

1 Q. **Reference: Application**

2 What is the current status of Hydro's studies on retirement of its small hydro generating
3 facilities? Please file any studies Hydro has completed on its small hydro generation facilities,
4 specifically, those with capacities that are less than 1 MW.

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7 A. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") performed a technical assessment¹ of its
8 hydroelectric generation facilities with capacities under 1 MW, and determined that the
9 continued operation of the mini-hydro facilities² in Roddickton, Snook's Arm and Venams Bight
10 is not economically feasible; as a result, all were identified for decommissioning. As noted in the
11 technical assessment, Hydro has identified the sale of these assets as a potential opportunity to
12 avoid incurring further costs.

13 Absent any viable opportunities for sale of the assets, Hydro plans to complete detailed
14 engineering to further develop the decommissioning plan and confirm the breadth of
15 environmental remediation required for each site prior to proceeding.³ Once the scope of the
16 decommissioning and remediation work is refined, Hydro will revisit the cost-benefit analysis
17 and provide an update to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities on the results.

¹ For further details, please refer to "Mini-Hydro: Economic and Technical Assessment," Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, December 20, 2024.

² Hydro classifies facilities with a capacity rating between 100 kW and 1 MW as "mini-hydro" facilities.

³ Cost estimates completed for the analysis were Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering ("AACE") Class 5; given the uncertainty of the breadth of environmental mitigations required for each site, Hydro plans to complete detailed engineering to further develop the scope and estimate of the decommissioning plan.