

1 Q. **Project C-40, Replace Disconnect Switches**

2 On page 11 of the report filed at Volume II, Tab 17, Hydro states that the vendor
3 recommends replacement of a disconnect switch after 1,000 operations but advises
4 that Hydro does not track the operating history of its disconnect switches. Provide
5 an explanation as to why such tracking is not carried out.

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8 A. Disconnect switches are operated to isolate equipment for operation or
9 maintenance purposes. Many of the disconnect switches that operate frequently
10 may only operate six to ten times per year. Others, in a radial application operate
11 twice a year or less. As a result, the majority of disconnect switches will take
12 decades to experience 1,000 operations. With the environmental conditions in
13 Newfoundland and Labrador, it is more prudent to consider replacement based
14 upon condition such as component failures (seizure or misalignment for example),
15 which are typically due to corrosion. Essentially, due to the fact that the majority of
16 switches within Hydro will take decades to experience 1,000 operations, effort is
17 better spent on understanding the condition of the asset, to plan its replacement
18 and ensure it is operating reliably.