

1 **Reference: Schedule B: Meters (Pooled), page 26 of 99**

2
3 **Page 26 states:**

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5 ***“Since 2016, Newfoundland Power has used AMR metering technology as per report 4.4 2016***
6 ***Metering Strategy included in the 2016 Capital Budget Application. All new and replacement***
7 ***meters in 2022 will also be AMR technology to integrate with current technology.”***
8

9 **Q. Please outline Newfoundland Power’s strategy with respect to upgrading to**
10 **advanced metering infrastructure (“AMI”) technology as well as any discussions**
11 **concerning collaboration with Hydro in future deployments.**
12

13 A. Newfoundland Power does not currently have a strategy in place with respect to
14 upgrading to advanced metering infrastructure (“AMI”) technology.¹ The Company has
15 also not had any formal discussions with Hydro concerning future deployments of AMI
16 technology.
17

18 AMI technology is necessary to enable pricing options to encourage peak load
19 management. The Company evaluated installing AMI technology in 2009 as an
20 alternative to automated meter reading (“AMR”).² At that time, pricing that focused on
21 peak load management was not considered to be cost effective for the Island
22 Interconnected System.³ As a result, there was no justification for proceeding to install
23 AMI technology at that time. In 2016, the Company began the accelerated deployment of
24 AMR technology throughout its service territory.⁴ The deployment of AMR technology
25 is now complete.
26

27 AMI technology was also considered in a more recent study conducted by Dunsky
28 Energy Consulting (“Dunsky”) as part of the *Electrification, Conservation and Demand*
29 *Management Plan: 2021-2025*.⁵ Dunsky estimated that a full-scale AMI deployment in
30 the province would cost \$85 million to \$105 million.⁶ Dunsky found that pricing options
31 to encourage peak load management would not provide sufficient benefit to carry the full
32 cost of AMI investments at this time.⁷

¹ AMI implementation would include: (i) replacing all of the Company’s existing meters with AMI meters; (ii) installing communication infrastructure to facilitate communicating with all customer premises; (iii) a Meter Data Management System to process and archive the high volume of data received from the AMI meters; and (iv) a modern Customer Information System to support configuration and functionality changes.

² See Newfoundland Power’s *Rate Design Report, Section 4.2.4 Peak Load Management*, pages 90 to 91, filed with the Board on January 28, 2009.

³ See response to Request for Information CA-NP-294 from Newfoundland Power’s *2010 General Rate Application*.

⁴ The accelerated deployment of AMR meters is described in Newfoundland Power’s *2016 Capital Budget Application, Report 4.4, 2016 Metering Strategy*. This project was approved by the Board in Order No. P.U. 28 (2015).

⁵ See Newfoundland Power’s *2021 Electrification, Conservation and Demand Management Application, Volume 2*, filed on December 16, 2020.

⁶ *Ibid.*, Schedule C, page 264.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Schedule E, page 1.

- 1 Newfoundland Power will continue to assess whether AMI technology would be cost-
- 2 effective for its customers in the future.