

1 Q. **Reference: Project 13: Refurbish Aluminum Towers – TL212 (2027–2028) page 4**

2 a) Describe Hydro’s inspection and maintenance program for aluminum towers.

3 b) Describe any relationship that may exist with the annual Wood Pole Line Management
4 program.

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7 A. a) Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro’s (“Hydro”) inspection and maintenance program for
8 aluminum towers includes performing a visual condition assessment during physical
9 climbing inspections of the structures. These climbing inspections are performed over a
10 ten-year period (i.e. 10% of each line is inspected per year). Additionally, helicopter
11 patrols of the lines are conducted at least once a year, and ground patrols are performed
12 over a five-year period (i.e. 20% of each line is patrolled by ground per year).

13 b) Both programs have a condition assessment component based on visual climbing
14 inspections which are completed by the same operational resources within Hydro. The
15 Wood Pole Line Management program targets life extension via the addition of
16 preservative treatment as it is a degradable material, whereas aluminum is a more stable
17 material and does not degrade to the same degree.