydro states: "Efficiencies in engineering, project management, and bulk procurement, as well as disposal of the existing transformers and their fluid, reduce the overall cost when all transformers are replaced as part of one project." Please provide details for the reduction in overall costs expected if all transformers are replaced as part of one project (including details of the anticipated cost savings), versus the cost of replacing only RT1, RT2, RT6 and RT7 at this time.

Α.

The current plan is to remove fluid for an average of two units at one time and then ship the tanks and cores for disposal together. The extra cost to remove fluid from one transformer at a time due to single replacement projects is \$4,500 per transformer. The additional cost to dispose of a transformer tank and core would be \$4,000 when disposing of the equipment individually. Engineering and Project management costs would add an extra \$65,000 per separate project to engineer and acquire transformers individually. As well, there is a lost opportunity to achieve a discount (10% or \$7,200 per transformer) on orders of multiple transformers compared to purchasing one per contract. Installation costs are assumed to be equal and not factored into the above savings, however when repeating the same installation in a short timeframe, there are improvements. The addition of the above savings offsets the marginal cost to replace RT5 at the same time as the other transformers.