

1 Q. **Reference: Project 5: Replace Heavy-Duty Mobile Equipment (2026 - 2028)**

2 Page 8, lines 27-29.

3 a) Has Hydro explored opportunities to rent tracked units with aerial devices from
4 Newfoundland and Labrador companies that contract to undertake transmission line
5 maintenance and construction? If not, why not?

6 b) Provide a cost benefit analysis for the rental of mobile equipment compared to
7 owning this mobile equipment.

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10 A. **a)** Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) does not consider renting tracked units
11 with aerial devices as a viable alternative to its project to Replace Heavy-Duty Mobile
12 Equipment. Any rental units that may be available would have to meet Hydro’s
13 specifications which can include modifications, have a suitable preventive maintenance
14 program, and be readily available when needed. The readiness and availability of key
15 aerial track units during unplanned system events and during times of severe weather
16 are critical to maintaining the provision of safe and reliable electricity to customers.
17 Stand by and mobilization and demobilization costs for contract equipment are
18 substantial, and the majority of this equipment operates in rural areas where rental
19 opportunities are limited.

20 **b)** Hydro has not conducted a cost benefit analysis as rental is not considered a viable
21 alternative.