

1 Q. According NP-NLH-061, 062, 064 and other supporting documents, the structure  
2 locations have been determined in such a way that the maximum structure  
3 utilization for different load cases will be less than the manufacturers design and  
4 testing. Please explain, from a reliability point of view, the effect of this on the  
5 transmission system for identifying the critical elements.

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8 A. The concepts identified in the above question are unrelated. To the extent that  
9 individual structures are loaded to less than their ultimate capabilities, the result is  
10 that the structures have some capacity to withstand greater levels of wind speed  
11 and radial ice than the design load cases.

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13 Structures are also designed for the statistical worst case loading in a particular  
14 zone. Site specific features, such as sheltering, can reduce these loads to something  
15 less than the design load.