Q. (Liberty December 17, 2014 Report to Board on Supply Issues and Power Outages Review Island Interconnected System addressing Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro) It is stated (page 4): "Hydro correctly seeks to make its generation available by December 1 of each year. The goal is to complete required maintenance and repairs by the time that each winter season begins". Have there been occasions in the Province when the system annual peak was established during the month of November? Is there a case to be made for moving winter readiness forward from December 1 to November 1, or perhaps, November 15? Why should Hydro not be aiming for an earlier winter readiness date than December 1? 

A. Hydro has reviewed the historical record for the Island Interconnected System and the record indicates there has not been any occasion when the annual peak was established during the month of November.

Hydro's historical record indicates that the system annual peak occurs beyond December 1. Thus, Hydro's goal is to have all generation resources available prior to December 1 of each calendar year. This has allowed Hydro to achieve a balance between generation resource availability, prior to the peak winter period, and required maintenance outage work in order to prepare for winter readiness. For 2015, Hydro is investigating the balance between resources, cost and reliability in planning all generating assets to be available for mid-November. This approach allows some leeway for unforeseen schedule changes and forced outages to generating units. This proactive approach will meet the needs of Hydro's customers and should allow some time to address unforeseen maintenance prior to December 1.