

1     **Q.     Tab 18, Volume II – Wood Pole Line Management**

2             At pp. 3-4, Hydro refers to Order No. P.U. 4 (2013), and states that Hydro has taken  
3             steps to evaluate the correlation of several NDE techniques with full scale testing  
4             and will submit a report with its results as part of the 2015 capital budget  
5             submission.

6                 ○ Please outline all the steps that have been taken since P.U. 4 (2013) was  
7                 issued to evaluate the correlation of several NDE techniques with full scale  
8                 testing, including the dates those steps were taken, specifically identifying  
9                 the Hydro and non-Hydro personnel involved in these steps and the nature  
10                and extent of their involvement, and the total expenditure made in respect  
11                of these steps.

12               ○ Why was this report not made ready for submission as part of Hydro's 2014  
13               capital budget submission?

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16     **A.**     Since Board Order No. P.U. 4(2013) was issued, Hydro has taken steps to evaluate a  
17             new piece of equipment for NDE assessment of in-situ wood poles. A number of  
18             poles were tested in the field near Buchans in May 2013 using NDE techniques, and  
19             these poles were subsequently removed from the site and brought to the structures  
20             laboratory at the Faculty of Engineering of Memorial University for full scale testing.  
21             This full scale testing is scheduled to take place between September and October.  
22             Data from these full scale tests will be compared with NDE measurements to  
23             evaluate the correlation effect. A report will be submitted with a future capital  
24             budget application.

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26             Non-Hydro personnel involved in these steps are Dr. Edward Ezer of Pole+  
27             Management, Dr. Geoff Rideout of Memorial University and Mr. Matt Curtis of

Memorial University. Dr. Ezer performed NDE testing using a new piece of NDE equipment on the poles in Buchans. Dr. Rideout and Mr. Curtis will use an alternate NDE technique to evaluate the poles and will perform the full scale testing as well.

Hydro personnel involved in these steps are Dr. Asim Haldar and Mr. Andre Marshall. They are coordinating the steps being taken in this process and will compare full scale testing data with that of the NDE techniques.

The total expenditure made in respect of these steps to date is approximately \$20,000. When all steps are completed a final cost will be submitted with the resulting report.