

1 Q. **Reference: CA-NLH-046.**

2 a) Does Hydro only review its transmission system needs when it is planning to add
3 generation?

4 b) Does Hydro have a transmission expansion plan? If so, please file the plan.

5 c) Why does Hydro spend capital on its transmission system? What is the purpose and what
6 value does the transmission system provide to customers?

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9 A. a) Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”), through the Newfoundland and Labrador
10 System Operator (“NLSO”), conducts an Annual Transmission Planning Assessment to
11 determine the timing of system additions/modifications to ensure long-term safe, reliable,
12 and economical operation. These assessments are filed annually with the Board of
13 Commissioners of Public Utilities, and are published publicly on the NLSO Oasis site.¹ Hydro
14 also performs transmission system impact studies when assessing interconnection requests.

15 b) Transmission expansion requirements identified through annual assessments are generally
16 proposed through Hydro’s existing capital budget processes. Hydro has not proposed any
17 such projects in its 2026 Capital Budget Application.

18 c) The transmission system enables efficient movement of electricity across the province,
19 supports overall grid stability, and provides value to customers by delivering electricity from
20 generators to load centers. Hydro invests capital in its transmission system to maintain
21 reliable and safe delivery of electricity from generation sites to customers. The investments
22 are required to replace aging equipment, and accommodate changes in generation or
23 demand.

¹ <https://www.oasis.oati.com/NLSO/index.html>