

1 Q. Please confirm that General Service customers such as Tim Horton’s, Canadian Tire, Irving and
2 Costco were not surveyed about any concerns they might have with Hydro owning charging
3 stations with costs paid by the Province’s electricity ratepayers.

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6 A. *This Request for Information relates to the Electrification, Conservation and Demand*
7 *Management Plan 2021–2025 (“2021 Plan”) developed in partnership by Newfoundland and*
8 *Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) and Newfoundland Power Inc. (“Newfoundland Power”) (collectively,*
9 *the “Utilities”) and the related Technical Conference presented by the Utilities on February 1,*
10 *2022. Accordingly, the response reflects collaboration between the Utilities.*

11 The Utilities confirm that General Service customers were not surveyed about the proposed
12 Electric Vehicle (“EV”) Charging Network.

13 Hydro’s application provides evidence that access to fast charging infrastructure is a barrier to
14 EV adoption in Newfoundland and Labrador. Access to fast charging infrastructure in
15 Newfoundland and Labrador lags behind that of other Canadian provinces¹ and private sector
16 investment is currently constrained by a weak business case.² This was recognized by the Board
17 of Commissioners of Public Utilities in issuing Order No. P.U. 30(2021),³ which approved the
18 Utilities’ proposed 2021 capital expenditures relating to the EV Charging Network.⁴

19 While the Utilities are not partnering with private sector businesses with respect to the
20 installation and ownership of the EV Charging Network, the charging stations will be hosted at
21 private sector businesses. The Utilities issued a public request for applications on November 23,

¹ "Application for Approvals Required to Execute Programming Identified in the Electrification, Conservation and Demand Management Plan 2021–2025," Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, rev. July 8, 2021 (originally filed June 16, 2021), sch. 1, s 3.0, at p. 4.

² "Application for Approvals Required to Execute Programming Identified in the Electrification, Conservation and Demand Management Plan 2021–2025," Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, rev. July 8, 2021 (originally filed June 16, 2021), sch. 3, s 4.2.1, at p. 15.

³ *Public Utilities Act*, RSNL 1990, c P-47, Board Order No. P.U. 30(2021), Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, September 29, 2021.

⁴ Please refer to *Public Utilities Act*, RSNL 1990, c P-47, Reason for Decision Board Order No. P.U. 30(2021), Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, September 29, 2021, at p. 12/8 to p. 13/22.

1 2020, to seek submissions from parties interested in hosting an EV charging station. All
2 customers, including the types of General Service customers referenced above, were eligible to
3 apply.⁵

4 In addition to utility investment, the 2021 Plan will also encourage private sector investment in
5 EV charging infrastructure through a make-ready model. The make-ready model includes the
6 installation of electrical infrastructure to enable other private sector entities to purchase and
7 install fast chargers.⁶

⁵ Information about the application process was available on the takeCHARGE website and was promoted through print advertising, online advertising, and direct email communications. The application process closed on December 11, 2020. A range of General Service customers submitted applications indicating their interest in hosting an EV charging station, including coffee shops, restaurants, and gas stations.

⁶ "Application for Approvals Required to Execute Programming Identified in the Electrification, Conservation and Demand Management Plan 2021–2025," Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, rev. July 8, 2021 (originally filed June 16, 2021), sch. 3, s 4.2.1, at p. 15.