

1 Q. Consumer Question: Has there been any environmental study done on the impacts
2 of mega-electrical transmission along the ocean floor or even along the shoreline of
3 other provinces?

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6 A. Requirements for environmental assessments of projects in other jurisdictions are
7 based on regulatory requirements in those jurisdictions. Nalcor notes that many
8 recent submarine HVdc systems installed globally have been subject to
9 environmental assessment.

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11 In Canada, Nalcor notes that submarine HVdc systems have been operating in
12 British Columbia since the 1960's between mainland British Columbia and
13 Vancouver Island. BC Hydro's most recent submarine project, the Vancouver Island
14 Transmission Reinforcement (VITR), was an HVac system, and it was submitted for
15 environmental assessment in 2005. The project was subjected to a federal
16 screening¹ and to a provincial assessment².

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18 The Labrador Island Transmission Link environmental assessment requires the
19 completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Comprehensive Study by
20 the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Government of Canada,
21 respectively.

¹<http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/details-eng.cfm?evaluation=30254&ForceNOC=Y>

²[http://transmission.bchydro.com/regulatory_filings/capital_projects/Vancouver+Island+Transmission+Reinf+Project+\(VITR\)+Environmental+Assessment+\(EA\)+Application.htm](http://transmission.bchydro.com/regulatory_filings/capital_projects/Vancouver+Island+Transmission+Reinf+Project+(VITR)+Environmental+Assessment+(EA)+Application.htm)