

1 Q. Tab 28; Volume III: Replace Automation Equipment – Mary’s Harbour

2 Hydro states:

3 ***3.2.5 Historical Information***

4 ***“Hydro started a program in 2015 to replace 25 PLCs at 4***

5 ***diesel plants due to obsolescence. The first PLC replacements***

6 ***were completed at L’anse au Loup in 2015. Port Hope***

7 ***Simpson will be completed in September 2016 and Hawke’s***

8 ***Bay and Ramea will be completed in 2017.”***

9 Has Hydro performed a cost benefit analysis regarding the replacement of the  
10 automation equipment?

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13 A. Hydro did not perform a cost benefit analysis regarding the replacement of the  
14 automation equipment as this is a continuation of the program “Replace  
15 Programmable Logic Controllers” contained in the 2015 Capital Budget application,  
16 Volume II Tab 27. That report detailed Hydro’s program to replace obsolescent  
17 diesel generating plant PLC’s. In that report, four alternatives were analyzed and  
18 the least cost alternative for PLC replacement was selected for installation. Hydro  
19 has continued with the installation of that equipment in its on-going program to  
20 replace obsolete diesel generating plant PLC’s. As the existing HMI is also obsolete,  
21 Hydro is replacing the unit with its standard HMI equipment for diesel generating  
22 plants. Continuing manual operation of the plant was not considered as an  
23 alternative as re-establishing the diesel generation automation will improve the  
24 effectiveness of the plant’s operation. Hydro did not perform a cost benefit analysis  
25 as the equipment is being replaced with Hydro’s standard design and the manual  
26 operation will not continue.