

1 Q. (Reference Schedule 1, page 7) It is stated “*Proceeding with this project will enable Hydro to meet*
2 *growing customer demand (including higher charging acceptance rates of new EVs), and lower GHG*
3 *emissions from the transportation sector, all while availing of third-party funds.*” Please cite the
4 reference in legislation stating that promoting higher charging acceptance rates and lowering GHG
5 emissions in the transportation sector are part of Hydro’s mandate.

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8 A. On December 19, 2023, the Government of Canada finalized the Electric Vehicle Availability
9 Standard.¹ This standard requires that 100% of new vehicles sold in 2035 be zero emission
10 vehicles. On June 30, 2025, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador (“Government”)
11 released its Climate Change Action Plan for 2025 to 2030.² Passenger transport vehicles
12 represent 23.5% of provincial greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions and therefore, Government has
13 targeted a reduction in these emissions by “... investing in electric vehicle incentives and charging
14 infrastructure...”³ In recognition of this target and policy objective, Government is funding over
15 90% of the proposed project.

16 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) has an obligation to manage impacts on the
17 electrical system in order to meet its obligation for least cost, environmentally responsible,
18 reliable service to customers. By working with Government, Hydro is ensuring that the transition
19 to electric vehicles occurs with the least impact on the electrical system. Hydro’s response to
20 PUB-NLH-007 of this proceeding provides additional details on its approach to least cost
21 electrification.

¹“New Electric Vehicle Availability Standard will give Canadians better access to more affordable cars and cleaner air,” Government of Canada, December 19, 2023, <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/12/new-electric-vehicle-availability-standard-will-give-canadians-better-access-to-more-affordable-cars-and-cleaner-air.html>.

² “Provincial Government Releases Climate Change Action Plans for 2025-30,” Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, June 30, 2025, <https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2025/ecc/0630n03/>.

³ “Climate Change Mitigation Action Plan – 2025–2030,” Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, item 1.1, p. 9.