Q. Further to PUB-NLH-508 please describe the measures which will be taken in the 1 2 design of the HVDC switching stations to minimise the number and duration of 3 outages including the steps which will be taken to protect the equipment from the weather conditions at the HVDC switching stations and describe the steps that will 5 be taken to ensure that the HVDC switching stations can be accessed during all 6 weather conditions. 7 8 9 A. This question is understood to be in relation to the transition compounds located at 10 the Strait of Belle Isle. 11 Outdoor HVdc equipment is intended to be operated outdoors, and allowances for 12 13 snow accumulation, wind loads, and design temperatures and location are in 14 accordance with applicable building codes. Insulator ratings and potential for salt 15 contamination have been considered during the design process. 16 17 Access to all HVdc sites during extreme weather events would be addressed in the 18 same manner as used to access other critical infrastructure – snow clearing to the 19 sites and within the sites would be undertaken, at a minimum, in the same manner 20 as Hydro's other generation or terminal stations.