

1 Q. **NLH Evidence, Section 5.8.4, page 5.33**

2 Citation:

3 Hydro has undertaken an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) project for the Labrador
4 Interconnected System.

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6 Please indicate:

7 a) the total cost of this project,

8 b) the year(s) when it has been and/or will be implemented,

9 c) the expected benefits, both financial and operational,

10 d) the alternatives that were considered, and

11 e) when the Board approved of this AMR project or, if it has not yet done so,
12 the process by which Hydro intends to obtain such approval.

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15 A. a) The total cost of this project is \$967,200.

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17 b) This project was initiated in January 2016 and will be completed by the end
18 of 2017.

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20 c) The cumulative net present worth of this project is \$325,892 by 2030.

21 Operational benefits include:

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- 23 • Reducing the overall manual metering reading process;
 - 24 • Improving meter reading accuracy;
 - 25 • Reducing the overall need to estimate meter readings;
 - 26 • Having more detailed customer energy use information available to track energy consumption patterns;

- 1 • Having more flexible billing options available to customers such as
- 2 consolidated bills and customer selected billing dates;
- 3 • Enhancing employee safety by reducing employee risk exposure
- 4 associated with entering customers premises; and
- 5 • Environmental benefits through reduced use of vehicles for meter
- 6 reading.

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8 d) The alternative considered against this project was to maintain the existing

9 process of manual meter reading that requires employees to visit

10 customers' premises on a monthly basis to record individual energy use

11 data.

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13 e) The Board approved this project with Hydro's 2016 Capital Budget

14 Application on December 2, 2015 in Order No. P.U. 33(2015).