

1 Q. Does heavy pollution (e.g. salt fog) or forest fires cause flashovers of the AC
2 overhead line insulators? If so, what counter measures does Hydro take to cope
3 with such flashovers? Furthermore, noting that HVDC overhead lines are more
4 susceptible to accumulation of pollution on the insulators, what steps does Hydro
5 propose to take to cope with such flashovers?

6

7

8 A. Heavy pollution (e.g., salt fog) or forest fires can cause flashovers. However,
9 environmental conditions, including salt contamination and natural or man-made
10 sources of pollution, are standard design inputs for insulators. Longer insulator
11 strings have been specified in areas with higher levels of contamination.