- Q. What steps are planned by Newfoundland Power in response to the Board's Decision from the Hydro rate hearing in 2001/02 (page 178 (sic), point 90) that "The Board believes NLH should focus attention on conservation and bring forward to the Board a multi-year plan directed to these kinds of initiatives"?
- A. In the Board's decision resulting from the Hydro rate hearing in 2001/02 (Order No. P.U. 7 (2002-2003)), the Board agreed that community based conservation initiatives, similar to those undertaken by the Conservation Corps of Newfoundland and Labrador, have merit in assisting consumers and reducing energy demands which, if sustained, may lower generating capacity requirements into the future.

As outlined in the Company's response to Request for Information CA-239, and the reports filed as attachments thereto, Newfoundland Power has focused its Demand Side Management (DSM) activities on programs that improve customer service and enhance the value customers receive from electricity. This is because the size and isolated nature of the Island's electrical system, and its current dynamics as reflected in load forecasts and generation cost projections, suggest that larger scale DSM activities are unlikely to have a significant impact, either on load or on generation requirements. Unless circumstances warrant a change in direction, the Company will maintain the current focus.

Newfoundland Power has already allied with the Conservation Corps of Newfoundland and Labrador, a non-profit organization that can provide homeowners with detailed household energy assessments (*EnerGuide for Houses* assessments). The Company assists the Conservation Corps generally with the promotion of their aims by making their promotional material available to customers at Company offices. The Company's Customer Service Specialists will also, in appropriate cases, discuss with customers the benefits obtainable by availing of the *EnerGuide for Houses* assessment service. In addition, Customers can finance the cost of the *EnerGuide for Houses* assessment as well as the purchase and installation costs associated with following the assessment's recommendations through Newfoundland Power. Financing is available for up to \$5,000 for terms up to 60 months pending credit approval, with monthly payments included on the customer's electrical bill.