

1 Q. **Reference: Project 2: L23/24 Steel-Tower Transmission Line Renewal (2026 - 2029)**

2 Page 1, lines 6-7.

3 “Maintenance inspections were completed in 2020 by Hydro operations crews, which were
4 followed up with an inspection by Stantec in 2023 as a result of various deficiencies identified.”

5 Why was there a three-year delay between the Hydro maintenance inspections and the Stantec
6 inspections?

7
8
9 A. The gap between the maintenance inspections performed by Newfoundland and Labrador
10 Hydro (“Hydro”) operations and Stantec was primarily due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in
11 2020 and 2021, which created difficulties in execution. As only critical work was to be completed
12 during this period, there was a delay in establishing a consultant and completing the on-site
13 follow-up inspection. Following the inspection by Stantec in 2023, Hydro completed front-end
14 engineering design and proposal development to enable submission in the 2026 Capital Budget
15 Application.