

1 Q. **Reference: Response to Request for Information NP-NLH-006.**

2 Given that the Renew Distribution Feeders program is typically classified as a Renewal
3 investment, please explain Hydro’s rationale for placing the Upgrade Worst-Performing
4 Distribution Feeders program within the Service Enhancement investment classification.

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7 A. The Upgrade Worst-Performing Distribution Feeders (2025–2027) Program is required to
8 address deficiencies on distribution feeders that perform significantly worse than Newfoundland
9 and Labrador Hydro’s (“Hydro”) average. Since the introduction of the investment classification
10 through the provisional Capital Budget Application (“CBA”) Guidelines,¹ the program has been
11 placed within the Service Enhancement investment classification due to its benefits to system
12 reliability and efficiency. In 2025, the program identified the English Harbour West Line 1 feeder
13 for refurbishment.

14 The Renew Distribution Feeders Program is a condition-based asset renewal program, which
15 aims to proactively address feeders that have been evaluated as having a significant portion of
16 deteriorated components before reliability is significantly impacted. The program was first
17 initiated in Hydro’s 2024 CBA, complementary to the Worst-Performing Feeders Program, and is
18 anticipated to resume in subsequent CBAs.

¹ “Capital Budget Application Guidelines (Provisional),” Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, January 2022.