Q. **Reference: Reference Schedule 6 – 2025 Average Rate Base**

Assuming actual capital expenditures are as forecast in the Application's *Five-Year Capital Plan including Major Projects*, what would be Hydro's 2031 average rate base?

A. It is Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's ("Hydro") position that this Request for Information is not relevant to the determination of the proposed 2027 capital expenditures in this Application. The purpose of the 2027 Capital Budget Application is to seek approval of specific capital expenditures proposed for 2027. The Request seeks a forecast of Hydro's average rate base in 2031 based on assumptions regarding the full Five-Year Capital Plan and Major Projects portfolio. Development of such a forecast would require numerous assumptions regarding, among other things, the timing of project completions and in-service dates, retirements, depreciation, financing, and future capital expenditures. Forecasts of Hydro's future rate base, and the associated financial and rate implications of future capital investments, are matters more appropriately considered in general rate application proceedings where Hydro's rate base, revenue requirement, financing, and cost recovery are directly at issue.