Q. On November 12, 2020 Hydro submitted its "Efficiency and Effectiveness Plan - Fall 2020
Update" with the Board. On page 3 of that report Hydro identified 'Contracting and
Procurement' as an area of focus and provided a list of key deliverables. Please provide an
update on the progress Hydro has made to date with respect to exploring new opportunities for
joint and consolidated procurement opportunities and achievement of its key deliverables.

A. The Contracting and Procurement Efficiency and Effectiveness Plan ("EEP") initiative has made progress on its key deliverables identified in Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's ("Hydro") Fall 2020 EEP Update.¹ Several key deliverables have been completed or are currently underway, including the current state analysis and multi-year plan for joint procurement opportunities.

A Collaborative Procurement Team was formed to identify joint procurement opportunities with affiliated and non-affiliated companies and build on further strategic opportunities identified in the multi-year plan. To date, multiple internal opportunities have been identified and executed, including snow clearing and non-destructive testing. Several other contracts have been identified for joint procurement as expiry dates approach, including vegetation management, gases, and crane maintenance. Hydro is also increasing its participation in federal and provincial government procurement opportunities, including purchases of goods such as office supplies and participation in an Atlantic Provinces Consortium Corporate Purchasing Card Request for Proposals and Contract Award.

Hydro has reviewed the *Public Procurement Act*² for considerations in joint procurement with non-affiliated entities and where the public procurement framework allows, Hydro has endeavored to collaborate with non-affiliated entities, such as the recent joint procurement initiative with Newfoundland Power Inc. ("Newfoundland Power") on electric vehicle charging stations. Further detailed discussions with Newfoundland Power have been productive and

¹ "Efficiency and Effectiveness Plan – Fall 2020 Update," Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, November 12, 2020.

² Public Procurement Act, SNL 2016, c P-41.001.

potential joint procurement opportunities have been identified for execution as expiry dates align, such as safety supplies.

Long-Term Supply Agreements and Master Service Agreements are being reviewed to identify value add opportunities prior to market circulation, including strategically reducing the number of stock keeping units, removing inactive contract clauses, and improving the specifications and evaluation process. Hydro continues to build strategic partnerships with its long term suppliers to collaborate on future opportunities to reduce costs and improve efficiencies.