

IN THE MATTER OF

the *Electrical Power Control Act, 1994*,
SNL 1994, Chapter E-5.1 (the "*EPCA*")
and the *Public Utilities Act, RSNL 1990*,
Chapter P-47 (the "*Act*"), as amended;

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

the Board's Investigation and Hearing
into Supply Issues and Power Outages
on the Island Interconnected System.

**CONSUMER ADVOCATE
REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION
CA-NLH-1 to CA-NLH-56
Issued: July 2, 2014**

1	CA-NLH-1	Please provide the definition of Hydro's system operating states
2		(i.e., normal, high-risk, emergency), and the procedures
3		implemented upon declaration of each operating state.
4		
5	CA-NLH-2	It is understood that Hydro plans its transmission system to an N-1
6		criterion (PUB-NLH-186). Please identify the critical elements that
7		are assumed to be forced out of service when Hydro plans its
8		transmission system.
9		
10	CA-NLH-3	Should the system be able to withstand the loss of the Sunnyside
11		transformer (or any transformer for that matter) without losing firm
12		load?
13		
14	CA-NLH-4	Should the system be able to withstand the loss of the Sunnyside
15		sub-station (or any sub-station for that matter) without losing firm
16		load?
17		
18	CA-NLH-5	Please provide details of Hydro's generation planning and
19		operating criteria and associated time frames; i.e., time in advance
20		of operating day. Please equate the criteria to a reserve margin.
21		
22	CA-NLH-6	Please provide details of Hydro's planning and operating criteria
23		and associated time frames for supply to a transmission
24		constrained area. Specifically, provide details of Hydro's current
25		planning and operating criteria for supply to the Avalon Peninsula.
26		
27	CA-NLH-7	Please provide details of Hydro's planning process. For example,
28		at what intervals prior to the operating day does Hydro prepare
29		demand/supply schedules and what is included in the schedules;
30		i.e., real-time, day-ahead, week ahead, season ahead, etc., demand
31		forecast, available generation, transmission outages, etc.

1	CA-NLH-8	What level of control during a system emergency does Hydro have
2		over generation that it does not own on the Island?
3		
4	CA-NLH-9	What level of control does Hydro have over planned maintenance
5		scheduling of generation that it does not own on the Island?
6		
7	CA-NLH-10	What documentation governs operation of generation that Hydro
8		does not own on the Island; i.e., license, connection agreements,
9		grid code, etc? Please file copies of such documentation.
10		
11	CA-NLH-11	Has Hydro completed an agreement with Corner Brook Pulp &
12		Paper (CBPP) for interruptible power for the coming winter and
13		beyond; i.e. winter of 2014/15 and beyond? If so, what are the
14		terms, conditions and price?
15		
16	CA-NLH-12	What is the status of negotiations with other Industrial Customers
17		on the Island Interconnected System for interruptible load, and are
18		terms, conditions and prices similar to that negotiated with CBPP?
19		
20	CA-NLH-13	Referencing page iii of the Board's May 15, 2014 Interim Report
21		on Supply Issues and Power Outages on the Island Interconnected
22		System, the Board includes as a key priority action " <i>complete</i>
23		<i>negotiations in relation to interruptible load and, to the extent that</i>
24		<i>it can secure economically available interruptible load, have a</i>
25		<i>contract in place</i> ". On what basis will Hydro determine the
26		amounts of "economically available" interruptible load from
27		Industrial Customers and what process will Hydro follow to gain
28		approval of these interruptible contracts?
29		
30	CA-NLH-14	Has Hydro approached Newfoundland Power to modify the terms,
31		conditions and prices offered to its Curtailable Service customers

1 in order to make it a more effective resource during system
2 emergencies? What might Hydro recommend to make this resource
3 more effective during system emergencies?
4

5 CA-NLH-15 What process will Hydro follow to gain approval of any changes to
6 Newfoundland Power's Curtailable Service?
7

8 CA-NLH-16 Please explain the arrangement with CBPP in terms of generation
9 and curtailable load and how they interact to provide value to the
10 system under normal and emergency situations.
11

12 CA-NLH-17 Are there other customers who own generation that can be
13 approached about making their generation available during system
14 emergencies under terms, conditions and prices similar to those
15 offered CBPP?
16

17 CA-NLH-18 Does Hydro intend to modify/introduce procedures granting it
18 control during system emergencies over Island generation that it
19 does not own? Would greater control be beneficial, and what
20 would be involved in obtaining the necessary control over Island
21 generation it does not own? Does NPCC have any requirements in
22 this regard?
23

24 CA-NLH-19 What are the current plans for the 16 MW diesel blackstart project?
25

26 CA-NLH-20 Please provide the current monthly load forecast for capacity and
27 energy on the Island Interconnected System for the next three years
28 broken down by customer including Newfoundland Power and
29 each individual Industrial Customer.
30

31 CA-NLH-21 What role did Holyrood black start play during the supply

1 disruptions of the 2013/14 winter? How would the diesel project
2 underway at Holyrood have impacted the events?

3

4 CA-NLH-22 Under the contract with North Atlantic Refining, would Hydro cut
5 firm demand before cutting supply to North Atlantic Refining?
6 Where does supply to North Atlantic Refining stand in terms of
7 control actions during a system emergency?

8

9 CA-NLH-23 The Board's Interim Report dated May 15, 2014 provides a
10 summary of key priority actions. Please provide a table identifying
11 each of the key priority actions identified in the Board's Interim
12 Report, Hydro's proposed completion/in-service date, the
13 estimated cost in Dollars, and the estimated impact on rates. Please
14 include a comments section that discusses in general terms the
15 expected value provided to customers from each of these key
16 priority actions; i.e., identify expected reliability improvement
17 such as reductions in energy not supplied.

18

19 CA-NLH-24 It is stated in the Liberty Interim Report (page ES-2): "*Liberty*
20 *believes it is time to reassess the service reliability and cost*
21 *balances that underlie the decisions on what level of supply*
22 *resources to make available*". What does Hydro use as a guide on
23 cost trade-offs and rate impacts when considering projects to
24 improve reliability? Please provide copies of all studies undertaken
25 by Hydro to determine customer willingness to pay for reliability
26 improvements and any sources for such studies undertaken
27 elsewhere in North America.

28

29 CA-NLH-25 Please provide a detailed project update and schedule for the
30 Muskrat Falls and interconnecting transmission project.

31

1	CA-NLH-26	Please provide Hydro's current 10-year generation and
2		transmission expansion plan for the Island Interconnected System
3		base case scenario showing all additions, in-service dates, project
4		costs and estimated impact on rates.
5		
6	CA-NLH-27	How much emergency support will Hydro be able to rely on over
7		its interconnections post Muskrat Falls? Please provide details for
8		the calculation.
9		
10	CA-NLH-28	Please provide the most recent capacity resource table showing
11		peak demand, demand management initiatives including
12		interruptible power contracts (shown separately), existing
13		generation, capacity purchases/sales, emergency capacity supply
14		available over interconnections, new capacity relating to
15		generation, sales/purchases, transmission and demand
16		management, and reserve margins for each of the next 10 winter
17		periods.
18		
19	CA-NLH-29	Please provide the most recent energy resource table showing
20		energy demand, energy conservation, existing energy generation,
21		energy sales/purchases, new energy additions relating to
22		generation, sales/purchases, transmission and energy conservation,
23		and excess/deficit for each of the next 10 years.
24		
25	CA-NLH-30	Will Hydro's planning and operating criteria for supply to the
26		Avalon Peninsula change post Muskrat Falls? Specifically, please
27		provide a detailed analysis of the demand/supply situation for the
28		Avalon Peninsula post Muskrat Falls showing demand, existing
29		generation, new generation, sales/purchases, demand management
30		including interruptible supply contracts, firm imports over the
31		transmission feeding the Avalon Peninsula and reserve margins for

1 the 10-year period following commissioning of Muskrat Falls and
2 interconnecting transmission project. Please show results for base
3 case and contingency scenarios.
4

5 CA-NLH-31 Please describe Hydro's models and modeling capability for the
6 power system post Muskrat Falls. What is the source for the data
7 used to model HVDC transmission in terms of capacity and
8 reliability?
9

10 CA-NLH-32 Has Liberty approached Hydro to use its models and data, or is
11 Liberty utilizing its own models and data?
12

13 CA-NLH-33 In determining best industry practice for electrical networks, please
14 explain what consideration Hydro gave to the reliability standards
15 of other islanded systems (geographically and electrically) around
16 the world. Did Hydro consider how these islanded systems
17 standards differed from nearby interconnected systems under the
18 same jurisdictions?
19

20 CA-NLH-34 Has Hydro taken any substantive action toward reviewing its
21 protection design standards to take account of circuit breaker
22 failure considerations? How will these standards change to meet
23 NERC Requirements once Newfoundland is interconnected with
24 the North American network?
25

26 CA-NLH-35 Please provide any plans for the training of Hydro personnel to
27 prepare for management of NERC compliance.
28

29 CA-NLH-36 Does Hydro have a standard bus configuration for its 230 kV and
30 138 kV? How are bus configurations (ring-bus, breaker and a half,
31 relief bus, etc) determined on a case by case basis?

1	CA-NLH-37	It appears that in several 230 kV ring bus configurations, more
2		than one load transformer is connected to a single node meaning
3		that most of the load served by the affected bus configurations will
4		be tripped for specific bus faults or for breaker fail conditions.
5		How much load is exposed to this condition, by area?
6		
7	CA-NLH-38	Please provide the latest update on Hydro's schedule to implement
8		their plans to achieve NERC compliance.
9		
10	CA-NLH-39	What criteria does Hydro apply to the security and reliability of the
11		Island Interconnected System to ensure successful recovery
12		following a contingency covered by the N-1 planning criteria?
13		How much time is allowed to return the system to an N-1
14		compliant operating condition?
15		
16	CA-NLH-40	Post Muskrat, how does Hydro plan to manage winter readiness?
17		Will the December 1st deadline to bring all generation on-line be
18		maintained?
19		
20	CA-NLH-41	How will Hydro treat the loss of the HVDC link in considering its
21		reserve requirements?
22		
23	CA-NLH-42	What assurance can Hydro give that the December 1st, 2014,
24		operational readiness planning deadline will be respected with all
25		planned generation and transmission outages complete?
26		
27	CA-NLH-43	What is the achievable forecasted LOLH on December 1, 2014 if
28		all equipment is in service?
29		
30	CA-NLH-44	Can Hydro provide a quantitative assessment of how it converts
31		LOLE requirements into LOLH and vice versa?

1 CA-NLH-45 What forced outage rates will Hydro be using for its various plants
2 in determining its LOLH from 2014/15 onwards? In determining
3 the forced outage rates, what consideration was given to recent
4 performance of units, in particular the Holyrood, Hardwoods,
5 Stephenville and Bay d’Espoir units? What is the lowest possible
6 LOLH assuming that all generating and transmission belonging to
7 Hydro’s, NP’s and other generation owners’ assets are online?
8

9 CA-NLH-46 Can Hydro provide more information as to how the various reserve
10 requirements are allocated according to time-responsiveness? Eg.
11 5-10 seconds, under 1-2 minutes, 5-15 minutes.
12

13 CA-NLH-47 What would be the resultant long-term impact – post-Muskrat Falls
14 - on LOLH if short-term needs driving an increase in Island firm
15 installed generation capacity were to proceed (eg. The acquisition
16 of CT to overcome reserve shortfalls)?
17

18 CA-NLH-48 Does Hydro plan to arrange for annual technical support and
19 service agreements with the (a) HVDC converter station supplier,
20 (b) HVDC submarine cable supplier, (c) HVDC overhead line
21 supplier and (d) a marine service contractor that is qualified to
22 handle submarine cable repairs?
23

24 CA-NLH-49 Please provide a list of the bipolar outage scenarios that will be
25 studied for (a) the Labrador Island Link and (b) the Maritime Link.
26 For each of the outage scenarios, please provide the expected
27 restoration time from a bipolar outage to (a) one operating pole and
28 (b) both poles.
29

30 CA-NLH-50 What is the expected annual energy availability, scheduled energy
31 unavailability and forced energy unavailability of (a) the Labrador

1 Island Link and (b) the Maritime Link? Please provide the
2 availability studies that document the failure rate, mean time to
3 repair, required maintenance, required spare parts, redundancy of
4 in-service equipment, response time of qualified HVDC O&M
5 personnel to report to the site when called-out to investigate faults,
6 number of HVDC O&M personnel required and required skill sets
7 of O&M personnel.
8

9 CA-NLH-51 Will the Labrador Link and Maritime Link utilize redundancy in
10 telecommunication paths between the HVDC converter stations
11 and between the HVDC converter stations and the primary and
12 backup system control centers? If yes, please describe the
13 telecommunications technologies and paths that will be used.
14

15 CA-NLH-52 Will the Labrador Link and Maritime Link converter stations each
16 have on-site, back-up generation that can be used to charge the
17 station batteries, maintain the converter heating and cooling
18 systems, maintain lighting and maintain other converter station
19 critical loads? If yes, how many days will the back-up generation
20 be able to operate on the fuel stored at each converter station?
21

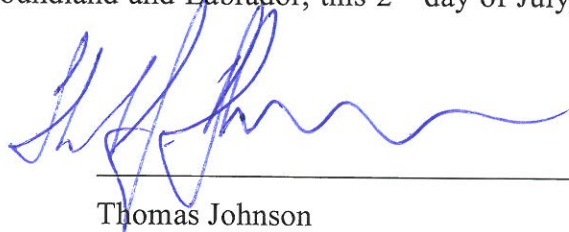
22 CA-NLH-53 Will the Labrador Link and Maritime Link converter stations each
23 have a primary and back-up station auxiliary power supply?
24

25 CA-NLH-54 Further to CA-NLH-53, will the back-up auxiliary supply be
26 available when the converter station is disconnected from the AC
27 transmission network?
28

29 CA-NLH-55 Further to CA-NLH-53, will the primary and back-up auxiliary
30 power supplies both be impacted by voltage disturbances on the
31 AC transmission or AC retail distribution networks?

1 CA-NLH-56 Further to CA-NLH-53, in the event that both the primary and
2 back-up auxiliary power supplies are interrupted, what is the
3 specified ride-through time in seconds before the converter station
4 is tripped?
5

6 Dated at St. John's in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, this 2nd day of July,
7 2014.
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10 Thomas Johnson
11 Consumer Advocate
12 323 Duckworth Street
13 St. John's, NL A1C 5X4
14 Telephone: (709) 726-3524
15 Facsimile: (709) 726-9602
16 Email: tjohnson@odeacarle.ca
17