

Q. Newfoundland Power's Interim Report on page 17 states that January 2, 2014 was the first time Newfoundland Hydro requested Newfoundland Power to undertake rotating outages due to an unexpected system wide generation shortfall. Has Newfoundland Power ever implemented rotating feeder outages prior to January 2, 2014 for any other reason?

A. January 2nd, 2014 was the first time Newfoundland Power was required to conduct rotating power outages on a sustained basis to respond to a *forecast* generation shortfall on the Island Interconnected System.¹ The Company has implemented rotating feeder outages in the past for other reasons. These include during major electrical system disruptions on the Island Interconnected System as well as during smaller localized disruptions throughout Newfoundland Power's service territory.

On January 11-12, 2013 Hydro's Holyrood Thermal Generating Station ("Holyrood") was unavailable for 21 hours. During the Holyrood outage, Newfoundland Power implemented limited rotating power outages to its customers on the Avalon Peninsula while waiting for Holyrood to be restarted. The scope of this effort is not comparable to that required to respond to the events of January 2-8, 2014 where multiple generating stations were unavailable for a much more extended period of time.²

Newfoundland Power conducted rotating feeder outages on the Avalon Peninsula due to electrical system disruptions that resulted from a severe winter storm on December 8-9, 1994. Damage to Hydro's 230kV transmission lines, problems with Holyrood, and damage to Newfoundland Power's transmission and distribution equipment caused customer outages that lasted until December 15th. Throughout the period, as transmission and generation capacity was restored, Newfoundland Power rationed power and implemented rotating power outages.³

Newfoundland Power has also implemented rotating feeder outages on a small and localized scale. For example on March 5-6, 2010 a severe ice storm on the Avalon Peninsula, Bonavista Peninsula and Bonavista North areas caused extensive damage to a number of transmission lines and distribution feeders serving approximately 12,000 customers.⁴ The Company relocated its mobile gas turbine on the Bonavista Peninsula and over the March 5 to 11 period used the available local and mobile generation to assist

¹ See page 2, lines 1-3 of Newfoundland Power's *Interim Report, March 24th, 2014*.

² See footnote 10 to the response to Request for Information PUB-NP-022.

³ Rotating power outages were also implemented in April 1984 due to a severe sleet storm affecting the Avalon Peninsula. Similar to the 1994 winter storm, the 1984 sleet storm involved the loss of transmission lines to the Avalon Peninsula and a 7 day period where a limited amount of local generation was available. In 1984 the Company did not have SCADA technology implemented and as a result distribution feeder rotation was completed manually by technicians and engineers stationed in Company substations throughout the Avalon Peninsula.

⁴ See Attachment A to the response to Request for Information PUB-NP-189 for a report detailing the events of the March 2010 ice storm.

1 with the restoration effort. The local and mobile generation enabled the Company to
2 rotate power to customers while the damaged transmission lines and distribution feeders
3 were being rebuilt. By the afternoon of March 11th, electricity had been restored to all
4 affected customers.