

1 Q. Regarding B-107, West Coast Communications Study, Hydro states that PLC
2 technology will not be able to support substation future data requirements for
3 system performance and systems operations applications. What future data
4 requirements to and from substations does Hydro anticipate will exceed the
5 capacity of PLC technology?
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8 A. As aging generation and transmission equipment is upgraded, opportunities
9 to remotely manage and monitor this equipment exist. Access to monitoring
10 and control systems, fault information, production and metering data, and
11 outage and work order information, will allow Hydro to respond to issues
12 remotely, reducing the need for staff to visit sites. In addition to SCADA,
13 teleprotection and operational voice, the existing PLC technology does not
14 have the capacity to support the growing needs in plant and station
15 automation.
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17 This study will evaluate the technology and cost to enhance the
18 communications infrastructure, as well as identify the potential current and
19 future benefits. A proposal to proceed with this improvement will only be
20 made if there is justification based on cost and or performance
21 improvements.