

1    Q.    **Project C-76, Replace Battery Banks and Chargers**

2            What has been Hydro's operational experience for flooded-cell batteries with in  
3            excess of 20 years of service life and for VLRA batteries with in excess of 10 years of  
4            service life?

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7    A.    There have been very few instances where batteries have been used by Hydro past  
8            their recommended service life. There are no known failures associated with  
9            exceeding the service life. However, the hold-up time of batteries degrade  
10          naturally with time and is expected to deteriorate below the accepted limit of  
11          operation when used past the service life, resulting in an increased risk of failure.