

1 Q. Is Hydro aware of other electrical utilities in Canada currently utilizing the
2 inspection technique utilized by Hydro for inspecting insulators prior to January,
3 2014?
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6 A. The Transmission Line Asset Management Interest Group, Centre for Energy
7 Advancement through Technological Innovation (CEATI), conducted a survey among
8 twenty-two utilities to assess various methods used in the condition assessment of
9 insulators.
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11 Based on the survey, it was reported that visual inspection is the most common
12 inspection technique for ceramic glass, and polymeric insulators. It is also reported
13 that 80% of utilities use NDE (non destructive evaluation) techniques such as IR
14 thermography, a corona camera, or both to assess the condition of insulators. The
15 study also indicates that 50% of utilities believe that visual inspection is more
16 reliable in different environmental conditions and provides an accurate assessment
17 of insulator condition.