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Q: Liberty's overall conclusion (p.32) is that no new pre-Muskrat Falls be pursued at this time but remains concerned and recommends reconsideration in one year or sooner.

Considering that new capacity will be costly burden for island ratepayers, especially if Muskrat Falls availability renders it redundant, does Liberty agree that Hydro should consider demand mitigation actions before considering any new pre-Muskrat Falls capacity?

 A. Liberty agrees that any evaluation of new supply options should consider demand mitigation actions. Liberty further believes that such consideration has indeed been the case in recent years. Please see Table 10 in Hydro's ESRA which includes 90 MW of "capacity assistance". And note that, since the ESRA, an additional 9 MW of interruptible load has been finalized. Hydro has effectively eliminated the need for one new CT as a result of these arrangements.

Hydro has demonstrated through its actions that it recognizes the value of demandside initiatives as a vehicle to avoid or defer new capacity. Unfortunately, the quantity of demand response likely to be available is limited. Demand response can be, should be, and is a contributor, but there is a practical limit on just how much can be obtained and relied upon.