Q. **Reference: CA-NLH-080 pp2-4 and Attachment 3 p4; Volume II, Project 1 pp11-12**

Provide the fall 2026 MD-1 inspections, boil measurements and piezometer data identified in CA-NLH-080, or their expected availability dates, with Hydro's engineering interpretation. Reconcile the differing boil-trend descriptions and explain the interim action thresholds and remediation sequence through 2030. Identify the scope and estimate update, approval and Board-reporting steps planned after design and before awarding the construction contract.

A. The third-party consultant was unable to inspect MD-1 during the 2026 annual fall inspection as adverse weather conditions prevented access to the site. Routine biweekly inspections have continued, with no issues identified. Camera observations[1] from MD-1B have shown no changes in the downstream area.

Hourly piezometer data from September 12–29, 2026, is provided as Attachment 1 as a native excel file. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's ("Hydro") interpretation is that piezometer levels generally follow Meelpaeg Reservoir levels, as expected, with both reaching a spring peak and declining through summer. The data from late-March to mid-April looks to include erroneous data likely caused by water infiltration and freezing-thaw temperatures.

On September 28, 2026, the boil measured 4.27 meters in outer-edge diameter and 1.88 meters deep, compared with 3.66 meters and 1.52 meters, respectively, in 2024. The differing boil-trend descriptions reflect differences in measurement methods.[2] The available measurements show a slight growth rate from 2006–2025, with the 2026 measurements indicating increases in both the outer-ring diameter and depth. Given the results of the 2026 measurements, Hydro plans to increase measurement of the boil to semi-annually beginning next year to further monitor for movement.

[1] Please refer to Attachment 3, page 20 of Project 1.
[2] 2006–2011 and 2015–2022 were visual inspections. 2012 and 2014 measured the true inside hole diameter and depth. 2023, 2024 and 2026 measured the outer ring diameter and depth. 2025 used LiDAR to capture the inside hole diameter.

Interim controls for the boil include daily photographic monitoring, biweekly inspections, semi-annual boil measurements, weir monitoring, and annual spring and fall inspections. Hydro will monitor for visual changes or sudden, unexplained changes in weir flow data to determine whether further action is required. The remediation sequence will be established during detailed engineering design. Hydro will collaborate with the selected engineering consultant and contractor to develop an MD-1 specific dam safety plan to monitor the structures for changes during construction.

Please refer to Hydro's response to CA-NLH-080 of this proceeding for discussion on scope and estimate progression during project execution.