

1 Q. **Re: GRK-NLH-34**

2 Preamble: The RFI requested Hydro's "worst-case estimate" for the duration of an  
3 iceberg-related forced outage of the HVDC line under the Straits of Belle-Isle. In its  
4 response, Hydro stated that it "believes it is highly improbable that more than one  
5 cable could be out of service for the same period of time due to an iceberg-related  
6 forced outage."

7 Please provide NLH's worst-case estimate for the duration of an iceberg-related  
8 forced outage of the HVDC line under the Straits of Belle-Isle.

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11 A. As indicated in Hydro's response to DD-NLH-051, the probability of an iceberg-  
12 related cable failure was estimated by C-CORE to be one in approximately 1,000  
13 years. In addition, as indicated in Hydro's response to GRK-NLH-034, the probability  
14 of a complete forced outage of the HVdc line under the Strait of Belle Isle due to  
15 icebergs is quite low, as it would require damage to all three cables at the same  
16 time.

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18 Notwithstanding the low probability of an iceberg event affecting even one cable,  
19 the protection afforded by routing the cables in deep water, and the use of  
20 horizontal directional drilling, a complete forced outage during the ice season  
21 would require a repair to be completed over the summer and prior to the fall  
22 period.

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24 Please refer to Hydro's response to PUB-NLH-239 for the plans to restore a  
25 damaged cable as quickly as possible during that period. See also Hydro's response  
26 to DD-NLH-085.