

1 Q. **Reference: Application**

2 Is Hydro considering retirement of any of its small hydro generating facilities? Please file any
3 studies Hydro has completed on its small hydro generation facilities, specifically, those with
4 capacities that are less than 1 MW. Are these facilities expected to remain used and useful?

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7 A. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) completed an internal study in 2021 titled “Mini-
8 Hydro: Economic & Technical Assessment,” performed using Hydro’s Engineering and Long-Term
9 Asset Planning departments. The intention of the study was to provide insight into the least-cost
10 options for three Mini-Hydro¹ generation stations located in Roddickton, Snook’s Arm and
11 Venams Bight. Hydro recognized portions of the assets were either approaching or past their
12 service life and that significant capital investment would be required to ensure reliable
13 generation of electricity from these facilities. Two technically viable alternatives were
14 developed, including:

- 15 • Alternative 1: Life extension of the generation stations; and
- 16 • Alternative 2: Decommissioning of the generating stations

17 Hydro completed an update to this study in 2022. The report is currently undergoing internal
18 review and will be provided to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities upon completion.

¹ Mini-Hydro units have a power range capacity between 0.1 MW and 1.0 MW.