
1 Q. **System Protection**

2 Explain how Hydro protects its transmission and distribution systems from animals
3 and raptors. In the response include whether Hydro has a practice of installing
4 animal guards.

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7 A. Hydro protects transmission and distribution systems from animals and raptors
8 based on the exposure it experiences in different areas. If a raptor nest is
9 discovered on a transmission or distribution structure its location is recorded and its
10 condition is assessed through annual helicopter patrols or other inspections. If at
11 any time it is found to be in danger of contacting energized equipment, it is
12 relocated to a pole installed at the edge of the right-of-way adjacent to the original
13 structure. Nests are also relocated from terminal stations to nearby poles if they are
14 considered to be at risk of contacting energized equipment. Bird deterrent spikes
15 are also installed on some transmission structures in areas prone to outages due to
16 birds roosting on structure cross arms above insulator strings.

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18 Hydro does not have a practice for installing animal guards other than for birds.