Q. Further to the response to PUB-NLH-210, page 99 of Attachment 1 which states that weather risk has been mitigated by a “mega dome”, provide details on this dome including the schedule for its construction, operational experience of others with it and how it will mitigate the weather risk.

A. It is Hydro’s understanding that the Integrated Cover System (colloquially referred to as a "mega dome") was included in Astaldi’s proposal for construction of the civil works for the site. The Muskrat Falls civil works Request for Proposal did not require that such a structure be provided, but was rather proposed by Astaldi to improve productivity at the Muskrat Falls site.

The cover system will enclose the Muskrat Falls powerhouse and will increase the efficiency of concrete placement activities during winter conditions. By providing a controlled environment inside the cover system, the working environment for workers will be more favourable than outdoors. In addition, the requirement for insulation and hoarding to prevent concrete from freezing will be reduced. Both factors will improve the efficiency of the work site during winter conditions.

Providing a controlled environment and improving productivity serves to mitigate schedule delays associated with extreme weather conditions.

Completion of construction is expected by mid-2015, with progress sufficiently advanced to enclose areas of the powerhouse where concrete will be placed over the winter of 2014-15. Integrated cover systems similar to that currently being erected at the Muskrat Falls powerhouse have been successfully installed and utilised in Canada to enable construction to proceed throughout winter, for

example: Module Assembly Hall – Bull Arm and Shipshaw Hydroelectric Plant – Saguenay, Quebec (completed in 2012).

The Independent Engineer's Report (November 2013), Section 4.13 Schedule Risk Discussion makes reference to the mega dome as follows:

> The weather risk has been mitigated by a "mega-dome" that the contractor for contract CH0007 will erect to enclose the powerhouse structure which will provide a controlled climate for the concrete to be poured year round. This directly addresses a significant component of the weather risk identified at DG3 and the volume of concrete that can be placed year round. This avoids a slowdown in winter and levelizes the workforce year round.