

1 Q. **Reference: Schedule 6, Project 9 Replace MDR8000 Microwave Radios (2024-2025), Page 6,**  
2 **line 2**

3 Did Hydro have any consultations with any of the communications service providers (e.g., Bell,  
4 Rogers, etc.) to explore whether either of them could provide a lower-cost solution than that  
5 being proposed by Hydro? If yes, please provide details and explain why Hydro decided against a  
6 service provider option. If no, please explain.

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9 A. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) did not have any consultations with service  
10 providers related to the Replace MDR8000 Microwave Radios (2024–2025) proposal,<sup>1</sup> as their  
11 networks do not meet the technical requirements for Hydro’s teleprotection systems.  
12 Teleprotection is critical to the operation of the electrical grid; the existing (and proposed)  
13 microwave radio systems owned by Hydro meet Hydro’s strict latency performance  
14 requirements for teleprotection, while service provider networks do not. These performance  
15 requirements are based on industry practice; however, Hydro does work closely with service  
16 providers for less latency-sensitive communications such as to Hydro offices and sites.

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<sup>1</sup> “2024 Capital Budget Application,” Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, rev. August 18, 2023 (originally filed July 12, 2023), sch. 6, proj. 9.