

1 Q. Is Hydro aware of other jurisdictions in North America that are constructing or plan to construct
2 new combustion turbines? If so, please provide details including the justification for choosing
3 combustion turbines over other supply alternatives.

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6 A. Based on publically available information, there are currently three jurisdictions in Canada that
7 are currently proposing/building new combustion turbines (“CT”): Saskatchewan, Ontario, and
8 New Brunswick. Two of the recently selected CT projects in Canada indicated that the new CTs
9 will support the integration of renewable generation sources (i.e., wind and solar) in the system.

10 In the spring of 2024 SaskPower Corporation (“SaskPower”) awarded a contract to construct a
11 new 370 MW natural gas power station near Lanigan, referred to as the Aspen Power Station.¹
12 SaskPower has indicated:

13 The Aspen Power Station will also play a critical role during our energy transition
14 in ensuring that SaskPower has sufficient generating capacity when renewables
15 like wind and solar are unavailable.²

16 In Ontario’s Independent Electric System Operator (“IESO”) May 2023 capacity auction, a
17 number of capacity projects were selected including Capital Power Corporation’s (“Capital
18 Power”) East Windsor Generation Facility Expansion (“East Windsor Expansion”), which is a
19 100 MW simple-cycle gas turbine. Capital Power highlights their East Windsor Expansion project
20 is:

21 Designed to operate as a peaking facility, the project will provide dependable
22 capacity at times when other generation sources (wind, solar, base-load
23 generation) are not capable of meeting demand.³

¹ <https://www.saskpower.com/our-power-future/infrastructure-projects/construction-projects/planning-and-construction-projects/aspens-power-station>.

² “Firm selected for Lanigan-area 370-megawatt facility project,” SASKTODAY, April 12, 2024, <https://www.sasktoday.ca/highlights/firm-selected-for-lanigan-area-370-megawatt-facility-project-8594233>.

³ “East Windsor Generation Facility Expansion,” Capital Power, <https://www.capitalpower.com/operations/east-windsor-generation-facility-expansion/>.

1 While the IESO has identified a need for new power in the province, the IESO forecasted
2 Windsor-Essex area to be under supplied as early as 2025.

3 Atura Power, a subsidiary of Ontario Power Generation, is planning to expand the electricity
4 generation capacity of its Napanee Generating Station. The expansion will add a simple-cycle CT
5 generator unit that will provide up to 430 MW of electricity output to Ontario's electricity grid, to
6 be fueled by natural gas.⁴ Darius Sokal, senior communications and stakeholder relations advisor
7 at Atura Power, said *“opting for natural gas rather than wind or solar power comes down to the
8 need for a guaranteed source of energy that isn't dependent on weather conditions.”*⁵

9 New Brunswick Power (“NB Power”) is pursuing the addition of a CT plant to its grid through a
10 Power Purchase Agreement. In June 2024, NB Power issued a Request for Proposals and has
11 awarded the contract to a proponent with plans to buy power generated by a new natural-gas
12 plant to be built by a private company outside Moncton, New Brunswick.⁶ Representatives of
13 the Government of New Brunswick indicated reasons for the contract may include reduced
14 reliance on NB Power’s oil-fired plant in Coleson Cove and reduced financial risk.

15 Hydro did not extend its jurisdictional scan beyond Canada due to differences in legislative
16 requirements within other countries.

⁴ “Napanee Generating Station Expansion,” AturaPower, <https://aturapower.com/our-projects/natural-gas/napanee-generating-station-expansion/>.

⁵ Eastern Ontario gas, battery projects get approvals to go ahead,” CBC News, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/eastern-ontario-gas-battery-projects-get-approvals-to-go-ahead-1.7206757>.

⁶ “N.B. Power turns to carbon-emitting natural gas for new electricity,” CBC News, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/nb-power-new-natural-gas-plant-1.7402336>.