Q. Reference: Application

When did Hydro last complete a load research study? Does Hydro have the ability to develop typical load profiles for its customers that might be used, for example, to manage EV charger demand?

Α.

The last load research study was completed in 2006 as a joint initiative between Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") and Newfoundland Power Inc. ("Newfoundland Power"). In Newfoundland Power's recent responses to requests for information as part of its 2022–2023 General Rate Application, it indicated that it is intending to undertake a load research study following the implementation of customer rates reflecting the Muskrat Falls Project. Hydro is in agreement that a load research study should be conducted and given the time required to implement and complete a load research study, the planning for such a study should start promptly. Hydro will provide whatever support it can to Newfoundland Power in the execution and analysis of this study, given the importance of the results to Hydro's understanding of changes within the Island Interconnected System, considering that such a large portion of the system is comprised of Newfoundland Power's customers.

Regarding the management of electric vehicle ("EV") charging, the Electrification, Conservation and Demand Management Plan: 2021–2025 includes an EV demand response pilot program. This pilot program will target EV owners who will charge their EV at home using a Level 2 charger. This program will allow Hydro to assess a number of options to control the demand impact of EVs, helping to inform the best long-term approach to EV demand management.