Q. What level of emergency support can Hydro rely on over the ML prior to and after full LIL commissioning? Please provide support for this figure.

A. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") has access to emergency support over the Maritime Link as part of the Amended and Restated Interconnection Operators Agreement established between the Newfoundland and Labrador System Operator and the Nova Scotia Power System Operator. The Agreement provides for reserve assistance[1] and emergency and security energy[2] should either party require the same, subject to the ability of the system operator to provide in consideration of native load.

At this time Hydro has had preliminary discussions with respect to reserve sharing with other neighbouring utilities; however, before discussions can be materially advanced, Hydro requires clarity on a number of matters being addressed through the ongoing regulatory proceeding for this filing, most importantly the planning criteria to be used in this jurisdiction and the peak demand forecast against which planning criteria will be applied. This will provide Hydro with the ability to assess how it can participate in a reserve sharing agreement.

[1] Reserve assistance of up to 100 MW, if available, will be supplied to the requesting party within ten minutes of a request being made. For contingencies within the system of either party, reserve activation will be shared based on a 50/50 ratio up to 100 MW each.

[2] In the event that market-based real-time energy transactions are not available in a timely fashion in order to maintain its established Operating Reserve requirements, the Newfoundland and Labrador System Operator and Nova Scotia System Operator agree to provide emergency energy to each other. The party experiencing or anticipating an emergency will request emergency energy from the other party and all applicable regulatory requirements after all market-based real-time transactions have been scheduled, unless there is an immediate need for such emergency energy in order to maintain system reliability.