

- 1 **Q. (Reference Application Schedule B, page iv) It is stated “*Newfoundland***  
 2 ***Power submits that overall the Application includes comprehensive***  
 3 ***information that clearly describes the Application’s proposals and***  
 4 ***demonstrates that all proposed capital expenditures are necessary to provide***  
 5 ***customers with access to safe and reliable service at the lowest possible***  
 6 ***cost.”***
- 7 **a) Please confirm that this same statement was made in NP’s 2023 and 2024**  
 8 **CBA’s.**
- 9 **b) Please confirm that the projects included in the application have not been**  
 10 **discussed with customers, government or the Consumer Advocate.**
- 11 **c) Please provide documentation showing that continuation of the AMR**  
 12 **metering program is consistent with the provision of safe and reliable**  
 13 **service at the lowest possible cost.**

14

15 **A. a) It is confirmed.**

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- 17 b) The nature of Newfoundland Power’s engagement with its customers and  
 18 stakeholders varies depending on the type of information required in developing a  
 19 capital project. For example, a number of projects outlined in the Company’s *2025*  
 20 *Capital Budget Application*, such as the *New Transmission Line from Lewisporte to*  
 21 *Boyd’s Cove*, will undergo an environmental assessment.<sup>1</sup> This assessment process  
 22 provides an opportunity for public consultation.

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24 For more information on how customer preferences are incorporated into the *2025*  
 25 *Capital Budget Application*, see the responses to Request for Information  
 26 CA-NP-014 and CA-NP-019.

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- 28 c) Newfoundland Power’s AMR Strategy was initially approved in the Company’s *2013*  
 29 *Capital Budget Application*.<sup>2</sup> A strategy for accelerating the deployment of AMR  
 30 meters was approved as part of the Company’s *2016 Capital Budget Application*.<sup>3</sup> As  
 31 a result of the accelerated deployment of AMR meters, virtually all meters in  
 32 Newfoundland Power’s service territory were automated by year-end 2017. This  
 33 program has resulted in sustained annual operating savings of approximately  
 34 \$2.0 million a year.

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36 The Company’s plans for metering will be refined regularly as new information  
 37 becomes available, such as the potential benefit of dynamic rates on the Island  
 38 Interconnected System and as metering technology advances. Ongoing studies, such  
 39 as rate design, load research and the potential study will help inform future metering  
 40 technology.<sup>4</sup>

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1 See Newfoundland Power’s *2025 Capital Budget Application, Schedule B*, page 77.

2 See Order No. P.U. 31 (2012).

3 See Order No. P.U. 28 (2015).

4 Newfoundland Power and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro have engaged Posterity Group, an economic and engineering consulting firm, to conduct a potential study that will examine opportunities for electrification, demand response, and energy efficiency for the Island Interconnected System. The study is anticipated to be finished in the third quarter of 2024.