

1 Q. Please describe the company's reliability enhancement programs and practices.
2 Describe reliability work completed over the last 5 years and what is planned for
3 the future.

4

5

6 A. The capital program is the primary area of investment for reliability improvements.
7 The focus of Hydro's capital program is on sustaining and renewing existing assets
8 and on bringing new assets into service to meet customer demand. The scope and
9 cost of each project is justified on its contribution to safe, least cost reliable power.
10 Furthermore, the projects do stand on their own merits as demonstrated in the
11 justification sections.

12

13 Reliability is inherently considered in the System Planning Criteria used to establish
14 the need for investment in load growth. These criteria, which Hydro provides to the
15 Board, are a part of what Hydro uses to establish what upgrades, replacements or
16 additions are required. Some of these projects contribute to improvements in
17 reliability where existing systems are operating near their design limits.

18

19 Hydro develops capital budget proposals each year which include projects for
20 generation, transmission and distribution assets. The complete list of projects
21 makes up the five-year plan in each area. On an annual basis, projects for the next
22 calendar year which will form the capital budget application to the Board are
23 prioritized using a tool which has reliability as one of the considerations. The
24 project prioritization tool has been previously filed with the Board.

25

26 Reliability work completed for the last five years is essentially the 2009 to 2013
27 completed capital projects for generation, transmission and distribution assets.

1 Going forward, the capital plan for 2014 and beyond contains projects for
2 transmission, distribution and generation that have reliability improvements as part
3 of the benefits.