

1 **Q. In reference to the evidence of Earl Ludlow, page 30, line 10, please advise as to the**  
2 **frequency of the scheduled inspection of lines, both visually and with the assistance**  
3 **of thermal imaging cameras, throughout Newfoundland Power's territory.**  
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5 A. Line inspections fall into one of three general categories: ground inspections, climbing  
6 inspections and infrared thermography inspections.  
7

8 ***Ground Inspections***

9 These inspections are primarily visual but may also involve the use of a sounding  
10 hammer, plumb bob or core sampler to assist in the evaluation of line components.  
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12 The frequency of ground inspections for transmission lines is based on the Company's  
13 *Transmission Line Inspection and Maintenance Guideline*, which states that, "All  
14 transmission lines are required to have a minimum of one detailed ground inspection per  
15 year. Transmission lines with ongoing problems may require more frequent inspections."  
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17 The frequency of ground inspections for distribution lines is based on the Company's  
18 *Distribution Inspection Guideline*, which states that, "All overhead primary distribution  
19 lines are required to have a minimum of one detailed ground inspection every five years."  
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21 ***Climbing Inspections***

22 These inspections are not scheduled regularly and are conducted to:

- 23 a. Verify questionable defects identified from ground inspections.  
24 b. Assess the condition of specific components (i.e. insulators, hardware and  
25 cross-arms) where ongoing service problems exist.  
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27 ***Infrared Thermography Inspections***

28 These inspections involve the use of infrared thermal imaging equipment to determine  
29 temperature anomalies that may indicate abnormal equipment conditions.  
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31 The frequency of infrared thermography inspections for both transmission and  
32 distribution lines are based on the Company's *Infrared Thermography Inspection*  
33 *Guidelines*. These guidelines are attached to the Company's response to Request for  
34 Information CA-474. This guideline suggests that equipment on the primary trunk feeder  
35 section of distribution lines should be inspected once every two years. Individual  
36 transmission lines, primary systems beyond the trunk feeder section, and secondary  
37 systems will be inspected as deemed necessary by the Superintendent of Area Operations.