

1 Q. Provide details of any upgrades, including sectionalizing, feeder automation, mobile substation
2 and increased back-up generation, that Hydro has considered for each of its rural service areas
3 and why Hydro has or has not included upgrades in its planned capital investments.

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6 A. The worst-performing feeder analysis tracks five feeder key performance indicators and
7 performs a root cause analysis on the top 20 poorest performing feeders. Recommendations
8 from this analysis inform the annual Worst Performing Feeders Program. As part of the Worst
9 Performing Feeders Program, a new recloser was installed in L'Anse-au-Loup in 2025, two new
10 gang switches and a new sectionalizer was installed in Farewell Head in 2025, a new
11 sectionalizer was installed in Bottom Waters in 2024, and two new reclosers are planned for
12 installation in English Harbour West in 2026.

13 As part of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's ("Hydro") Distribution In-Service Failure
14 Program, Hydro has recommended gang-operated switches for Ramea in 2028 and Black Tickle
15 in 2027, as well as sectionalizers for Monkstown Line 1 located in South East Bight in 2027.
16 Hydro has replaced a sectionalizer on the Mud Lake distribution system with a new electronic
17 recloser for increased protection performance in 2025. Hydro has also undertaken a review of
18 protection schemes to ensure fused switches operate correctly and are coordinated with feeder
19 protection devices.

20 As part of Hydro's 2027 Capital Budget Application ("CBA"), Hydro has proposed a project to add
21 communications to reclosers within stations. This would allow connection of distribution devices
22 to SCADA,¹ creating the ability for feeder automation and system controllability. The standard
23 for installation of all new reclosers in stations has been updated to include a SCADA
24 communications link and recloser bypass switches, and recloser and voltage regulator
25 purchasing specifications have been updated to include communication options.

¹ Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition ("SCADA").

1 As part of Hydro's 2025 CBA,² a large capital spare power transformer, BIF T10, was proposed as
2 a replacement for multiple distribution substation transformers. This spare, along with other
3 existing transformer spares, provides a full spectrum of contingency in the event of a
4 transformer failure. Hydro has a multitap 1.66 MVA distribution transformer, BIF T13, that can
5 act as a small mobile substation if required.

² "2025 Capital Budget Application," Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, July 16, 2024, prog. 4.