

1 Q. Please confirm that the guaranteed forced energy unavailability in the contract for  
2 the converter station equipment for single poles failures is 0.5% per year; that this  
3 guarantee is for the scheme and not per end; that this energy unavailability does  
4 not include outages caused by the HVdc overhead line, electrode line or HVdc  
5 cables, nor outages caused by operator error; that the energy unavailability is  
6 measured and averaged over 3 years, and in the event of a failure to meet the  
7 average 0.5% the converter manufacturer is allowed to extend the monitoring  
8 period for another 12 months, and to then choose the best 3 years as the  
9 measurement of performance before penalties are applied.

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12 A. A guaranteed forced energy unavailability of 0.5% is confirmed and it is defined as  
13 the energy that could not have been transmitted through the HVdc link (which  
14 includes energy transmitted through both poles) due to forced outages.

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16 The unavailability must be attributable to events within Contractor's control, so it  
17 does not include outages caused by the HVdc overhead line, electrode line or HVdc  
18 cables, or outages caused by operator error.

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20 The total annual energy availability is averaged over the first three years. If the  
21 average is under 98.5% for the system, the Performance Guarantee Assessment  
22 Period is extended for an additional 12 months. After this additional 12-month  
23 extension, the 12 worst consecutive months are then omitted from the calculation  
24 and the average is recalculated. If the annual energy availability still does not meet  
25 the guarantee, Contractor must correct deficiencies and defects at no cost to  
26 Company. Once corrected, there is a further two year evaluation period (which

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- 1 excludes results of the previous four year period and the period for correcting such
- 2 deficiencies) to verify if availability requirement is met. If not, penalties are applied.