

1 Q. **References: Tab E; Volume I: Projects over \$50,000 but less than \$200,000**  
2 **(Purchase Meters and Metering Equipment)**

3 Please provide an update on Hydro’s automated meter reading (AMR) program  
4 including the current percentage of AMR residential customers, an update of the  
5 Bottom Waters service area AMR deployment planned for 2019, and Hydro’s five-  
6 year capital plan for AMR.

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9 A. At the end of 2018, 65% of Hydro customers served by single phase meters will  
10 have meters using AMR technology.

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12 Hydro did not propose a 2019 project for AMR and extracted AMR from the “2019-  
13 2023 Capital Plan” as it intends to re-examine the viability of implementing the  
14 current technology for Hydro's remaining systems as a result of the extended  
15 implementation period for AMR. The Bottom Waters project was placed on hold  
16 prior to commencement in 2018 due to technical challenges in that specific system.  
17 As a result of this preliminary analysis, in addition to removing the AMR from the  
18 “2019-2023 Capital Plan”, Hydro is withdrawing the continuation of the "Install  
19 Automated Meter Reading (2018-2019) - Bottom Waters" project from the *2019*  
20 *Capital Budget Application*. The 2018-2019 AMR project for the Baie Verte  
21 Peninsula (i.e. the Bottom Waters Service Area) has not commenced and no  
22 expenditures have been incurred to date. Hydro will complete the re-examination  
23 of the viability of implementing the current AMR technology prior to submitting any  
24 future proposals.