Q. Reference: Project 1 Rewind Stator (2025–2026) – Hinds Lake, pages 5-6.

Hydro states a follow-up visual inspection was recommended by a third-party consultant. Hydro conducted this inspection in April 2024 and based on what was observed, determined that stator winding replacement was required. Were the results of the visual inspection shared with Hydro's third-party consultant to confirm the need to replace the stator winding? If no, why not? If yes, did the third-party consultant agree with Hydro's plan for a stator winding replacement? Please provide any reports/opinions obtained.

A.

Yes, Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") did share the results of the visual inspection with the third-party consultant. The third-party consultant confirmed that in their opinion, the winding damage observed was a result of partial discharge and that the Hinds Lake stator is in a weakened condition due to the level of partial discharge, loose ending windings and wedges, and visual insulation damage. Due to this weakened condition, the third-party consultant's opinion is that the Hinds Lake stator's risk of failure is high for a system overvoltage condition from switching or lightning surges. However, they indicated the decision to rewind rests with Hydro. Due to the Hinds Lake stator's high risk of failure, Hydro is recommending a stator rewind.