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April 11, 2019

The Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities
Prince Charles Building
120 Torbay Road, PO Box 21040
St. John's, NL A1A 5B2

Attention: Ms. Cheryl Blundon
Director Corporate Services & Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Blundon:

Re: Transmission System and Terminal Station Asset Management Execution Report

Further to correspondence dated October 13, 2016 in relation to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities' Investigation and Hearing into Supply Issues and Power Outages on the Island Interconnected System, attached please find an original and twelve copies of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's annual report on transmission system and terminal station asset management. The report includes the completion status of activities in relation to the 2018 annual work plan and information relating to Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's 2019 planned activities.

We trust the foregoing is satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR HYDRO

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Senior Legal Counsel, Regulatory
SAW/sk

Encl.

cc: Gerard Hayes, Newfoundland Power
Paul Coxworthy, Stewart McKelvey
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Transmission System and Terminal Station Asset Management Execution Report

April 11, 2019

A Report to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities



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Attachment 1: Terminal Station and Asset Management Overview

1 **1.0 Introduction**

2 On October 13, 2016, the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities (the “Board”) requested
3 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) provide an annual report on Hydro’s transmission
4 system and terminal station asset management execution, including the status of the
5 completion of activities in relation to the Annual Work Plan (“AWP”) and information relating to
6 the following year’s planned activities.

7

8 Transmission system and terminal station assets provide the means by which generated
9 electricity can be delivered directly to high-voltage customers and to the distribution system
10 serving the remaining customers. Hydro maintains equipment for 3,904 km of transmission
11 lines and 74 terminal stations for the Island and Labrador Interconnected Systems. This
12 infrastructure is composed of numerous types of assets in various quantities. Through the
13 application of asset management activities during the life cycle of these assets, Hydro works to
14 provide reliable electricity delivery at least cost. Hydro’s asset management activities include:

15

16 • Installation of new assets;

17

18 • Refurbishment of existing infrastructure and equipment to meet expected operating
19 conditions;

20

21 • Execution of maintenance activities to maintain reliable operations; and

22

23 • Asset assessments to provide appropriately-timed refurbishment and replacement
24 activities of infrastructure and equipment.

25

26 These activities are conducted within an asset management system by personnel in Long-Term
27 Asset Planning (“LTAP”), Short-Term Planning and Scheduling (“STPS”), and Work Execution
28 divisions within Hydro.

1 This report provides:

2

3 • Hydro’s Asset Management Life Cycle Model;

4

5 • Roles and activities of the personnel in LTAP, STPS, and Work Execution;

6

7 • Background on transmission system and terminal station equipment function and asset
8 management practices;

9

10 • Background on capital-related interactions;

11

12 • Completion status of 2018 AWP maintenance activities and capital transmission system
13 and terminal station projects; and

14

15 • Planned 2019 AWP maintenance activities and capital transmission and terminal station
16 projects.

17

18 **2.0 Life Cycle of Assets**

19 At Hydro, new assets are brought into the system based on: reviews of load growth and new
20 customer requests, configuration changes for improved reliability, and asset refurbishment or
21 renewal based upon condition and/or reduced reliability. Assets are maintained until condition
22 assessments or asset management practices deem they are no longer fit for service, or are no
23 longer of use to Hydro’s electrical system. Assets are disposed of as per Hydro’s established
24 practices.

25

26 **3.0 Roles of Asset Management Personnel**

27 **3.1 Long-Term Asset Planning**

28 LTAP personnel focus on an asset over its entire life cycle to achieve reliable, least-cost service,
29 and to implement replacement or refurbishment of the asset in a manner that optimizes its

1 service life while avoiding unacceptable failures. To accomplish this objective, LTAP personnel
2 work with Engineering Services personnel to: establish standards and practices for equipment
3 and infrastructure installations to meet operating conditions and provide reliable service; and
4 to review the commissioning results of newly installed equipment. LTAP personnel also
5 develop, monitor, and improve maintenance programs and procedures through the
6 implementation and monitoring condition assessment techniques. These results are then
7 incorporated into asset maintenance regimes or the timing of capital plans for replacement or
8 refurbishment. LTAP personnel also incorporate failure analysis corrective actions into the
9 above activities to improve asset reliability. Additionally, LTAP personnel are responsible for
10 establishing and monitoring spare equipment requirements.

11
12 To begin an asset's life cycle, LTAP personnel will ensure assets are entered and configured
13 correctly into the computerized maintenance management system, ensure the correct
14 Preventive Maintenance ("PM") cycle is communicated to STPS personnel, and ensure the
15 correct check sheet for the maintenance is available. If required, LTAP personnel will update the
16 maintenance manual to reflect any new maintenance tactics that may be required.

17
18 **3.2 Short-Term Planning and Scheduling**
19 Based upon the maintenance procedures and frequencies determined by LTAP personnel, STPS
20 personnel develop the AWP to execute the asset maintenance activities and schedule execution
21 of the planned and required corrective maintenance ("CM") work. STPS personnel undertake
22 the detailed efforts required to schedule and execute this work by determining the human
23 resources, tools, procedures, and equipment are required, and subsequently requisition
24 necessary materials, tools, and equipment.

25
26 **3.3 Work Execution**
27 Work Execution management and LTAP personnel review CM work orders to determine the
28 priority of the work. When approved, STPS personnel will plan and schedule the work, as
29 appropriate.

1 Work Execution personnel focus on the execution of work orders that result from STPS weekly
2 scheduling activities. STPS personnel assign labour and parts to the work order and also move it
3 to the work execution staff to execute. The work execution personnel are responsible for
4 ensuring the work is completed properly. After completion of the work, the work order is
5 updated with information on activities performed and any completed check sheets are
6 attached. This information is filed and used by LTAP, Work Execution, and STPS groups to
7 improve maintenance practices and to assess the condition of assets.

8

9 **4.0 Capital-Related Interactions**

10 System Planning personnel identify new infrastructure required due to load growth, new major
11 customer requests, and electrical system reliability improvements. LTAP personnel identify
12 asset renewal or refurbishment requirements based upon asset condition assessments, asset
13 management practices, and/or reduced reliable operation. Asset condition is normally
14 determined by a review of completed PM and CM work orders as well as formal condition
15 assessments, original equipment manufacturer recommendations, and other asset-specific
16 criteria or legislative criteria.¹ Once capital work on an asset is identified, it is placed in the
17 long-term plan in the appropriate year for refurbishment or replacement. LTAP personnel
18 monitor the asset condition, and adjust execution timing, as required.

19

20 For each annual Capital Budget Application submitted for Board approval, detailed
21 justifications, scopes, and estimates are prepared from the long-term plan preliminary scope
22 statements, justifications, and estimates. Each project is reviewed by various groups within
23 Hydro including Engineering Services, asset owners, LTAP, Regulatory Affairs, and Finance.

24

25 Once the Capital Budget Application is approved, project execution teams, as part of Hydro
26 Engineering Services, are assigned to execute the projects. The teams ensure appropriate
27 design standards are followed, all necessary equipment is procured within the correct
28 specifications, equipment and infrastructure are properly installed, commissioning and

¹ An example would include polychlorinated biphenyl (“PCB”) Management.

1 energization plans are developed, spare parts are identified for new assets, as-built drawings
2 are completed, and Operation and Maintenance manuals are made available to the LTAP, STPS,
3 and Work Execution groups.

4
5 Once the assets from the project are commissioned and placed into service, the assets are
6 transitioned to regional staff for operation and maintenance.

7

8 **5.0 Terminal Stations Asset Management**

9 Hydro maintains assets in 74 Terminal Stations as part of the Island and Labrador
10 Interconnected Systems, with some having assets dating back to the late-1960s. These stations
11 contain electrical equipment such as: transformers, circuit breakers, instrument transformers,
12 disconnect switches, arresters, and associated protection and control relays and equipment
13 required to protect, control, and operate Hydro’s electrical system.

14

15 Terminal stations play a critical role in the transmission and distribution of electricity. Stations
16 act as transition points within the transmission system and interface points with the lower
17 voltage distribution and generation systems.

18

19 The following sections provide a summary of the maintenance, refurbishment and replacement
20 criteria Hydro uses for Terminal Station assets. Attachment 1 “Terminal Station Asset
21 Management Overview”² which was included in the Terminal Station Refurbishment and
22 Modernization project in Hydro’s “2019 Capital Budget Application,” provides additional
23 terminal station asset management information. Appendix A provides additional information on
24 the maintenance program for various major asset classes for terminal stations.

25

26 **5.1 Power Transformers and Oil-Filled Shunt Reactors**

27 Power transformers are critical components of the power system. Transformers allow the cost-
28 effective production, transmission, and distribution of electricity by converting the electricity to

² Also provided in Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro’s “2019 Capital Budget Application,” Vol. II, Report 6.

1 an appropriate voltage for each segment of the electrical system. On the Island and Labrador
2 Interconnected Systems, Hydro has 118 power transformers and three oil-filled shunt reactors
3 that are 46 kV and above, as well as several station service transformers at voltages lower than
4 46 kV.

5
6 Electrical insulation aging is directly related to transformer operating temperatures, and
7 therefore it is critical that transformers operate as cool as economically possible. The majority
8 of Hydro's high-voltage instrument transformers are filled with oil for electrical insulation
9 purposes. Higher operating temperatures affect the characteristics of the transformer oil which,
10 in turn, lowers the strength of the insulation within the transformer. As a result, transformer oil
11 cooling systems, as well as transformer winding and oil temperatures, are checked regularly.
12 Additionally, it is important for the transformer oil to be tested to ensure acceptable oil quality,
13 strength of insulation, and acceptable levels of dissolved gases. Doble Tests³ are performed to
14 measure the overall insulation of the transformer, as well as the bushings, and helps provide an
15 overall condition of the unit. A winding resistance test is used to determine if there are any
16 loose connections or shorted turns inside the transformer. Other important tests are also
17 completed for the transformer protective devices such as gas, winding, and oil temperature
18 relays. In the event of a problem within the transformer, these devices provide a warning
19 alarm. For more severe conditions, these protective devices can cause breakers to trip, which
20 will remove the unit from service.

21
22 Hydro's current replacement criterion for power transformers of 46 kV and greater is based
23 upon one of the following:

- 24
25 1. Degree of polymerization ("DP") less than 400 for network transformers and less than
26 500 for generator step up transformers (in Asset Criticality A);

³ Doble Tests are high-voltage insulation tests that examine the overall integrity of high-voltage equipment through power factor and capacitance measurements.

- 1 2. Uncontrollable gassing; an indication of an internal fault;
- 2
- 3 3. Forecasted replacement based upon DP value and rate of change of DP; or
- 4
- 5 4. Requirement for major refurbishment in the near-term (to maintain/restore reliability),
- 6 but replacement is a lower cost alternative.
- 7

8 Due to the aging nature of the transformer fleet in a maritime environment, Hydro has
9 developed an ongoing refurbishment program to cover bushing replacements, radiator
10 replacements, oil refurbishment, moisture reduction, on-load tap changer overhaul and leak
11 repair, transformer leak repair, protective device replacement, transformer painting, and
12 installation of on-line Dissolved Gas Analysis monitors.

14 **5.2 Circuit Breakers**

15 Circuit breakers operate to complete, maintain, or interrupt current flow under normal or fault
16 conditions. The failure of a breaker to operate properly may affect reliability and safety of the
17 electrical system, resulting in failure of other equipment and electrical outages to customers.
18 Hydro has 228 terminal station circuit breakers in service of 46 kV and greater on the Island and
19 Labrador Interconnected Systems. Hydro utilizes three types of circuit breakers throughout the
20 system. They are Sulphur Hexafluoride (“SF₆”), air blast, and oil-filled circuit breakers.

21
22 To ensure reliable operation, breaker operating mechanisms are inspected, lubricated, and
23 tested to ensure low contact resistance and contact opening and closing timing within
24 manufacturer’s guidelines.

25
26 SF₆ circuit breakers (46 kV⁴, 69 kV, 138 kV and 230 kV) are planned for overhaul at 20 years and
27 replacement at 40 years. Replacement will occur sooner than 40 years if their condition
28 dictates. Oil circuit breakers are not overhauled and all are planned for replacement by 2025

⁴ Hydro uses 72.5 kV class breakers for breakers utilized in 46 kV and 69 kV systems.

1 due to the suspicion that bushings contain PCBs greater than 50 parts per million. There is also
2 a Federal Government environmental mandate to remove such bushings by 2025. Air blast
3 circuit breakers are no longer overhauled due to execution of a project to have all air blast
4 circuit breakers replaced with SF₆ circuit breakers by the end of 2020.

5

6 **5.3 Instrument Transformers**

7 Instrument transformers convert high voltage and high current into low voltages and currents
8 for use in protection, control, and metering equipment.

9 If the oil contained in the majority of Hydro's high-voltage instrument transformers for
10 electrical insulation purposes were to leak from the device, it could fail. Therefore, visual
11 inspections are required to find oil leaks and Doble testing is also used to confirm the high-
12 voltage insulation integrity of the unit.

13

14 Corrosion is also common in instrument transformer junction boxes, which contain secondary
15 wiring and terminal blocks connected to protection, control, and metering equipment. The
16 older designed junction boxes were constructed of mild steel. Severe rusting of these junction
17 boxes could allow water to leak into the junction box, causing corrosion of electrical terminals
18 and affecting the reliability of the protection circuits. Severely corroded junction boxes on
19 transformers are replaced with either aluminum or stainless steel junction boxes.

20

21 Instrument transformers are currently replaced for any of the following reasons:

22

- 23 • Deteriorated condition;
- 24 • Unit is suspected to contain PCBs greater than 50 parts per million; or
- 25 • The transformer is a 230 kV Asea IMBA Current Transformer.^{5,6}

⁵ IMBA is a model of current transformer manufactured by Asea AB.

⁶ The failure of a 230 kV IMBA-type current transformer ("CT") at the Holyrood Terminal Station in 2010 prompted the engagement of a consultant to provide a CT tear-down investigation. One recommendation from the consultant's report was to remove all 230 kV IMBA-type CTs within Hydro's system in a planned approach. Following the consultant's recommendation, all IMBA-type CTs were identified and included in the instrument transformer replacement program. "2013 Capital Budget Application," Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, Vol. II,

1 **5.4 Surge Arrestors**

2 Surge arrestors provide over-voltage protection for equipment resulting from lightning strikes
3 or switching surges. Arrestor failure is likely to result in a fault. To ensure the devices are
4 reliable, arrestors are visually inspected for contamination or cracking of the insulator.
5 Arrestors also undergo Doble testing to confirm overall condition.

6

7 Arresters are replaced if:

8

- 9 • Doble testing has indicated a failed unit;
- 10
- 11 • Visual inspection identifies severe contamination or insulator cracking;
- 12
- 13 • The arrester type is prone to failure; or
- 14
- 15 • A transformer with aged arresters is being replaced (consideration will be given to
16 installing an arrester replacement).
- 17

17

18 **5.5 Disconnect Switches**

19 Disconnect switches are used as isolating devices to enable other equipment to be removed
20 from service and restored to service safely. It is critical that all electrical contacts open or close
21 properly when required. When high-voltage disconnect switch contacts do not close properly a
22 high resistance connection can occur resulting in overheating of the contacts. This heating can
23 melt the contacts and damage the disconnect switch causing the circuit breakers to operate
24 and, depending on the terminal station configuration, cause a customer outage. Visual
25 inspection and infrared scans are performed to ensure any disconnect switches function, both
26 manually and electrically. Switches are also lubricated and functionally tested annually.

Report 14 "Replace Instrument Transformers Various Locations."
<<http://www.pub.nf.ca/applications/nlh2013capital/files/application/NLH2013Application-Volumell-Report14.pdf>>.

1 Replacement of a disconnect switch is primarily decided based upon its condition, identified
2 operating problems, issues determined during maintenance, or when there is a requirement for
3 excessive CM. Secondary prioritization for the long-term plan is based on an equipment age of
4 50 years or obsolescence, which makes it difficult to find replacement parts.

5

6 **5.6 Protection and Control Relays**

7 The terminal station protection and control system automatically monitors, analyzes, and
8 triggers action by other terminal station equipment, such as opening of breakers, to ensure the
9 safe, reliable operation of the electrical system. The system also initiates operation of
10 equipment when a command is issued by system operators. The protection and control system
11 provides indications of system conditions and alarms and records system conditions for
12 analysis.

13

14 Relays are tested and recalibrated to ensure they operate correctly. During 230 kV breaker PM
15 activities, the entire system from relays to high-voltage circuit breakers are operated to ensure
16 the overall protection system functions properly. After a protection operation on the system,
17 engineering personnel review the event data to ensure protective relaying operated correctly.
18 If there was a malfunction of the relaying, corrective actions are implemented.

19

20 There are two types of relays used throughout Hydro's system—digital solid-state (new and
21 older vintage) and the older electromechanical design.

22

23 Historically, protective relays were replaced based on performance, obsolescence, age, and the
24 inability to provide the desired protection functionality and information required for fault
25 analysis. Hydro has a protective relay replacement program for electromechanical and obsolete
26 solid-state relays. This plan includes the completion of the 230 kV relay replacement by 2026
27 and further development of the plan to replace the 138 kV-and 69 kV-related relays.

1 Additionally, there are programs to upgrade alarm systems and breaker failure protection in
2 major terminal stations. Starting in 2019, Hydro plans to initiate replacement of deteriorating
3 transformer tap changer paralleling controllers.

4
5 The electromechanical and older digital solid-state relays lack features such as data storage and
6 event recording capability; therefore, modern digital multifunction relays are used to replace
7 these older style relays. The modern digital multifunctional relays have increased setting
8 flexibility, fault-disturbance monitoring, communications capability, metering functionality, and
9 offer greater dependability and security, thus enhancing system reliability.

10

11 **5.7 Battery Banks and Chargers**

12 Battery banks and chargers provide direct current (“dc”) power supply to protection and
13 control equipment, circuit breakers, and disconnect switches. Battery banks are visually
14 inspected for leaks and contact corrosion, and are tested annually for contact conductance.
15 Discharge testing is completed for battery banks during factory acceptance testing and is
16 scheduled after 10 years of service and every 5 years thereafter for category A and B flooded
17 cell banks and, every 2 years on criticality category A and B valve-regulated banks.

18

19 Based upon experience, Hydro plans replacement of flooded cell battery banks after 20 years of
20 service, valve-regulated lead acid (“VRLA”) batteries after 10 years of service, and chargers after
21 20 years of service. Equipment condition and operating problems are also considered and
22 equipment is replaced sooner, if necessary.

23

24 **5.8 Capacitor Banks**

25 Capacitor banks are required at various locations on the system to provide voltage control for
26 different system conditions. These banks are typically made up of capacitor modules in series
27 and parallel. Capacitor banks are visually inspected for insulating oil leaks or insulator cracking.
28 PM activities, conducted on a six-year cycle, will clean the capacitor bank and execute
29 capacitance testing.

1 Hydro replaces capacitor banks based upon condition and considers replacement after the
2 capacitor bank has been in service for 35 years.

3

4 **5.9 Air Systems**

5 Air systems consist of both compressors and air dryers. They are used mainly to supply dry air
6 to air blast circuit breakers. For air blast circuit breakers to operate correctly, air must be
7 available and dry. Maintenance for compressors and dryers ranges from monthly visual
8 inspections and cleaning to annual performance and function testing. Overhauls are
9 undertaken as warranted by equipment condition.

10

11 With the existing condition of the air systems and an ongoing program to replace air blast
12 circuit breakers by 2020, Hydro is not planning to replace air dryers or compressors needed for
13 those breakers.

14

15 Some SF₆ and oil-filled circuit breakers use compressed air in the operating mechanism. Any
16 remaining compressors used for those breakers will be assessed for replacement.

17

18 **5.10 Grounding**

19 The grounding system in a terminal station or distribution substation consists of: copper wire
20 used in the ground grid under the station, gradient control mats for high-voltage switches,
21 bonding wiring connecting the structure and equipment metal components to the ground grid,
22 and a crushed stone layer. In the event of a line-to-ground fault, electrical potential differences
23 will exist in the grounding system. If the grounding system is inadequate or deteriorated, these
24 differences may be hazardous to personnel. These potential differences are known as step and
25 touch potentials. Effective station grounding reduces these potentials to eliminate the hazard.

1 Hydro will continue with its grounding upgrade program, in which disconnect switch gradient
2 control mats have been replaced, and grounding systems are upgraded in accordance with
3 IEEE,⁷ 80-2013, "IEEE Guide for Safety in AC Substation Grounding," 2013.

4

5 **5.11 Insulators**

6 Insulators provide electrical insulation between energized equipment and ground. Terminal
7 stations contain solid core, cap and pin, multi-cone, and suspension type insulators.

8

9 When an insulator fails and a fault occurs, a safety hazard to personnel and customer outage
10 may occur.

11

12 For insulators using porcelain, cement is used in mating the porcelain and metal hardware.

13 Some older insulators have failed by a phenomenon known as "cement growth."⁸ In such

14 situations, pieces of falling porcelain are a hazard to personnel and equipment below the

15 insulator. Furthermore, when an insulator failure causes a fault, customer outages may occur.

16 Hydro replaces identified cement-growth insulators in its capital program.

17

18 **5.12 Steel Structure and Foundations**

19 Reinforced concrete foundations support high-voltage equipment, structures, and bus work.

20 The majority of these foundations were installed during the original station construction and

21 are in excess of 35 years of age. Age, as well as exposure to freeze/thaw cycles and other

22 weather elements can cause deterioration and impact the foundation's structural integrity.

23 When routine visual inspections identify significant damage, refurbishment or replacement of

24 the foundation is included in Hydro's capital program.

⁷ Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers ("IEEE").

⁸ Cement growth is a phenomenon where cement grout expands due to moisture egress, which leads to radial cracks of porcelain suspension insulators.

1 A refurbishment program was completed in 2018 to address corrosion, which could lead to
2 structure failure, between aluminum structures and the concrete foundations at the Holyrood
3 Terminal Station.

4

5 **5.13 Control Buildings**

6 The control buildings house protection, control, and supervisory control and data acquisition
7 (“SCADA”) equipment, as well as battery banks and chargers. Control buildings are inspected
8 for leaks and general building and life safety condition during 120-day terminal station
9 inspections. Hydro has an ongoing program to address capital deficiencies.

10

11 **5.14 Asset Criticality and Spares**

12 Hydro has developed a terminal station asset criticality ranking of each piece of equipment
13 based on available alternatives (e. g. , parallel transformers), environmental impact, customer
14 impact, likelihood of breakdown, and cost of repairs. This is considered in prioritizing
15 maintenance and capital work. Hydro uses similar factors for establishing asset criticality
16 rankings for power transformers, circuit breakers, battery banks and chargers, disconnect
17 switches, and instrument transformers. In 2019, Hydro will continue development of asset
18 criticality rankings for protection and control assets.

19

20 In 2019 Hydro plans to continue with identifying any new terminal station spares for power
21 transformer tap changers and bushings, synchronous condensers at the Wabush Terminal
22 Station, and protection and control relays. Procurement of any identified spares will be
23 completed in 2019 and 2020. Hydro also reviews its spare terminal station equipment on a
24 routine basis and takes action or establishes plans to achieve appropriate spares levels based
25 on the outcome of those reviews.

26

27 **6.0 Transmission Line Asset Management**

28 Hydro owns approximately 583 km of 69 kV; 1500 km of 138 kV; and 1821 km of 230 kV
29 transmission lines as part of the Island and Labrador Interconnected Systems, for a total line

1 length of approximately 3904 km.⁹ Hydro also owns approximately 30 km of 46 kV
2 subtransmission lines in Labrador West.

3
4 Hydro's 69 kV-class lines are of wood pole construction and the 138 kV-class lines are primarily
5 comprised of wood pole and aluminum lattice structures. The 230 kV class lines are a
6 combination of wood pole and steel lattice construction. Over half of these assets were
7 constructed in the 1960s and early-1970s.

8
9 Transmission lines are a set of conductors supported by structures that carry electrical power
10 from generation plants to terminal stations and link terminal stations together, which allows for
11 the distribution of electricity to customers. A transmission line consists of structures,
12 conductors, insulators, grounding system, and right-of-ways.

13
14 The primary subcomponents of a steel structure are the legs, cross members, and grillage
15 foundations which are typically fabricated from structural steel angle. These subcomponents
16 are hot-dip galvanized to ensure extended life. A typical lattice steel structure can last in excess
17 of 70 years.

18
19 The primary subcomponents of a wood pole structure are the poles, crossarms, and cross
20 braces. These subcomponents are treated with preservatives to ensure extended life. A typical
21 treated wood pole can last in excess of 60 years. Typically treated crossarms and cross braces
22 can last in excess of 30 years.

⁹ L2303 and L2304 from Churchill Falls to Wabush are 230 kV lines which are 215 km in length. These lines are leased by Hydro from Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation Limited. Maintenance on these lines is performed by Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation Limited through an agreement with Hydro, with Hydro responsible for asset planning.

1 **6.1 Wood Pole and Steel Structure Line Management Programs**

2 Wood Pole and Steel Structure Line Management Programs are the primary means by which
3 Hydro maintains and refurbishes its transmission lines. These cyclical programs include
4 structure-climbing inspections, wood pole Resistograph readings and shell thickness
5 measurements, and visual inspections of conductors, guying, and foundations. LTAP personnel
6 establish condition-based assessments to identify and prioritize capital work and CM activities
7 so as to extend line life expectancy. The condition-based data collected is also used to
8 determine when a total line replacement is required. As component replacement quantities
9 increase beyond the budgetary framework of the pertinent line management program,
10 separate capital projects are placed into the long-term plan for line upgrades.

11

12 **6.2 Helicopter Patrols**

13 Helicopter patrols are carried out twice a year on transmission lines. These patrols conduct
14 visual inspections of the transmission line from the air and look for visible defects and right-of-
15 way deficiencies, such as danger trees. Hydro captures video on all helicopter patrols, which
16 allows for further assessment after completion of the patrol. All deficiencies are documented
17 and scheduled for corrective work.

18

19 **6.3 Ground Patrols**

20 Ground patrols are generally carried out as part of the Wood Pole and Steel Structure Line
21 Management Programs. Lines exposed to high-loading conditions have annual ground patrol
22 which conduct visual inspection from the ground to identify, assess, and prioritize deficiencies
23 to a transmission line and its right-of-way. Identified deficiencies are documented and
24 scheduled for corrective work.

25

26 **6.4 Infrared Inspections**

27 Hydro completes infrared scanning of connections on dead end structures on all transmission
28 lines. All deficiencies are documented and scheduled for corrective work.

1 **6.5 Wood Pole Treatment**

2 Preservative treatment is added to the poles to extend their service life through the Wood Pole
3 Line Management (“WPLM”) Program.

4
5 **6.6 Right-of-Way Maintenance**

6 A transmission line runs along a corridor typically referred to as a right-of-way. The width of the
7 right-of-way depends on the voltage class of the transmission line, or if several lines run
8 through the same corridor. Uncontrolled vegetation growth may eventually lead to outages due
9 to conductor contact or travel access restrictions on the right-of-way due to thick brush. During
10 transmission line inspections, tree height and vegetation growth are noted in addition to areas
11 that need repairs, such as washouts. The work to control vegetation is prioritized based on
12 condition. Hydro utilizes a combination of cutting and spraying to control vegetation growth on
13 its right-of-ways. Hydro performs vegetation control on approximately 10% of its right-of-ways
14 per year with 60% of the annual program involving vegetation cutting and the remaining 40% of
15 the vegetation sprayed with herbicide.

16
17 **6.7 Asset Criticality and Spares**

18 Hydro has developed a transmission line asset criticality ranking based on the health of each
19 piece of equipment, available alternatives (e.g., radial lines), environmental impact, customer
20 impact, likelihood of breakdown, and cost of repairs. These factors are considered in prioritizing
21 maintenance and capital work. Rankings have been established for all transmission lines using
22 this approach.

23
24 Hydro reviews its spare transmission materials on a routine basis. From these action is taken or
25 plans are established to achieve appropriate spares levels.

1 **7.0 Status of Planned 2018 Transmission System and Terminal Station**
2 **Activities**

3 The completion status of the AWP and Winter Readiness (“WR”) activities for transmission
4 system and terminal station facilities on the Island and Labrador Interconnected System is
5 summarized in the following sections.

6
7 **7.1 Transmission System**

8 As shown in Figure 1 to Figure 4, Hydro completed 100% of its planned 2018 transmission
9 system AWP and WR activities.

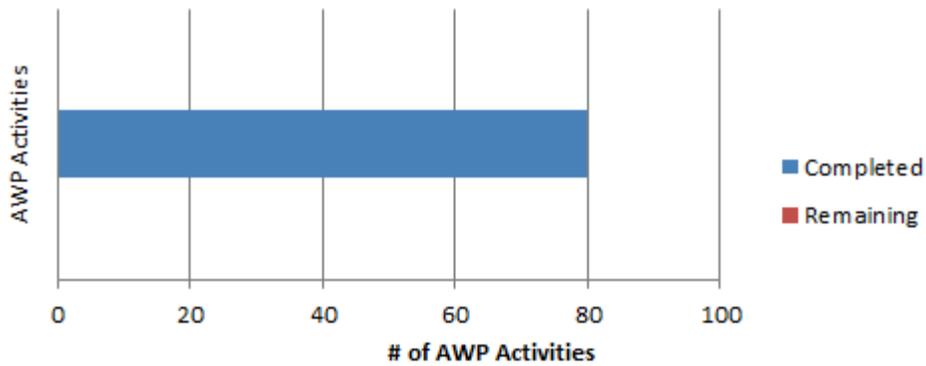


Figure 1: 2018 Transmission System AWP Activities for the Island Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

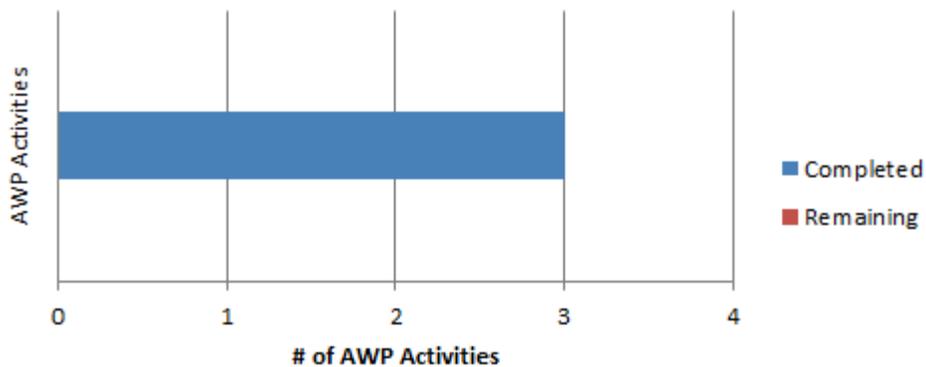


Figure 2: 2018 Transmission System AWP Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

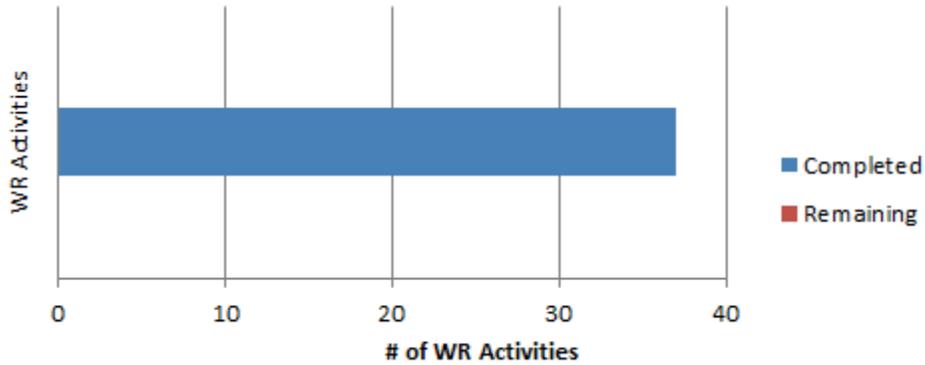


Figure 3: 2018 Transmission System WR Activities for the Island Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

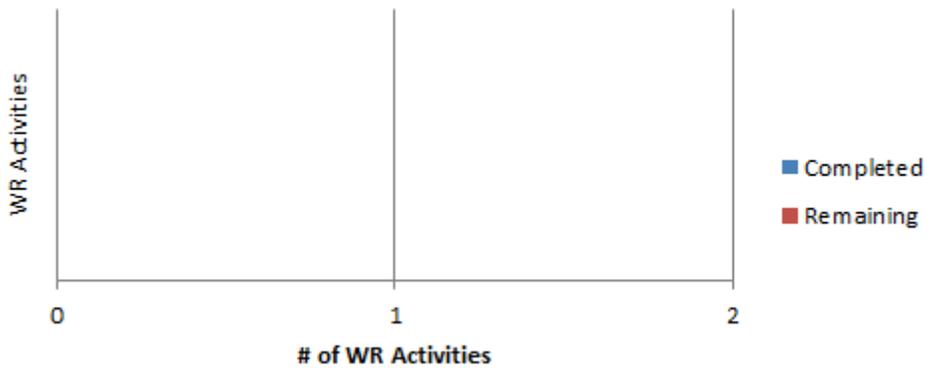


Figure 4: 2018 Transmission System Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

- 1 The following is a summary of the transmission system activities completed in 2018:
- 2
- 3 • Completion of TL 266 (in-service) from Soldiers Pond to Hardwoods Terminal Stations;
- 4
- 5 • Replacement of three anchors on Structure 435 in Linton Lake on TL 212;
- 6
- 7 • Replacement of insulators on 190 structures on TL 218;
- 8
- 9 • Replacement of vertical line post insulators on TL 227 between Structure 583 and 677;

- 1 • Completion of the following WPLM inspections and refurbishments:
- 2
- 3 ○ Inspection on TL 219, TL 220, TL 223, TL 225, TL 239, TL 241, TL 252, TL 253, TL
- 4 256, and L1301; and
- 5
- 6 ○ Refurbishment on TL 203, TL 212, TL 219, TL 220, TL 227, TL 241, TL 250, TL 251,
- 7 TL 261, and L1301.
- 8
- 9 • Completion of Steel Line Inspection Program Inspections, as referenced in Table 1.

Table 1: 2018 Steel Line Climbing/Ground Inspections Completed

Line #	Climbing Inspection (Structures)	Ground Patrol (Structures)
TL 202	88–103, 191–208	103–136, 283–319
TL 204	51–60, 182–197	45–66, 142–173
TL 205	105–125	126–167
TL 206	88–103, 192–211	103–136, 288–325
TL 207	1–15	1–30
TL 208	1–25	1–46
TL 211	71–84	84–111
TL 212	370–436	370–436
TL 214	1–45, 275–355	167–222
TL 217	176–200	156–207
TL 228	55–72, 189–200	113–150, 250–278
TL 231	55–65, 195–211	43–63, 141–175
TL 235	1–4	
TL 236	30–35	1–56
TL 237	19–36	109–144
TL 242	64–71	43–57
TL 247	149–185, 403–416	150–224, 371–410
TL 248	73–90	113–150
L23	29–42, 78–88, 171–184, 314–327, 457–470	
L24	29–,78–88, 171–184, 314–327, 457–470	
TL 265	1–5	
TL268	1–5	

1 **7.2 Terminal Stations**

2 As shown in Figure 5 to Figure 8, Hydro completed 97% and 89% of its planned 2018 terminal
3 station Island Interconnected System and Labrador Interconnected System AWP respectively,
4 and 99% and 100% of its planned 2018 terminal station Island Interconnected System and
5 Labrador Interconnected System WR activities respectively as of December 31, 2018.

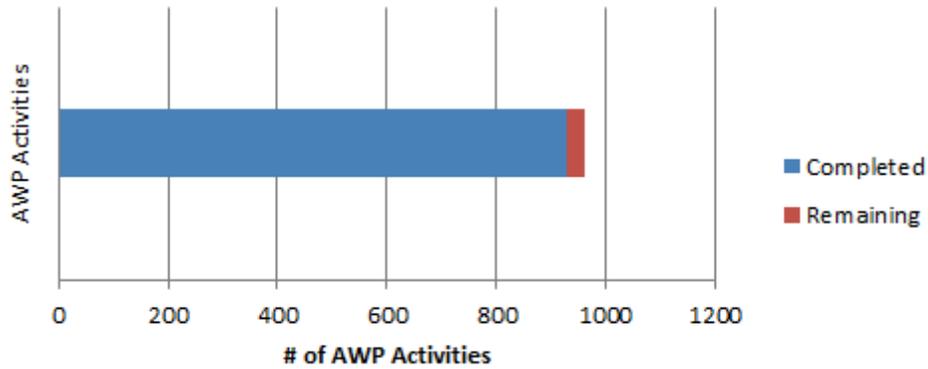


Figure 5: 2018 Terminal Station AWP Activities for the Island Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

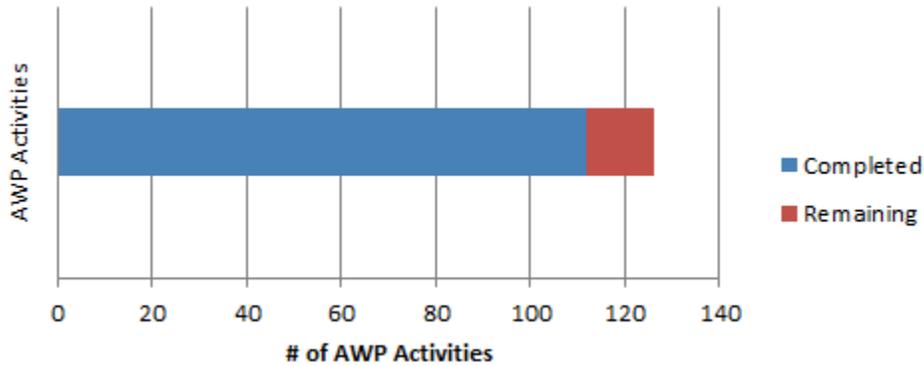


Figure 6: 2018 Terminal Station AWP Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

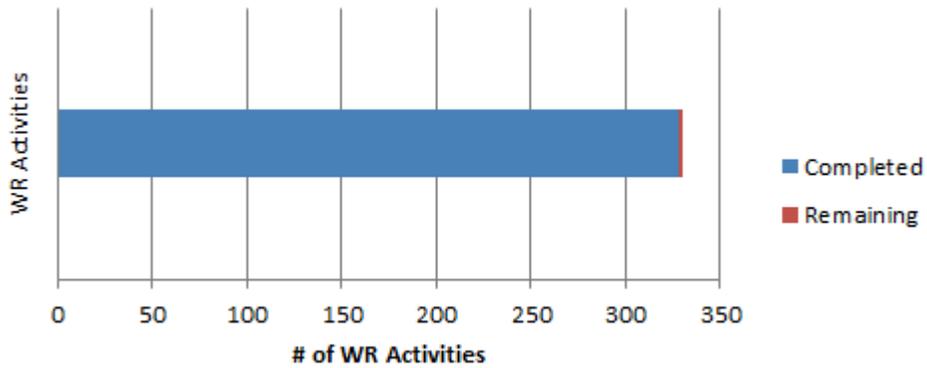


Figure 7: 2018 Terminal Station WR Activities for the Island Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

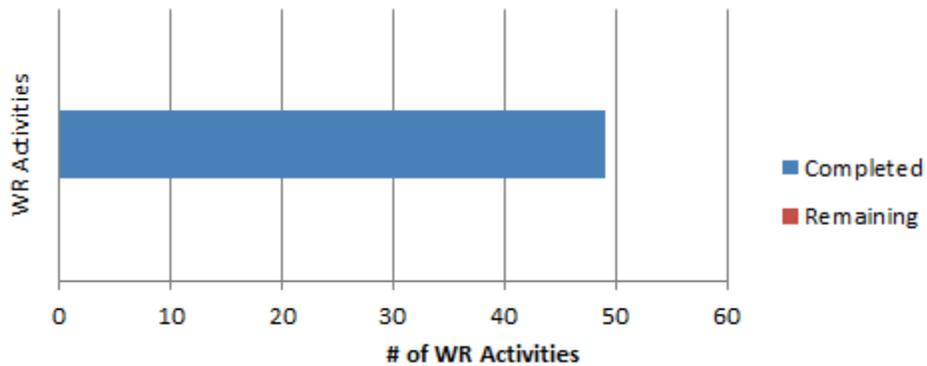


Figure 8: 2018 Terminal Station WR Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (December 31, 2018)

1 The following is a summary of the terminal station activities completed in 2018:

2

3 • Relocation of TL 231 from Bay D’Espoir Terminal Station 1 to Bay D’Espoir Terminal
4 Station 2 and upgrade protection for TL 231 at Bay D’Espoir Terminal Station 2 and
5 Stoneybrook Terminal Stations as part of the Maritime Link upgrades;

6

7 • Interconnection of TL 208 at the Western Avalon Terminal Station to the new gas-
8 insulated switchgear and upgrade protection for TL 208 at the Western Avalon and
9 Voisey’s Bay Terminal Stations;

- 1 • Completed 17, six-year breaker maintenance procedures;
- 2
- 3 • Operated all 69 kV and above circuit breakers once throughout the year and operated
- 4 during 5, six-year 230 kV breaker maintenance procedures;
- 5
- 6 • Completed 16, six-year power transformer maintenance procedures and 16, six-year
- 7 power transformer Doble maintenance procedures;
- 8
- 9 • Completed Oil Quality and Dissolved Gas Analysis Program for power transformers and
- 10 tap changers;
- 11
- 12 • Completed 151 disconnect switch PM procedures;
- 13
- 14 • Completed six-year protection and control maintenance procedures at 12 stations;
- 15
- 16 • Completed 32, six-year instrument transformer Doble maintenance procedures;
- 17
- 18 • Completed infrared scans at all terminal stations;
- 19
- 20 • Completed annual battery maintenance at all terminal stations;
- 21
- 22 • Replaced 14 circuit breakers, including 11 air blast circuit breakers. Also removed 2 air
- 23 blast breakers due to configuration change at Bay d’Espoir Terminal Station 1 for the
- 24 relocation of TL 231 and the new connection of TL 208 to the Western Avalon Gas-
- 25 Insulated section of the Terminal Station;
- 26
- 27 • Power Transformers: completed 7 oil refurbishments, 4 radiator replacements, and 47
- 28 bushing replacements on 9 transformers, installed 7 online gas monitors, 2 radiator fan
- 29 additions, and replaced 19 arrestors.

- 1 • Replaced 12 disconnect switches;
- 2
- 3 • Replaced 36 instrument transformers; and
- 4
- 5 • Replaced protective relays for 6 transmission protection schemes and 2 transformer
- 6 protection schemes.
- 7

8 The AWP PM activity for Bay D’Espoir circuit breaker B1B10, reported as incomplete,¹⁰ will be
 9 cancelled due to the planned replacement of this breaker starting September 3, 2019.

10

11 **7.3 Status of 2018 Terminal Station and Transmission Line Capital Projects**

12 Appendix B identifies the capital projects that included planned construction completion in
 13 2018 for assets in terminal stations and on transmission lines, and indicates the completion
 14 status of each. Table 2 summarizes the completion status of these projects by asset category.

Table 2: Status of Capital Projects with Planned Construction Completion in 2018

Asset Category	Complete	Partially Complete/ Deferred	Incomplete	Total
Transmission Lines	3	2	0	5
Terminal Stations	13	15	0	28
Total	16	17	0	33

15 Some elements of work in the transmission lines and terminal station asset categories have
 16 been deferred to 2019. These are mostly a result of unforeseen events including reprioritization
 17 of work, availability of internal engineering and construction resources, and unavailability or
 18 shortening of outage windows required to execute work. The deferred work included:

19

- 20 • TL 267, environmental rehabilitation and project close-out, from Bay d’Espoir to
- 21 Western Avalon;

¹⁰ As reported in “The Board’s Investigation and Hearing into Supply Issues and Power Outages on the Island Interconnected System – Winter Readiness Planning Report – Update,” filed with the Board on January 15, 2019.

- 1 • WPLM scope (non-WR) including:
 - 2
 - 3 ○ TL 203: replacement of 10 poles, 9 crossarms, 5 sets of knee bracing, 1.5 km of
 - 4 overhead ground wire;
 - 5
 - 6 ○ TL 219: 1 pole;
 - 7
 - 8 ○ TL 250: 7 poles and 39 eyebolts (13 structures);
 - 9
 - 10 ○ TL 251: 2 poles and 6 disconnect switches;
 - 11
 - 12 ○ Replacement of Holyrood Site Services substation with supply from
 - 13 Newfoundland Power feeder;
 - 14
 - 15 ○ 5 breaker replacements;
 - 16
 - 17 ○ Various parts of 4 transformer refurbishments; and
 - 18
 - 19 ○ Various parts of 4 protection and control upgrade projects.
 - 20

21 While this work has been deferred, Hydro has determined that these deferred activities would
22 not significantly impact the reliability of the Island and Labrador Interconnected Systems for
23 winter 2018–2019. Details regarding the cause of the deferrals, as well as the risk and
24 mitigation through the winter, are provided in the Notes Section of Appendix B.

26 **8.0 Planned 2019 Transmission System and Terminal Station Activities**

27 **8.1 Transmission System**

28 As shown in Figures 9 to 12, as of March 22, 2019 Hydro has completed 26. 5% of its planned
29 2019 transmission system AWP activities and 30. 9% of its 2019 WR activities for the Island

- 1 Interconnected System and has not yet commenced work on the Labrador Interconnected
- 2 System.

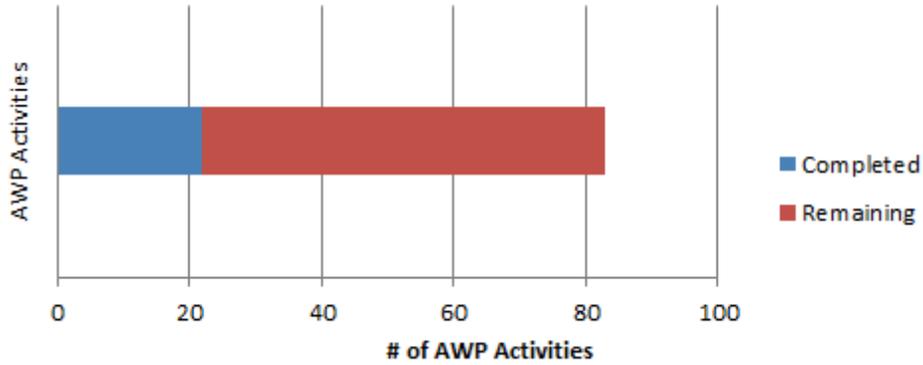


Figure 9: 2019 Transmission System AWP Activities for the Island Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

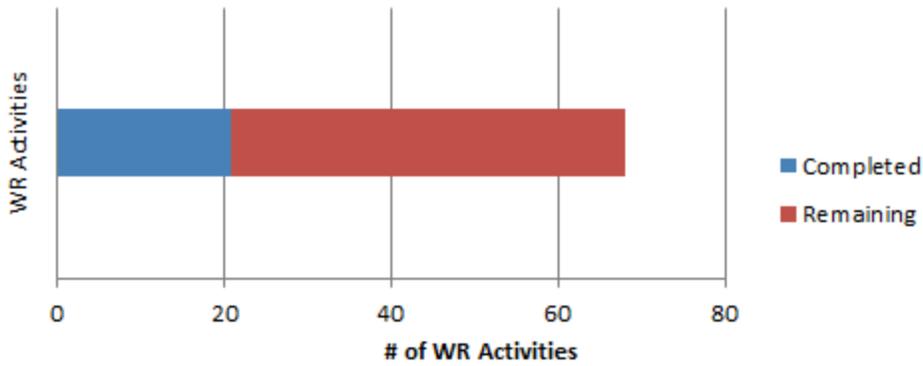


Figure 10: 2019 Transmission System WR Activities for the Island Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

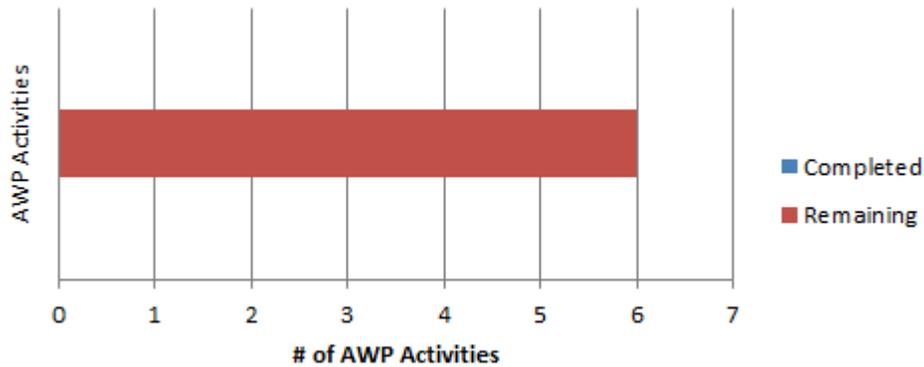


Figure 11: 2019 Transmission System AWP Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

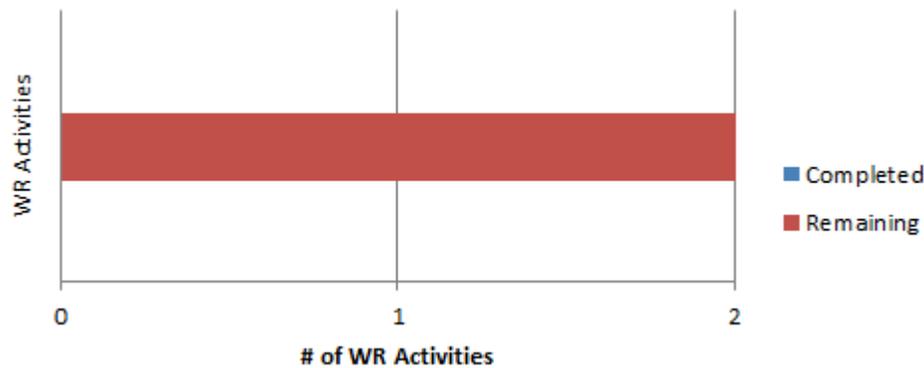


Figure 12: 2019 Transmission System WR Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

1 The following is a summary of the transmission system work plan activities scheduled for 2019:

2

3 • Complete TL 267 (environmental rehabilitation and project close-out) from Bay d’Espoir
4 to Western Avalon;

5

6 • Muskrat Falls to Happy Valley interconnection, transmission line build (year 1);

7

8 • WPLM inspections and refurbishments:

- 1 ○ Inspect: TL 215, TL 219, TL 220, TL 223, TL 226, TL 229, TL 233, TL 239, TL 241, TL
- 2 252, TL 256, TL 257, and L1301; and
- 3
- 4 ○ Refurbish: TL 203, TL 209, TL 218, TL 219, TL 220, TL 223, TL 225, TL 227, TL 229,
- 5 TL 241, TL 250, TL 251, TL 252, TL 253, and L1301.
- 6
- 7 ● Steel Line Inspection Program Inspections, as referenced in Table 3.

Table 3: 2019 Steel Line Climbing/Ground Inspections

Line #	Climbing Inspection (Structures)	Ground Patrol (Structures)
TL 202	104–121, 209–226	137–171, 320–355
TL 204	61–70, 198–213	67–88, 101–141
TL 205	126–146	168–208
TL 206	104–121, 212–231	137–172, 326–363
TL 207	16–30	1–30
TL 208	26–46	1–46
TL 211	85–98	112–139
TL 212	296–369	296–369
TL 214	46–91, 275–355	223–274
TL 217	226–256	208–256
TL 228	73–90, 201–208	151–187, 189–219
TL 231	88–98, 212–229	22–42, 109–140
TL 236	36–41	1–56
TL 237	37–54	145–179
TL 242	36–42	58–71
TL 247	186–222, 389–402	300–371, 411–445
TL 265	6–10	1–50
TL 268	6–10	1–52
TL 248	91–109	151–185
L23	43–56, 185–198, 328–341, 471–484	
L24	43–56, 185–198, 328–341, 471–484	

1 **8.2 Terminal Stations**

2 As shown in Figure 13 and Figure 14, Hydro has completed 19.8% of its planned 2019 terminal
3 station AWP activities and 17.1% of its 2019 WR activities for the Island Interconnected System
4 as of March 22, 2019. As shown in Figures 15 and 16, Hydro has completed 9.1% of its planned
5 2019 terminal station AWP activities for the Labrador Interconnected System as of March 22,
6 2019, and has not yet completed any WR activity.

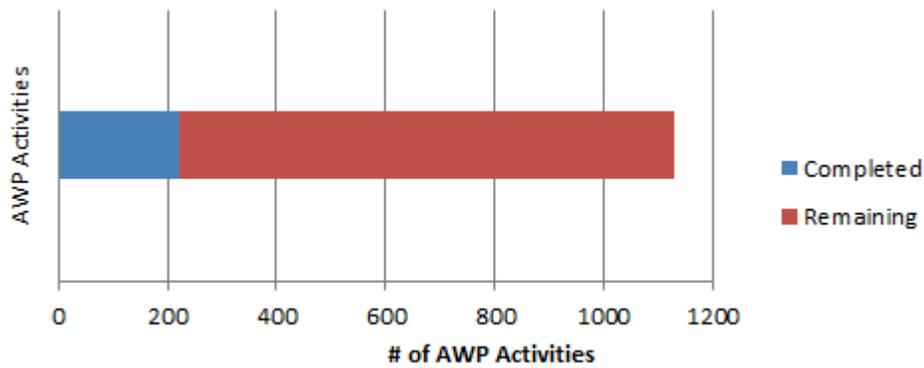


Figure 13: 2019 Terminal Station AWP Activities for the Island Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

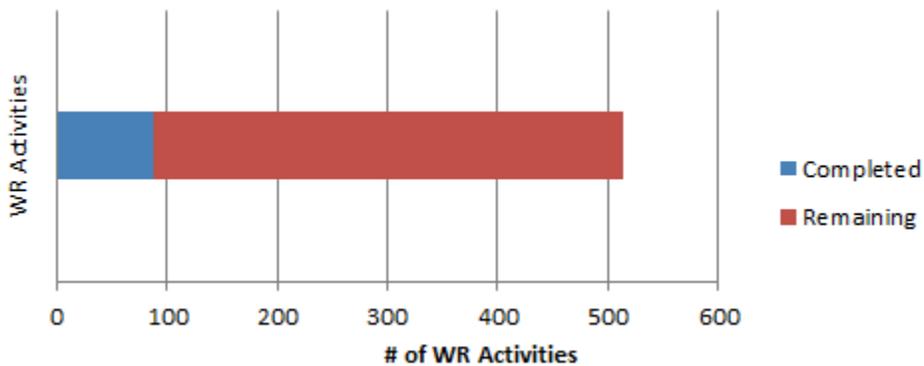


Figure 14: 2019 Terminal Station WR Activities for the Island Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

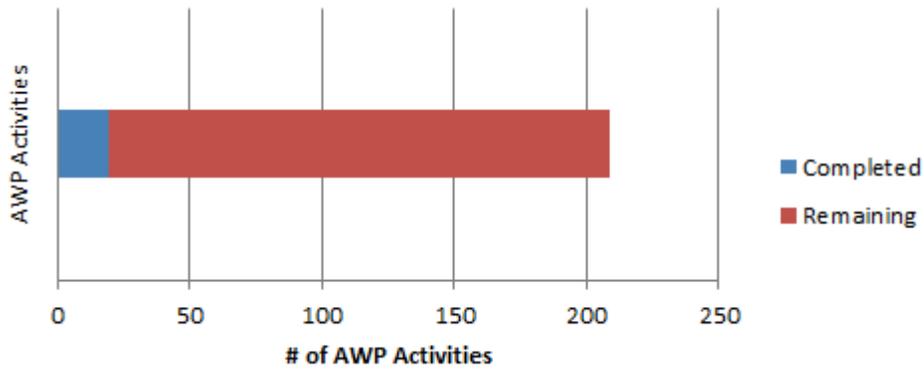


Figure 15: 2019 Terminal Station AWP Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

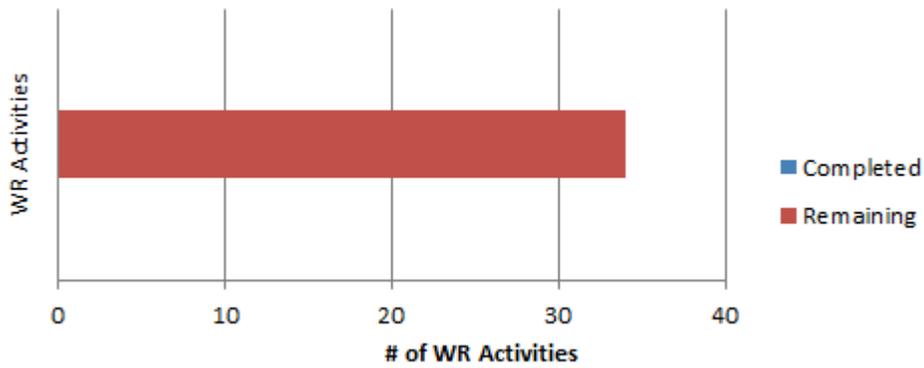


Figure 16: 2019 Terminal Station WR Activities for the Labrador Interconnected System (March 22, 2019)

- 1 The following is a summary of the terminal station work plan activities scheduled for 2019:
- 2
- 3
- 4 • Complete 43, six-year breaker maintenance procedures;
 - 5 • Replace 14 breakers, 10 of which are air blast circuit breakers;
 - 6
 - 7 • Operate all 69 kV and above breakers once and operate 12, 230 kV breakers during six-
 - 8 year breaker maintenance;

- 1 • Complete 27, six-year power transformer maintenance procedures and six-year power
2 transformer Doble maintenance procedures;
3
- 4 • Complete Oil Quality and Dissolved Gas Analysis Program for power transformers and
5 tap changers;
6
- 7 • For power transformers, complete: 1 oil refurbishment, 2 radiator replacements, 3 tap
8 changer upgrades, 81 bushing replacements on 14 transformers, 3 online oil dehydrator
9 additions, and install 8 online gas monitors;
10
- 11 • For oil-filled shunt reactors, complete: 2 major refurbishments and 1 oil refurbishment;
12
- 13 • Complete annual maintenance on all terminal station battery banks.
14
- 15 • Replace 18 arrestors on power transformers;
16
- 17 • Complete PM activities on 155 disconnect switches;
18
- 19 • Replace 26 disconnect switches;
20
- 21 • Replace 30 instrument transformers;
22
- 23 • Replace protective relays for 8 power transformer, 8 transmission line protection
24 schemes, and 4 bus protection schemes, and a complete protection upgrade at Doyles
25 Terminal Station;
26
- 27 • Complete 17, six-year protection and control maintenance procedures at 6 terminal
28 stations;

- 1 • Complete 96, six-year instrument transformer Doble maintenance procedures; and
- 2
- 3 • Complete infrared scans at all terminal stations.

Appendix A

Details of Terminal Station Preventive Maintenance Overhaul and Replacement Criteria

1 **Introduction**

2 The following outlines Hydro’s PM program and overhaul and replacement criteria for the
3 various major asset classes within terminal stations.

4

5 **Power Transformers and Shunt Reactors**

6 • 120-day PM (120 days): cooling fan function testing; operational data collection; and
7 visual inspection;

8

9 • Oil Sample PM (one year by default, more frequently as needed): dissolved gas analysis
10 (“DGA”); oil quality; and moisture;

11

12 • Furan PM (four years by default, one year as needed): to test the DP of the paper;

13

14 • Six-Year PM (six years): electrical testing (Doble testing, winding resistance, winding
15 insulation resistance, protective device insulation resistance, surge arrester grounding
16 continuity); protective device function testing; tap changer function testing; cooling fan
17 function testing; and visual inspection; and

18

19 • Hydro’s current replacement criteria for power transformer replacement (46 kV and
20 above) is based upon one of the following:

21

22 ○ Condition based upon DP <400 for network transformers and <500 for generator
23 step-up transformers in Asset Criticality A;

24

25 ○ Uncontrollable gassing which is an indication of an internal fault;

26

27 ○ Forecasted based upon DP value and rate of change of DP; and

- 1 ○ Requirement for major refurbishment in the near-term (to maintain/restore
2 reliability), but replacement is a lower cost alternative.

3
4 Due to Hydro's aging transformer fleet, Hydro has developed an ongoing refurbishment
5 program to cover bushing replacements, radiator replacements, oil refurbishment, moisture
6 reduction, on-load tap changer overhaul and leak repair, transformer leak repair, protective
7 device replacement, transformer painting, and installation of online DGA monitors. The
8 following will provide the details for each.

9

10 **Power Transformer Bushing Replacement**

11 Hydro's current replacement criterion is based upon one of the following:

12

- 13 • Condition (bad Doble test results as identified by Doble Engineering, unobservable oil
14 level, non-removable tap caps, or visual damage allowing moisture ingress); or
- 15
16 • Suspected of containing PCB-contaminated oil (All sealed equipment containing >50ppm
17 must be removed from service by 2025).

18

19 Prioritization: poor condition first (by condition severity), PCB-contaminated next.

20

21 **Power Transformer Radiator Replacement**

22 Hydro's replacement criterion is based upon the condition of the radiator (rust) from a visual
23 inspection and ranking by an asset specialist.

24

25 **Power Transformer Oil Refurbishment**

26 Hydro's oil refurbishment criteria is based upon oil being IEEE Class III. Class III units will have
27 their oil either reclaimed or replaced. If the oil has PCB content greater than 2 ppm the oil will
28 be replaced, otherwise it will be reclaimed to improve the oil quality.

1 **Power Transformer Moisture Reduction**

2 Hydro's moisture reduction criteria is based upon having paper >3.5% moisture, or paper is
3 >2.5% with inferred DP is <1100, and replacement is not forecasted within ten years of current
4 year.

5

6 Prioritization: equal weighting of paper moisture severity and asset criticality.

7

8 **Power Transformer On-Load Tap Changer Leak Repair**

9 Hydro's criteria to complete leak repair for on On-Load Tap changers is based upon having
10 stable acetylene and other combustible gases in the transformer, and a proven leak test. Units
11 testing positive to leak tests are planned for refurbishment.

12

13 **Power Transformer On-Load Tap Changer Overhaul**

14 Hydro's criteria for tap changer overhaul is based upon:

15

16 • An annual oil sample to measure dissolved gases and particle count. Hydro uses a Tap
17 Changer Analysis Signature Assessment to provide a ranking of very good (1) to very
18 poor (4). A rank >3;

19

20 • Stenestam Ratio > 5.0; or

21

22 • Number of operations (based upon original equipment manufacturer recommendation
23 for contact maintenance).

24

25 **Power Transformer Leak Repair**

26 Hydro's criteria to complete leak repairs is based upon:

27

28 • Identified leaks.

- 1 • Major refurbishment will include gasket replacements to prevent future leaks.

2

3 **Power Transformer Protective Device Replacement**

4 Hydro will complete transformer protective relay replacements if condition warrants as
5 determined by 120-day or six-year PM. Protective devices and associated cabling is also
6 changed as required during other transformer refurbishment work.

7

8 **Power Transformer Online DGA Monitors**

9 Hydro's criteria for online DGA monitors is to install full monitoring of all combustible gases for
10 Criticality A and B transformers (GE Transfix) and install GE Hydran units on Criticality C and D
11 units. All data is and will be brought back to a GE Perception Software that is remotely
12 accessible by engineers and asset specialist.

13

14 **Power Transformer Painting**

15 Hydro's criterion for rust removal and painting is based upon a visual inspection for rust. As well
16 transformers undergoing major refurbishment will have painting considered.

17

18 **Circuit Breakers**

- 19 • 120-Day PM: visual inspection, check pressures for air and/or SF₆, record heater amps;
- 20
- 21 • Annual operate breaker PM is completed to confirm operation once per year;
- 22
- 23 • Oil sample from oil circuit breakers every three years;
- 24
- 25 • Every four years the following is completed for Air Blast Circuit Breakers: Conductor;
- 26 timing; trip coil measurement; check auxiliary contact; check pressure switches; function
- 27 test breaker; and measure trip coil resistance;

- 1 • Every six years the following is completed for SF₆ Circuit Breakers: check SF₆ pressure;
2 check operating mechanism pressure; check conductor; measure trip coil resistance;
3 check pressure settings; check primary connections; lubricate mechanism; and measure
4 timing and function test breaker;
5
- 6 • Every six years the following is completed for oil circuit breakers: change oil in
7 compressor; check dash pot oil level, breaker in open position; check pressure switches
8 and record, if applicable; inspect contactors; lubricate operating mechanism; measure
9 and record run time of compressor from cut-in to cut-out; measure interrupter resistors
10 (138 kV KSO only), check bushings and wipe down, if required; complete a dielectric
11 test ASTM D877 of the oil; perform megger of each phase to ground with breaker; and
12 perform doctor and timing;
13
- 14 • 69 kV, 138 kV, and 230 kV SF₆ breakers are planned for overhaul at mid-life (20 years)
15 and replaced at 40 years or sooner if condition dictates. 69 kV SF₆ circuit breakers are
16 not overhauled but are planned to be replaced at 40 years or sooner if condition
17 dictates;
18
- 19 • Oil circuit breakers are not overhauled and are being planned for replacement by 2025
20 due to the bushings being suspect to contain PCBs \geq 50 ppm; and
21
- 22 • Air blast circuit breaker are no longer overhauled and a plan is in place to have all air
23 blast circuit breakers removed from service at the end of 2020.
24

25 **Protective Relays**

- 26 • Six-Year PM Inspection: function test each protective relay one at a time—clean, dust,
27 and inspect connections; connect the relay test equipment to the relay; configure the
28 relay test equipment settings to those required for the relay; function test each in-
29 service function of the relay using the relay test equipment; troubleshoot the relay if it

1 fails any function tests; record and save the results in the relay testing software; and
2 return relay to service;

- 3
- 4 • For electromechanical relays, perform the additional steps: remove glass and clean
5 inside and out; pull biscuit(s) and check for oxidation (tarnished); clean with a white
6 eraser; unlock relay and gently pull out of case; check for iron filings on operating disc, if
7 equipped; clean contact surfaces with a burnishing tool; and manually move disc to look
8 for smooth operation and to ensure it resets properly;

- 9
- 10 • Every six years, function test 230 kV circuit breakers from the protection during the
11 scheduled 230 kV breaker PM;

- 12
- 13 • Historically protective relays were replaced based on age, performance, obsolescence,
14 and their inability to provide the desired protection functionality and information
15 required for fault analysis. Following the events of January 2014, Hydro formalized a
16 protective relay replacement plan which will see protective relay systems (which had
17 not already been previously replaced) replaced for all major equipment on the 230 kV
18 system during the period from 2015 to 2026. Further plans will be developed for 138 kV
19 and 69 kV equipment. Additionally, as a result of the events of January 2014 plans have
20 been put in place to upgrade alarm systems and breaker failure protection in major
21 terminal stations.

22

23 **Current Transformers**

- 24 • 120-Day General Inspection, the following is checked: bushings; tanks; oil leaks;
25 rust/paint condition; concrete base; primary connections; conduits; cabinets; and
26 grounding.

- 1 • Every six years the following is done:
2
3 ○ Wiring connections checked;
4 ○ Secondary connections checked;
5 ○ Heater amperage checked;
6 ○ Touch-up painting done, as required; and
7 ○ Doble test performed.
8
9 • Current transformers are currently replaced based upon either:
10
11 ○ Condition as determined through visual inspection for rust and leaks;
12 ○ Condition as determined by Doble testing;
13 ○ If the unit is suspected to contain PCBs > 50 ppm;
14 ○ If the unit is a 230 kV IMBA; and
15 ○ Age > 40 years.

16 **Potential Transformers/Capacitive Voltage Transformers**

- 17 • On 120-Day General Inspection, the following is checked: bushings; tanks; oil leaks;
18 rust/paint condition; concrete base; primary connections; conduits; cabinets; voltages at
19 each secondary winding; and grounding;

- 20 • Every six years the following is done:
21
22 ○ Connections for position and tightness checked;
23
24 ○ Grounding device checked;
25
26 ○ Coupler box internally inspected;
27

- 1 ○ Gaskets and gap clearances checked;
- 2
- 3 ○ Heater amperage checked;
- 4
- 5 ○ Touch-up painting done, as required;
- 6
- 7 ○ Perform Doble test;
- 8
- 9 ○ Surge protection device in capacitor voltage transformer junction box
- 10 checked/tested, if fitted for wave-trap;
- 11
- 12 ○ Ground switches cleaned and lubricated; and
- 13
- 14 ○ Surge gap checked.
- 15
- 16 ● Potential transformers and capacitive voltage transformers are currently replaced based
- 17 upon either:
- 18
- 19 ○ Condition as determined through visual inspection for rust and leaks;
- 20 ○ Condition as determined by Doble testing;
- 21 ○ If the unit is suspected to contain PCBs > 50 ppm; and
- 22 ○ Age > 40 years
- 23

24 **Surge Arresters**

- 25 ● 120-Day Power Transformer inspection, a visual inspection is performed;
- 26
- 27 ● Every six years, a visual inspection and a Doble Test are performed; and

- 1 • Arresters are replaced based upon:
- 2
- 3 ○ Doble Testing indicates a failed unit;
- 4
- 5 ○ Visual inspection identifies severe commination or insulator cracking;
- 6
- 7 ○ Arrester type is prone to failure;
- 8
- 9 ○ A transformer is being replaced (consideration will be given to installing arrester
- 10 replacement); and
- 11
- 12 ○ Arrester 40 years old.
- 13

14 **Disconnect Switches**

- 15 • 120-Day inspection is completed, which includes: visual check for alignment and signs of
- 16 overheating; insulator conditions; and heater;
- 17
- 18 • Annual Infrared scans to look for hot spots. The following guidelines shows temperature
- 19 difference between phases and outlines response time required to address identified
- 20 hot spots:

Priority	Temp. Difference (ΔT Phase to Phase)	Respond Within
1 (Emergency)	Visually Hot	24 Hours
2	Above 50°C	1 week
3	20°C to 50°C	1 month
4	Below 20°C	1 year

- 21 • Every six years (one or three years as well if located in severe environmental
- 22 contamination) the following is checked: All connections and contacts; switch operation;
- 23 contacts are greased; and linkages and operating mechanism are lubricated. On motor

1 operated disconnect switches the motor operation is checked and if load break,
2 interrupter modules are checked; and

3

- 4 • Disconnect switches are replaced based primarily on: condition and operating problems
5 and issues as determined by issues found during PMs; problems encountered during
6 operation; excessive corrective maintenance required; etc. Secondary prioritization for
7 the long term plan is based on equipment age.

8

9 **Batteries and Chargers**

- 10 • 120-Day inspection includes: voltmeter checks; ammeter checks; and visually checking
11 battery condition as well as electrolyte levels for flooded cells. Distilled water may be
12 added to flooded cells and completion of equalize charge procedure if required;

13

- 14 • Batteries and chargers are inspected and cleaned annually. During this inspection a
15 conductance test is performed on all the cells and straps with a Midtronics battery
16 tester. For flooded cells the specific gravity is also checked on all cells;

17

- 18 • Discharge testing is completed for all battery banks during factory acceptance testing
19 and is scheduled to be completed on Criticality A and B flooded cell banks after 2 years
20 of being in service and then every five years thereafter. Criticality A and B VRLA banks
21 are discharge tested every two years;

22

- 23 • Battery banks and chargers are recommended to be replaced after 20 years and VRLA
24 batteries after ten years. Equipment condition and operating problems are also
25 considered and equipment is replaced sooner if required.

1 **Air Systems**

- 2 • Compressor Annual PM: change deteriorated disposable parts; cleaning; record
3 operational data; performance testing; protective device function testing, and visual
4 inspection;
- 5
- 6 • Monthly Air System PM: cleaning; record operational data; performance testing;
7 protective device function testing; and visual inspection; and
8
- 9 • Compressor overhauls: overhauls are based on the inspections performed, as well as
10 experience. Factors considered for compressor overhauls are: excessive oil
11 consumption; change in inter-stage pressure/back pressure; excessive time to bring
12 system up to pressure; oil leaks; broken valve spring/overheating; excessive noise; and
13 vibration, etc.
- 14

15 Many of the air systems have been upgraded prior to the decision to replace all air blast circuit
16 breakers and as a result there is no longer a plan in place to replace air dryers or compressors.
17 Any remaining compressors used in a different application will be assessed by the each for
18 replacement.

19

20 **Grounding**

- 21 • 120-Day PM: visual inspection; and
22
- 23 • Grounding is upgraded as a result of visual inspections and grounding analysis
24 completed in accordance with IEEE 80-2013.
- 25

26 **Capacitor Banks**

- 27 • 120-Day PM: record operational data, blown fuse replacement, and visual inspection;
28 and

- 1 • Six-Year PM: record operational data, electrical testing (capacitance, insulation
- 2 resistance), blown fuse replacement, cleaning, and visual inspection.
- 3
- 4 Hydro will plan replacement of capacitor banks based upon condition, or consider replacement
- 5 as banks approach 35 years in service.

Appendix B

2018 Terminal Station and Transmission Line Project Status

Table B-1: Terminal Station Projects

Project Description	Status of 2018 Planned Construction Completion
In-Service Failures - Various Sites	Complete (See Note 1)
Upgrade Aluminum Support Structures - Holyrood	Complete
Wabush TS Assessment and Refurbishments	Complete
Replace Protective Relays (Multi-Year 2017-Carryover)	Complete
Replace Disconnects (Multi-Year 2017-Carryover)	(See Note 2)
Install Frequency Monitoring (Carryover)	Complete
Replace 66kV Station Service Feed - Holyrood	(See Note 3)
Install Fire Protection in 230kV Stations - Bay D'Espoir T. S. #2 (Carryover)	Complete
Replace Insulators – TRON	(See Note 19)
Install Breaker Failure Protection (Multi-Year 2017-Carryover)	(See Note 4)
Upgrade Data Alarms Systems - Stony Brook (Multi-Year 2017-Carryover)	(See Note 5)
Replace Instrument Transformers - Various (Multi-Year 2017-Carryover)	Complete
Replace Transformer T1 – Buchans	(See Note 19)
Purchase Mobile dc Power Systems – Various	(See Note 19)
Implement Terminal Station Flood Mitigation – Springdale	(See Note 19)
Replace Disconnects (Multi-Year 2018)	(See Note 6)
Replace Substation - Holyrood	(See Note 7)
Replace Power Transformers - Oxen Pond	Complete
Install 66kV Breaker By-Pass Switches	Cancelled
Upgrade Circuit Breakers - Accelerated Program	(See Note 8)
Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Various Sites (Multi-Year 2018)	
● Replace Electromechanical Timers	(See Note 9)
● Refurbish and Upgrade Power Transformers	(See Note 10)
● Cable Upgrades	Complete
● Replace Protective Relays	(See Note 11)
● Replace Insulators	(See Note 12)
● Install Fire Protection in 230 kV Stations - HWD & WAV	Complete
● Perform Grounding Upgrades	(See Note 13)
● Replace Instrument Transformers	Complete
● Install Breaker Failure Protection	(See Note 14)
Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Various Sites (Multi-Year 2019)	
● Replace Surge Arrestors	Complete
● Refurbish and Upgrade Power Transformers	(See Note 19)
● Replace Protective Relays	(See Note 15)
● Install Fire Protection in 230kV Stations – Sunnyside	(See Note 19)
● Perform Grounding Upgrades	(See Note 19)
● Replace Instrument Transformers	(See Note 19)

Project Description	Status of 2018 Planned Construction Completion
● Upgrade Breaker Failure Protection	(See Note 19)
● Upgrade Fault Recorders	(See Note 19)
● Upgrade 230kV Terminal Station – Wabush	(See Note 16)
● Upgrade Terminal Station Equipment Foundations	Complete
● Upgrade Data Alarm Systems – Sunnyside	(See Note 19)
● Replace Disconnects	(See Note 19)

Table B-2: Terminal Station Projects

Project Description	Status of 2018 Planned Construction Completion
Transmission Line Upgrades – TL 212 and TL 218	Complete
Replace Insulators – TL 227	Complete
Perform WPLM Program	(See Note 17)
TL 266: Soldiers Pond to Hardwoods	Complete
TL 267: Bay d'Espoir to Western Avalon	(See Note 18)

1 Notes

2 1. In 2018 in-service failures executed 11 instrument transformer replacements; 1, 72.5 kV
3 breaker replacement; 1, 72.5 kV breaker overhaul; 1 transformer bushing replacement;
4 1 transformer tap changer overhaul; 1, 138 kV disconnect switch replacement; 1, 125
5 Vdc battery bank replacement; 1 capacitor bank overvoltage relay replacement; 1, 6.9
6 kV fuse and fuse holder replacement; 1 transformer neutral overcurrent relay
7 replacement; and 1 surge arrestor replacement. Additionally, 3 spare circuit breakers, 1
8 spare station service transformer, 1 spare circuit switcher motor operator, and 6 spare
9 disconnect switches were purchased for the standby equipment pool.

10
11 2. Due to the unavailability of an outage to complete the work for the installation of Bay
12 d'Espoir disconnect switch B1B2-1 in 2018, it was decided to cover its installation under
13 the Replace Disconnects Multi-Year 2019 project. There are sufficient funds in the multi-
14 year 2019 project to accommodate the installation of B1B2-1 as the disconnect switch

- 1 has already been procured. The Replace Disconnects Multi-Year 2017 project was closed
2 out.
- 3
- 4 3. Site construction was carried into 2019 due to late delivery of material.
- 5
- 6 4. Construction was carried into 2018 and substantially completed, with some remaining
7 construction work carried forward into 2019, due to construction resource availability.
8 The construction is now complete, final updates from the field are being marked up and
9 Hydro is expecting to close out this project within the near future.
- 10
- 11 5. Construction was carried into 2018 and substantially completed, with some remaining
12 construction work carried forward into 2019, due to construction resource availability.
13 The construction is now complete, final updates from the field are being marked up and
14 Hydro is expecting to close out this project within the near future.
- 15
- 16 6. Some Construction was carried into 2019 including: Holyrood B12L18-1, Sunnyside
17 B2L12-2/L12G, Western Avalon B1L37-1 and Western Avalon B1L37-2/L37G disconnect
18 switches. These were deferred to mitigate system risk and over-allocated resources.
- 19
- 20 7. A more cost-effective solution emerged during discussions with Newfoundland Power
21 necessitating a redesign for a direct energy supply from Newfoundland Power's Seal
22 Cove distribution system. This delay pushed construction too far into the year so it was
23 decided to carry this work into 2019.
- 24
- 25 8. Four circuit breaker replacements planned for 2018 were rescheduled to 2019, including
26 two at Western Avalon Terminal Station, one at Bay d'Espoir Terminal Station 1, and
27 one at Wabush Terminal Station. The rescheduling of the breakers at Western Avalon
28 and Bay d'Espoir was due to the impacts of other major system upgrade projects on
29 both resources and overall site congestion. The rescheduling of the breaker at Wabush

1 was a result of the technical and economic difficulty associated with finding an
2 additional suitable outage window given the potential reliability impact on Iron Ore
3 Company of Canada.

4
5 9. Timer replacements for transmission lines TL 206, TL 232, TL 247, and TL 248 were
6 carried into 2019 due to construction resource unavailability. The project was closed out
7 and the remaining scope will be covered under Replace Protective Relays (Multi-Year
8 2019) during their respective line protection upgrades.

9
10 10. A number of items could not be completed in 2018 due to outage unavailability, poor
11 condition of Holyrood transformer T7, and insufficient construction resources, as
12 follows: Bay d'Espoir T10 bushings' replacements and painting; Holyrood T5 bushings'
13 replacements and painting; Holyrood T7 bushings' replacements and painting; Hawkes
14 Bay T3 moisture reduction systems installation; Western Avalon GT1- SS Filter oil
15 pressure; and DHR T2 painting. All work above, except Holyrood T7, has been moved to
16 another project Upgrade Power Transformers (Multi-Year 2019). Holyrood T7 is to be
17 replaced under a future project.

18
19 11. The project scope included the upgrades of protection equipment for Bay d'Espoir
20 Terminal Station 1 Bus 2, Bus 3, and Bay d'Espoir Terminal Station 2 Bus 10. Due to the
21 Bay d'Espoir Penstock 2 issues, units being down for the repairs of the penstock, and the
22 Breaker Upgrade schedule, it was not possible to obtain outages in the requested
23 timelines to complete the work. Bay d'Espoir Terminal Station 2 Bus 10 was deferred to
24 2019. Most of the construction for Bay d'Espoir Terminal Station 1 Bus 2 and Bus 3
25 protections has been completed with the exception of connecting cables and final
26 terminations. This remaining work was also deferred to 2019. Also, two changes in the
27 consultants engineering for the Holyrood T6 and T7 design packages caused delays in
28 engineering packages and material procurement. The final design and procurement was

1 not completed in time to implement the upgrades based upon the existing schedule.
2 This work has been carried over to 2019.

3
4 12. The replacement of seven, 138 kV insulators at Berry Hill on disconnect B1T1 and high-
5 speed ground switch T1AG was removed from the scope of this project. On further
6 investigation it was discovered the insulators in Berry Hill were non-standard and direct
7 replacement was not possible. In addition, replacement of the insulators would have left
8 a sub-standard disconnect switch in service. Inspection of the existing insulators did not
9 show any immediate cause of concern and it was decided the insulator replacement
10 would be removed from this project. Instead the disconnect switch including its
11 insulators will be replaced in 2019 under the Disconnect Replacement Program.

12
13 13. Construction was deferred to 2019, due to late engagement of consultant resources for
14 the following stations: Jackson's Arm (minor work to be completed), Upper Salmon
15 (minor work to be completed), Bay d'Espoir, Bottom Waters, South Brook, Doyles, Deer
16 Lake, Coney Arm, and Indian River. Of those sites, Indian River, Deer Lake, and Coney
17 Arm all have high ground potential rise values and require additional design before we
18 can get construction specifications.

19
20 14. Construction work did not proceed as scheduled in 2018 due to a delay in protection
21 and control engineering as well as requiring new design for telecoms and making use of
22 the new fibre optic network on the Great Northern Peninsula. This work was carried
23 forward into 2019.

24
25 15. The Upper Salmon T1/G1 Protection Upgrade was scheduled to occur during the Upper
26 Salmon annual 4-week outage in October. The outage window was shortened to 17 days
27 due to water levels in the Long Pond reservoir. This shortened outage didn't allow
28 enough time to complete any of the work for the T1 and G1 construction thus this
29 construction was deferred to 2019.

1 16. The original intent of the project was to procure two, 46 kV breakers, upgrade the
2 protection on 46-32 breaker, replace six disconnects, and complete preliminary work on
3 the SCADA upgrade to transfer control to Energy Control Center. Due to a late
4 assignment of engineering resources, engineering and procurement did not begin until
5 the third quarter of 2018. Two of the six disconnect switches have been replaced. The
6 remaining disconnect switches, due to outage constraints, will be replaced in 2019. Due
7 to construction delays on parallel breaker 46-33, being installed under the 2017-2018
8 Wabush Terminal Station Upgrade project, the schedule did not allow for the
9 construction to be completed for breaker 46-32 with the impending Labrador winter
10 weather. It has been deferred to 2019. There was a delayed start in engineering due to
11 resource availability on the SCADA Upgrade. After an assessment, it was determined
12 that the SCADA upgrade scope would increase due to lack of infrastructure at the
13 Wabush facility and equipment procurement has been delayed until the scope is fully
14 determined.

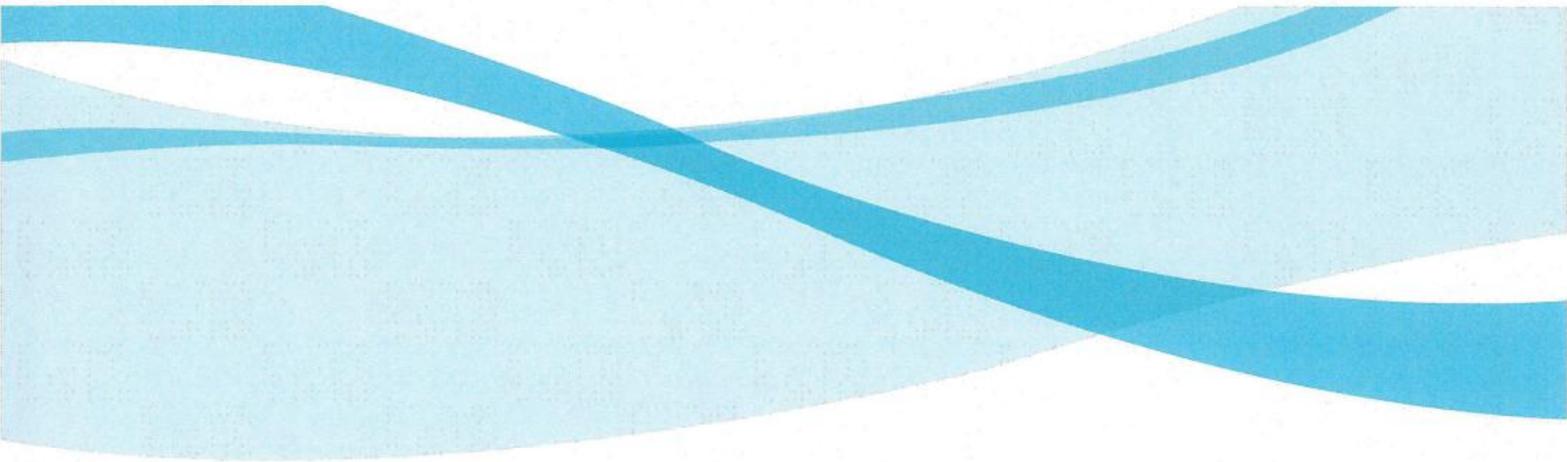
15
16 17. WR scope for WPLM was completed in 2018. The remaining 2018 scope of work for the
17 WPLM included the inspection and treatment of 2,827 poles and the replacement of
18 approximately 29 poles, 19 cross arms, 8 sets of cross bracing. Work that carried over
19 into 2019 included the replacement of 10 poles, 9 crossarms, 5 knee brace
20 arrangements and 4 cross brace arrangements on TL 203. This work was completed in
21 March of 2019. Other work that carried over into 2019 included the replacement of 10
22 poles across lines TL 219 (1 pole), TL 250 (7 poles) and TL251 (2 poles).

23
24 18. TL 267, from Bay d’Espoir to Western Avalon, was put in service in 2017, with
25 environmental rehabilitation and project close-out scheduled for completion in 2018.
26 The final line reclamation tasks involving the removal of bridges on the right-of-way
27 were scheduled to be completed in November 2018; however, a significant amount of
28 precipitation in October 2018 resulted in high water levels at the bridge locations. The
29 water levels had not receded enough to allow the bridge removals to safely proceed in

- 1 2018. As such, this work was deferred until conditions permit in 2019. All other project
- 2 scope is complete.
- 3
- 4 19. No planned 2018 construction.

Attachment 1

Terminal Station Asset Management Overview



	Electrical
	Mechanical
	Civil
	Protection & Control
	Transmission & Distribution
	Telecontrol
	System Planning

Terminal Station Asset Management Overview

Version 3

July 2018



1 **Summary**

2 Hydro has developed an ongoing capital program to replace or refurbish assets as the end of
3 design life is reached or the assets require attention due to obsolescence or anticipated failure.

4
5 Prior to 2017, Hydro’s terminal station projects were divided into two categories: stand-alone
6 and programs. Programs included projects that are proposed year after year to address the
7 upgrade or replacements of deteriorated equipment (e.g. disconnects or instrument
8 transformers) and have similar justification each year. Stand-alone projects do not meet the
9 definition of an annual program. Hydro typically had as many as 15 separate program-type
10 projects in its Capital Budget Application, with each program based upon a particular type of
11 asset.

12
13 Starting with the 2017 Capital Budget Application, Hydro implemented a change to how the
14 terminal station programs are submitted for consideration by the Board. The programs have
15 been consolidated into the Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project
16 resulting in improved regulatory efficiency and easing the administrative effort for the Board
17 and Hydro. This approach also allows Hydro to realize efficiencies by improving coordination of
18 capital and maintenance work in terminal stations.

19
20 In the 2019 Capital Budget Application, Hydro has submitted a revised Terminal Station Asset
21 Management Overview – Version 3, with changes noted in Section 1.1 to provide an updated
22 overview of Hydro’s Terminal Station asset maintenance philosophies in one document. The
23 Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project, included in this Capital Budget
24 Application, includes proposals for required terminal station work, referencing specific section
25 and following the philosophies of this Overview document.

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1 Introduction

2 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro has 69 terminal stations that contain electrical equipment
3 (e.g. transformers, circuit breakers, instrument transformers, disconnect switches) and
4 associated protection and control relays and equipment required to protect, control, and
5 operate Hydro's electrical grid.

6
7 Hydro has an Asset Management System that governs the life cycle of its terminal station
8 assets. This system monitors, maintains, refurbishes, replaces, and disposes of assets with the
9 objective of providing safe, reliable electrical power in an environmentally responsible manner
10 at least-cost. Within this system, assets are grouped such as breaker, transformers, grounding
11 systems, buildings, and sites. This allows the asset managers to establish consistent practices
12 for equipment specification, placement, maintenance, refurbishment, replacement, and
13 disposal. These practices result in a consistent approach to monitoring, assessments, and action
14 justifications for capital refurbishment and replacement for asset sustaining projects. Hydro
15 established programs that enact these practices for groups or sub-groupings of assets (e.g. High
16 Voltage Switch Replacements).

17
18 Part of Hydro's annual capital program is a sustaining effort to ensure the safety and reliability
19 of terminal station assets. As submitted in its 2017 application, Hydro has consolidated its
20 terminal station sustaining work into one project, the *Terminal Station Refurbishment and*
21 *Modernization Project* (the Project), in an effort to streamline the capital budget process and to
22 ensure opportunities for synergies across projects are realized. Additionally, Hydro submitted
23 the Terminal Station In-Service Failures Project to cover the replacement or refurbishment of
24 failed equipment or incipient failures. Hydro is utilizing this document, *Terminal Station Asset*
25 *Management Overview* (the Overview), as a reference for both projects to streamline and focus
26 information submitted. The Overview provides supporting information that was historically
27 presented, on an annual basis, for similar classification projects in the Application. The
28 remainder of this document provides information on the assets involved, an overview of each
29 asset program, and updates in the event of changes to Hydro's asset management

1 philosophies.

2

3 Hydro will revise and resubmit the Overview as required in future Capital Budget Applications
4 as it implements changes to its asset management philosophies appropriate for inclusion in the
5 Overview.

6

7 **1.1 Changes in Version 3**

8 Hydro has submitted Version 3 of this document with the 2019 Capital Budget Application. All
9 material changes in this version are shaded in grey, and are summarized below:

- 10 • Addition of section 4.1.9 – Battery Banks and Chargers;
- 11 • Addition of section 4.2.3 – Control Buildings; and
- 12 • Addition of ‘Digital Fault Recorders’ to section 4.3.1 – Protection and Control Upgrades

13

14 In 2016, Hydro submitted its ‘Upgrade Office Facilities and Control Buildings Condition
15 Assessment and Refurbishment Program Asset Management Strategy Plan’ in its 2017 Capital
16 Budget Application, which outlined Hydro’s approach to address aging and failing building
17 infrastructure. Beginning with the 2019 Capital Budget Application, Hydro will undertake the
18 refurbishment of terminal station control buildings under the Terminal Station Refurbishment
19 and Modernization Program.

20

21 Minor changes to syntax have been made to improve reading and to reflect that this document
22 has been previously submitted, and is no longer a newly established approach. These minor
23 changes have not been highlighted.

24

25 **2 Terminal Stations Background**

26 **2.1 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro’s Terminal Stations**

27 Terminal stations play a critical role in the transmission and distribution of electricity. Terminal
28 stations contain electrical equipment (e.g. transformers, circuit breakers, instrument
29 transformers, disconnect switches) and associated protection and control relays and equipment

1 required to protect, control, and operate the Hydro’s electrical grid. Stations act as transition
2 points within the transmission system and interface points with the lower voltage distribution
3 and generation systems. Hydro owns and operates 69 terminal stations throughout
4 Newfoundland and Labrador.

6 **2.2 Terminal Station Infrastructure**

7 Stations contain the following infrastructure, which is described throughout this report:

- 8 • transformers;
- 9 • circuit breakers;
- 10 • instrument transformers;
- 11 • disconnect, bypass and ground switches;
- 12 • surge arrestors;
- 13 • grounding;
- 14 • buswork;
- 15 • steel structures and foundations;
- 16 • insulators;
- 17 • control buildings;
- 18 • protection and control relays;
- 19 • yards, fences and access roads; and
- 20 • battery banks.

21
22 Many of Hydro's terminal stations were constructed in the 1960’s. Annual capital commitment
23 is required to sustain terminal station assets, ensuring the provision of reliable electrical
24 service.

26 **3 Terminal Station Capital Projects**

27 **3.1 Historical Terminal Station Capital Projects**

28 In the 2016 Capital Budget Application, there were 22 individual terminal station projects,
29 accounting for approximately \$30,000,000 or 16% of the capital budget. Historically, Hydro’s

1 terminal station projects were divided into two categories: stand-alone and programs.
2 Programs include projects that are proposed year after year to address the required
3 refurbishment or replacement of assets (e.g. disconnects or instrument transformers) and have
4 similar justification and other information presented each year. Stand-alone projects do not
5 meet the definition of an annual program and are not included in this project. Of the 22
6 individual terminal station projects proposed in 2016, 15 were program-type projects. In the
7 2017 Capital Budget Application, Hydro consolidated the historical station projects into the
8 Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project.

10 **3.2 Hydro’s Approach to Terminal Station Capital Project Proposals**

11 The programs now included in the Project are:

- 12 1. Upgrade Circuit Breakers (Beyond 2020);
- 13 2. Replace Disconnect Switches;
- 14 3. Install Fire Protection;
- 15 4. Replace Surge Arrestors;
- 16 5. Upgrade Terminal Station Foundations;
- 17 6. Replace Battery Banks and Chargers;
- 18 7. Refurbish Control Buildings;
- 19 8. Upgrade Terminal Station for Mobile Substation;
- 20 9. Install Breaker Bypass Switches; and
- 21 10. Protection and Control Refurbishment and Upgrades.¹

22
23 The Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project excludes:

- 24 • Transformer Replacement and Spares: Although transformer replacement fits within the
25 description of a terminal station program, these projects often have unique justification
26 and a high project cost and, therefore, are proposed separately;

¹ As noted in the 2017 edition of this document, the 2016 Upgrade Terminal Station Protection and Control Upgrade, Upgrade Protective Relays, Upgrade Fault Recorders, Upgrade Data Alarm Systems and Install Breaker Failure Protection projects were combined in the Overview and Project as Protection and Control Refurbishment and Upgrades Program.

- 1 • Accelerated Circuit Breaker Replacement: Hydro proposed the accelerated replacement
2 of 230kV Circuit Breakers as part of the 2016 Capital Budget Application Upgrade Circuit
3 Breakers project. This project involves the replacement of high-voltage circuit breakers
4 through the year 2020. As this project has already been approved, it is not included in
5 the Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project. However, future
6 breaker replacements not captured in the 2016 Upgrade Circuit Breakers project will be
7 included in future Capital Budget Applications and, therefore, the justification for such
8 programs is included in this report;
- 9 • Activities that cannot be scheduled for inclusion in a Capital Budget Application as these
10 will be submitted as either a supplementary capital budget application or executed in
11 the Terminal Stations In-Service Failures Project;
- 12 • Activities in response to additional load or reliability requirements as these projects
13 generally have unique justification and will be proposed separately; and
- 14 • Activities in response to significant isolated issues in a particular station (e.g.
15 replacement of a failed power transformer) as these projects generally have unique
16 justification and will be proposed separately.

17

18 Hydro continues to maintain individual records with regards to asset capital, maintenance and
19 retirement expenditures and performance, which will be used to support the development of
20 the annual capital plan.

21

22 This document is submitted to the Board as part of the 2019 Capital Budget Application. Hydro
23 will annually submit proposals for the '*Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization*
24 *Project*' and the '*Terminal Station In-Service Failures Project*' referencing the most recent
25 Overview. Future Applications will not include a copy of the Overview unless Hydro revises its
26 contents. When the Overview is revised, Hydro will clearly denote such changes for review and
27 approval by the Board.

1 **3.3 Benefits of this Approach**

2 As supporting information for programs changes infrequently, referencing the Overview in the
3 Project documentation will eliminate the preparation and review of repetitious information.
4 Hydro estimates that this approach could save up to \$120,000² annually, not including time and
5 costs for review by the Board and Intervenors.

6
7 Hydro has a proactive Asset Management System that strives to anticipate future failures so
8 that refurbishment or replacement can be incorporated into an Application. However, there are
9 instances in which projects are not included in an Application as immediate refurbishment or
10 replacement is required (i.e. occurrence of an unanticipated failure or the recognition of an
11 incipient failure) to maintain the delivery of safe, reliable electricity at least cost. These
12 situations seldom include extenuating or abnormal circumstances and costs. With aging station
13 assets, unanticipated failures may increase. This increase will require additional future efforts
14 to provide and review regulatory documentation. By introducing a Terminal Station In-Service
15 Failures project, there will be a reduced need for that documentation and change management
16 processes for relatively minor failure correction. Each year, Hydro will provide a concise
17 summary of the previous year's work.

18
19 As personnel look to further coordinate work by location, Hydro expects the Terminal Station
20 Refurbishment and Modernization Project will provide opportunities whereby Hydro can
21 further optimize the coordination of capital and maintenance work to minimize outages to
22 customers and equipment.

23

24 **4 Asset Management Programs**

25 **4.1 Electrical Equipment**

26 **4.1.1 High Voltage Instrument Transformer Replacements**

27 The metering protection and control devices (e.g. protective relaying, power quality monitors,

² If the work undertaken in the 2017 Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project had been submitted as 12 individual projects, it is estimated preparation would be approximately \$10,000 per project.

1 and kilowatt-hour meters) used in generation and transmission systems are not manufactured
2 to handle the electricity involved in those systems. Measurement of the electricity's currents
3 and voltages are provided to these devices through a current transformer (CT) and a potential
4 transformer (PT), respectively. CTs and PTs are collectively known as instrument transformers
5 (IT) (Figure 1). Hydro has approximately 900 individual high voltage ITs within the Island and
6 Labrador Interconnected Systems.

7
8 A high-voltage IT consists of a tank, bushing, and an insulated electrical primary and secondary
9 winding. The insulation system involves the use of insulating oil or dry type insulation and a
10 high voltage porcelain bushing, which allows the safe connection of the winding to high voltage
11 conductors. The winding is enclosed in a steel tank.



Figure 1: 69 kV Current Transformer (left) and Potential Transformer (Right)

12 Hydro's manages planned IT replacements in three categories:

- 13 1. Condition;
- 14 2. PCB compliance replacements; and
- 15 3. manufacturer and model.

1 **Condition**

2 Deterioration or damage to the various IT components can result in the failure of the unit to
3 provide accurate measurements to metering, protection, and control devices, which may affect
4 the safe and reliable operation of the generation and transmission systems. Failure could also
5 result in an oil spill. Also, in some situations, pieces of the IT may be forcibly projected under
6 catastrophic failure resulting in a safety risk for personnel in the area or damage to other
7 infrastructure.

8
9 Damage to an IT normally results from vandalism, impacts from catastrophically failed
10 equipment, or accidental contact of mobile equipment. Upon such incidents, Hydro assesses
11 the electrical and physical integrity of the IT to determine if replacement is required.

12
13 Hydro monitors ITs for physical and electrical deterioration by conducting regular visual
14 inspections of the units as part of its station inspection program plus regularly scheduled
15 station Infrared inspections and electrical insulation testing.

16
17 Physical deterioration involves conditions such as oil leaks, rusting, or small chips and cracks in
18 the insulation. Figure 2 shows an example of rusting on a PT tank.



Figure 2: Rusting on Potential Transformer

1 Electrical deterioration is identified by conducting Power Factor testing at intervals, which is
2 used to establish the rate and level of insulation degradation. Hydro uses a world recognized
3 testing company, Doble Engineering Company, to provide an assessment of the test results

4
5 Unit deterioration information is reviewed regularly by Asset Management personnel to
6 determine when corrective maintenance or unit replacement is required. Hydro conducts
7 minor IT corrective maintenance, such as painting and small bushing chip treatment; however,
8 major corrective maintenance or unit refurbishments are not undertaken as economical
9 options for this type of work have not been found. Units requiring major corrective
10 maintenance or refurbishments are replaced.

11 12 **PCB Compliance Replacements**

13 Environment Canada's PCB Regulations requires that by 2025 all ITs are not to have a PCB
14 concentration greater than 50ppm. ITs are sealed, oil-filled units, in which the oil acts as an
15 electrical insulator. Equipment manufactured prior to 1985 has been known to contain PCBs.
16 Due to the age of the units and the risk of introducing contamination (e.g. air) that could impact
17 the electrical integrity of an IT, Hydro does not sample ITs. Therefore, establishing the actual
18 PCB concentration in an IT is not possible. Hydro, in consultation with manufacturers, has
19 established that units manufactured before 1985 are suspected to contain PCBs in
20 concentration levels greater than or equal to 50 ppm. Thus, Hydro has a program to replace all
21 suspect oil-filled ITs before 2025.

22 23 **Manufacturer and Model**

24 In 2010, Hydro experienced a failure of a 230 kV ASEA IMBA Current Transformer. The failure
25 analysis recommended this manufacturer and model be replaced over time. These
26 replacements are included in this program.

27 28 **Exclusions from the IT Replacement Program**

29 Modern day circuit breaker technology includes CTs embedded in the circuit breaker bushings.

1 Therefore, where possible, external CTs will be displaced by bushing CTs as circuit breakers are
2 replaced and, as such, CTs are not included in this program.

3

4 **4.1.2 High Voltage Switch Replacements**

5 High Voltage switches are used to isolate equipment either for maintenance activities or system
6 operation and control (e.g. disconnect switches). Switches are also used to bypass equipment
7 to prevent customer outages while work is being performed on the equipment. Disconnect
8 switches are an important part of the Work Protection Code as they provide a visible air gap
9 (i.e., visible isolation with an open switch) for utility workers. Work Protection is defined as “a
10 guarantee that an ISOLATED, or ISOLATED and DE-ENERGIZED, condition has been established
11 for worker protection and will continue to exist, except for authorized tests.” Proper operation
12 of disconnect switches is essential for a safe work environment and for reliable operation.

13

14 The basic components of a disconnect switch are the blade assembly, insulators, switch base
15 and operating mechanism. The blade assembly is the current carrying component in the switch,
16 while the operating mechanism moves it to open and close the switch. The insulators are made
17 of porcelain and insulate the switch base and operating mechanism from the current carrying
18 parts. The switch base supports the insulators and is mounted to a metal frame support
19 structure. The operating mechanism is operated either manually, by using a handle at ground
20 level to open and close the blade, or by a motor operated device, in which case the switch is
21 known as a Motor-Operated Disconnect (MOD). A disconnect and its associated components
22 are shown in Figure 3.

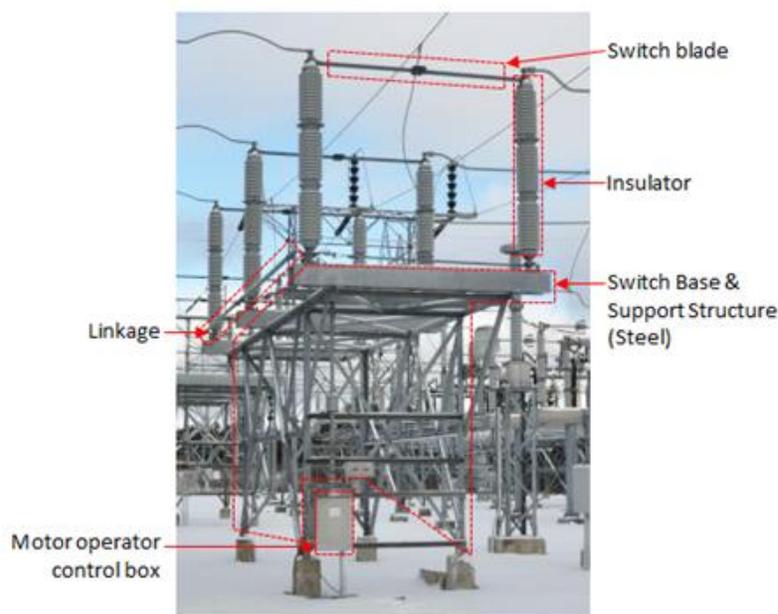


Figure 3: Various Components of a High Voltage Disconnect Switch

- 1 Hydro monitors the condition of its switches by conducting regular visual inspections of the
- 2 units (through station inspection and Infrared inspection programs) and reviewing reports from
- 3 the work order system and staff. Issues commonly reported include inoperable mechanical
- 4 linkages, misalignment of switch blades, broken insulators, and seizing of moving parts. Asset
- 5 management personnel determine the timing of corrective maintenance or switch
- 6 replacement. If the required parts are available then repairs are undertaken as part of ongoing
- 7 maintenance. Switches that have operating deficiencies and have reached a service life of 50
- 8 years or greater are designated for replacement. Switches that have no replacement parts
- 9 available due to obsolescence, are damaged beyond repair, or cannot be economically repaired
- 10 and do not require immediate replacement are designated for replacement under this program.
- 11
- 12 Figure 4 shows an example of a badly damaged disconnect switch.



Figure 4: Broken Insulator on 69 kV Disconnect Switch

1 **4.1.3 Surge Arrestors Replacements**

2 Surge arresters (also known as lightning arrestors) are used on critical terminal station
3 equipment to protect that equipment from voltage due to lightning, extreme system operating
4 voltages and switching transients (collectively called overvoltages). In these situations, voltage
5 at the equipment can rise to levels which can damage the equipment's insulation. The surge
6 arrestors act to maintain the voltages within acceptable levels. Without surge arrestors,
7 equipment insulation can be damaged and faults can result during overvoltages. Hydro typically
8 has surge arresters installed on the high side and low voltage sides of it 46 kV and above power
9 transformers.

10

11 Figure 5 shows the arrestors on a 230kV power transformer.



Figure 5: Western Avalon Terminal Station Transformer T3 230 kV Surge Arresters

1 Surge arrestors can fail as a result of the cumulative effects of prolonged or multiple
2 overvoltages. When a surge arrester fails, it is not repairable and must be replaced
3 immediately; otherwise, the major equipment may be exposed to damaging overvoltages. The
4 older arrester designs have a higher incidence of failure than the newer designs.

5
6 Hydro's surge arrester asset management program replaces surge arrestors based upon the
7 following criteria:

- 8 1. Removal of gapped type arresters with Zinc Oxide design due to enhanced performance;
- 9 2. Replace units due to a condition identified through visual inspections for chips or cracks
10 or electrical testing such as Power Factor testing;
- 11 3. If failures occur on a given transformer, all arresters on both the high and low side are
12 considered for replacement either immediately or in a planned fashion; and
- 13 4. If transformers are being planned for maintenance or other Capital work, consideration
14 is given to changing aged arresters on a common outage. Hydro targets replacement at

1 40 years of age to reduce the risk of in-service failures and minimize service
2 interruptions.

3

4 **4.1.4 Insulator Replacements**

5 Insulators provide electrical insulation between energized equipment and ground. When an
6 insulator fails and a fault occurs, a safety hazard to personnel and customer outages may occur.

7

8 Insulators consist of insulating material such as glass, porcelain and metal end fittings to attach
9 the insulator to the structure and the conductor. The metallic hardware is mated with the
10 porcelain or glass insulator using cement. There are different styles of insulators (e.g. post, cap
11 and pin, suspension). An example of a suspension insulator is shown in Figure 6.

12

13 Terminal stations contain post type, cap and pin-top, multi-cone and suspension type
14 insulators.

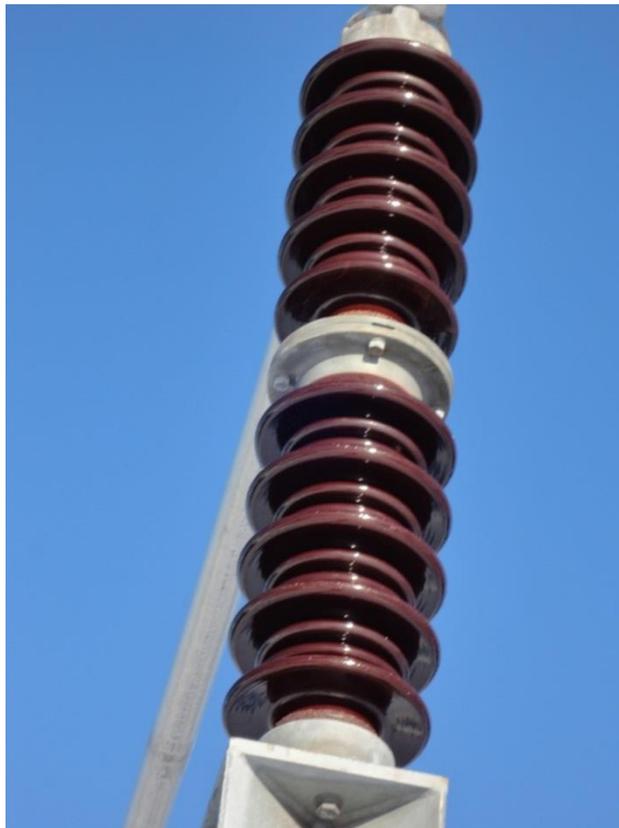


Figure 6: A Multi-cone type insulator prone to failure due to cement growth

1 For insulators using porcelain, cement is used in mating the porcelain and metal hardware.
2 Some older insulators have been damaged by a phenomenon known as cement growth. This is
3 a common problem in the utility industry. In such situations water is absorbed into the concrete
4 causing swelling of the cement during freeze/thaw cycles, placing stress upon the porcelain.
5 Over time, the increasing pressure caused by cement growth will crack or break the porcelain
6 resulting in insulator failure. In such situations, porcelain may fall presenting a safety hazard to
7 crews or damaging equipment below. Also, faults resulting in outages to customers often occur
8 when insulator failure leads to flash-over³. Insulator manufacturers have identified and
9 researched cement growth problems and have improved their cement quality to eliminate this
10 problem.

11
12 Hydro carries out detailed insulator surveys by geographical area. Hydro identifies any insulator
13 types known to be prone to failure due to cement growth and replaces these insulators under
14 this program.

15
16 **4.1.5 Grounding Refurbishment and Upgrades**

17 The grounding system in a terminal station or distribution substation consists of copper wire
18 used in the ground grid under the station, gradient control mats for high voltage switches, and
19 bonding wiring connecting the structure and equipment metal components to the ground grid
20 (Figure 7). In the event of a line to ground fault, electrical potential differences will exist in the
21 grounding system. If the grounding system is inadequate or deteriorated these differences may
22 be hazardous to personnel. These potential differences are known as step and touch potentials.
23 Effective station grounding reduces these potentials to eliminate the hazard.

³ Flashover is an electrical arc between the electrified end and the un-electrified (ground) end of an insulator due to insulator failure.



Figure 7: Typical Grounding Connection on Terminal Station Fence

1 To determine whether grounding upgrades are required, Hydro performs a step and touch
2 potential analysis of the terminal station or distribution substation. A step and touch potential
3 analysis involves the gathering of field data and conducting analysis in order to determine if
4 ground grid modifications are required to eliminate step and touch potential hazard. This
5 engineering is conducted in accordance with the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers
6 (IEEE) Standard 80-2000. Grounding systems with hazardous step and/or touch potentials are
7 upgraded by adding additional equipment bonding, gradient control mats, or copper wire to
8 the station grounding grid. In the case where the terminal station grounding infrastructure has
9 deteriorated with age or is damaged due to accidental contact or vandalism, the grounding
10 system is refurbished by correcting damage or replacing missing infrastructure. Upgrades and
11 refurbishments are made in accordance with Hydro's Terminal Station Grounding Standard.

1 **4.1.6 Power Transformer Upgrades and Refurbishment**

2 Power transformers are a critical component of the power system. Transformers allow for the
3 cost-effective production, transmission and distribution of electricity by converting the
4 electricity to an appropriate voltage for each segment of the electrical system and allow for
5 economic construction and operation of the electrical system.

6
7 Hydro has 136 power transformers 46kV and above, as well as several station service
8 transformers at voltages lower than 46kV.

9
10 The basic components of a power transformer are:

- 11 • Transformer steel tank, which contains the metal core and paper insulated windings
12 responsible for voltage conversion, oil which is part of the insulating system, and a
13 gasket system that keeps the oil from penetrating the environment;
- 14 • Bushings mounted to the top of the transformer tank that connect the windings to the
15 external electrical conductors;
- 16 • Radiators and cooling fans that remove heat for the transformer’s internal components;
- 17 • Load tap changer, which is attached internally or externally and is the device through
18 which transformer’s voltage is maintained at acceptable levels; and
- 19 • Protective devices to ensure the safe operation of the transformer, such as gas detector
20 relays, oil level and temperature relays and gauges.

21
22 Figure 8 shows a picture of a 75 MVA, 230/66 kV power transformer at Hardwoods Terminal
23 Station.



Figure 8: Power Transformer

- 1 Transformers are expensive components of the electrical system. Hydro, like many North
- 2 American utilities, is working to maximize and extend the life of transformers by regularly
- 3 assessing their condition, executing regularly schedule maintenance and testing, and
- 4 undertaking refurbishment or corrective actions as required. Transformers regularly undergo
- 5 visual inspection as part of Hydro’s terminal station inspection and scheduled preventive
- 6 maintenance and testing to identify concerns regarding a transformer’s condition such as:
 - 7 1. Insulating oil and paper deterioration;
 - 8 2. oil moisture content;
 - 9 3. oil leaks;
 - 10 4. tank, radiators and other component rusting/corrosion;
 - 11 5. tap changer component wear or damage;
 - 12 6. damaged/Deteriorated and PCB contaminated bushings;

- 1 7. failure of the protective devices; and
- 2 8. cooling fan failures.

3

4 Details on the assessment procedures and corrective action for each of these concerns are

5 provided below.

6

7 **Transformer Oil Deterioration**

8 The insulating oil in a transformer and its tap changer diverter switch is a critical component of

9 the insulation system. Normal operation of a transformer will cause its oil to deteriorate.

10 Deterioration results from a number of causes such as heating, internal arcing of electrical

11 components, or ingress of water moisture into the transformer. Deterioration of the oil will

12 affect its function in the insulation system and may damage the paper component of the

13 insulation system. Unacceptable levels of deterioration can affect the reliable operation of the

14 transformer. To ensure the oil in a transformer is of acceptable quality, Hydro has an oil

15 monitoring program through which oil samples are obtained annually from each transformer

16 and analyzed by a professional laboratory. The test results are assessed to determine the level

17 of deterioration. If an unacceptable level of deterioration is identified, required corrective

18 action is identified by asset management personnel. This action entails either the

19 refurbishment of the oil to improve its quality, or the replacement of the oil.

20

21 **Moisture Content**

22 Oil samples are also analyzed to determine moisture content. Moisture in a power transformer

23 may be residual moisture or may result from the ingress of atmospheric moisture. Oil and

24 insulating paper with high moisture content has a reduced dielectric strength, and therefore its

25 performance as an electrical insulator is diminished. To address transformers with high

26 moisture content, Hydro will install an online molecular sieve dry-out system, which circulates

27 and dries the transformer oil without requiring an equipment outage.

1 **Oil Leaks and Corrosion**

2 Transformer oil leaks are an environmental hazard and as oil is part of the insulation system,
3 unchecked leaks can affect the safe and reliable operation of a transformer. Leaks can be
4 caused by a number of factors, including failed gaskets, perforated radiators, tank piping and
5 other steel components. Transformers are visually inspected for leaks as part of the regularly
6 scheduled terminal station inspection program and assessed by asset management personnel
7 to determine the level of corrective action. Minor action (e.g. small repairs, patching and minor
8 painting) is undertaken as part of the maintenance. Work requiring major refurbishments and
9 replacements (e.g. radiator or bushing replacements, gasket replacements, and tank rusting
10 refurbishment) are undertaken under this program.

11

12 **Load Tap Changer**

13 Load tap changer diverter switches, which are externally mounted on the tank, adjust the
14 voltage by changing the electrical connection point of the transformer winding. This involves
15 moving parts, which are subject to wear and damage. Additionally, in older non-vacuum
16 designed diverter switches, arcing occurs during the movement, leading to deterioration of the
17 insulating oil. This wear and deterioration can lead to failure of the tap changer. Oil testing
18 techniques have been developed by professional laboratories that provide assessments of the
19 condition of the parts and oil. Oil samples are obtained annually from each load tap changer to
20 perform a Tap Changer Activity Signature Analysis (TASA) by the laboratory. This analysis
21 provides a condition assessment of the tap changer oil and components, along with
22 recommendations for implementation by Hydro. Recommendations can range from continued
23 or increased annual sampling, planned refurbishment, or to immediately remove from service,
24 inspect and repair. The latter two activities are covered by this project. Another component
25 covered by this project is to correct leaking seals between tap changer diverter switches and
26 the transformer main tank. Currently Hydro has several transformers that show low levels of
27 combustible gases, such as acetylene, due to gasses migrating from the tap changer diverter
28 switch compartment to the main tank.

1 **Bushings**

2 In addition to the aforementioned leaking bushings, Hydro must also address suspected
3 bushings for compliance with the latest PCB Regulations, as well as bushings with degraded
4 electrical properties.

5
6 The latest regulations state that all equipment bushings in-service beyond 2025 must have a
7 PCB concentration of less than 50 mg/kg. Hydro has approximately 500 sealed bushings that
8 were manufactured prior to 1985 which are suspected to contain PCBs greater than 50 mg/kg
9 and possibly greater than 500 mg/kg. Some sealed bushings have sampling ports to allow
10 sampling; however, Hydro does not sample due to small quantity of oil in bushings and the risk
11 of contamination during sampling. Bushings that are known or suspected of having
12 unacceptable PCB levels are replaced.

13
14 Hydro performs Power Factor testing on bushings every six years as part of the transformer
15 preventive maintenance. When Power Factor results indicate unacceptable electrical
16 degradation, bushings are scheduled for replacement.

17
18 **Protective Devices and Fans**

19 Protective devices and cooling fans are tested during visual inspections and preventive
20 maintenance, and are replaced when they fail to operate as designed, or their condition
21 warrant replacement. In addition, cooling fans are added where additional cooling is required
22 due to increased loads.

23
24 **On-line Oil Analysis**

25 In addition to oil quality, Dissolved Gas Analysis (DGA) is performed on oil. DGA analyzes the
26 levels of dissolved gases in oil, which provides insight into the condition of the transformer
27 insulation. The presence of gases can indicate if the transformer has been subjected to fault
28 conditions or overheating, or if there is internal arcing or partial discharge occurring in the
29 windings. The annual oil sample test can only provide an analysis of transformer condition at

1 the time when the sample is taken. In 2015, as part of this program, Hydro began installing
2 Online Dissolved Gas Monitoring on Generator Step-Up (GSU) Transformers, to allow real-time,
3 continuous monitoring of dissolved gases in oil. The online gas in oil monitoring continuously
4 monitors the transformer and provides early fault detection. Continuous data is also a useful
5 tool for personnel to trend gases for the scheduling of repairs or replacement prior to in-service
6 failures, improving the overall reliability of the Island Interconnected System. Continuous
7 monitoring enables Hydro to reduce unplanned outages and lessen the probability of
8 equipment in-service failure.

9
10 This program is being extended to non-GSU transformers in 2017, with Online DGA being
11 installed on critical power transformers on the Island Interconnected System. The factors used
12 to determine the criticality score were submitted to the Board in the June 2, 2014
13 “Transformers Report”. Hydro has identified 50 transformers for installation of online DGA
14 devices through 2024.

15

16 **4.1.7 Circuit Breaker Refurbishment and Replacements**

17 The circuit breaker is a critical component of the power system. Located in a terminal station,
18 each circuit breaker performs switching actions to complete, maintain, and interrupt current
19 flow under normal or fault conditions. The reliable operation of circuit breakers through its fast
20 response and complete interruption of current flow is essential for the protection and stability
21 of the power system. The failure of a breaker to operate as designed may affect the reliability
22 and safety of the electrical system resulting in failure of other equipment and the occurrence of
23 an outage affecting more end users. Hydro has 195 terminal station circuit breakers with
24 voltage rates greater than 66kV in service.

25

26 Currently, Hydro maintains three different types of high voltage circuit breakers:

- 27 1. Air Blast Circuit Breakers (ABCB) - use high pressure air to interrupt currents and
28 typically are at least 38 years old at replacement. In the 2016 Capital Budget Application
29 “Upgrade Circuit Breakers – Various Sites Project”, approval was obtained to replace

1 ABCBs on an accelerated schedule by the end of 2020. This work is covered under a
2 separate project and is not part of the work outlined in the Overview.

3 2. Oil Circuit Breakers (OCB) - use oil to interrupt currents and typically are at least 36
4 years old at replacement. In the 2016 Capital Budget Application “Upgrade Circuit
5 Breakers – Various Sites (2016-2020)” project, approval was obtained for the
6 replacement of 10 OCBs up to 2020 that were not compliant with Environment Canada
7 PCB regulations. The remaining non-compliant breakers will be replaced before 2025.
8 From 2017 forward, any replacements not previously approved in the 2016-2020 project
9 will be included in the work conducted under this section of the Overview; and

10 3. Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF₆) Circuit Breakers - use SF₆ gas to interrupt current and
11 installation of these breakers started in 1979, including all new installations. In the 2016
12 Capital Budget Application “Upgrade Circuit Breakers – Various Sites (2016-2020)”
13 project, approval was obtained, until the end of 2020, for the mid-life refurbishment
14 and replacement of SF₆ circuit breakers with voltage rates 66 KV and above. From 2017
15 forward, any SF₆ replacements and refurbishments not previously approved in the 2016-
16 2020 project will be included in the work conducted under this section of the Overview.



Figure 9: Circuit Breakers – ABCB (left), Oil (middle), and SF₆ (right)

17 As presented in the 2016 Capital Budget Application, “Upgrade Circuit Breakers – Various Sites
18 (2016-2020)” project, SF₆ circuit breakers rated at 138 kV and above are required to be
19 refurbished after 20 years of service. Replacement of SF₆ circuit breakers rated at 66 kV and
20 above will be after 40 years of service, as is consistent with Hydro’s philosophy, most recently
21 presented to the Board in the 2016 capital budget application “Upgrade Circuit Breakers –

1 Various Sites (2016-2020)” project. Select SF₆ circuit breakers may require replacement before
 2 the 40-year service life period based upon their condition and operational history. Hydro
 3 expects to replace up to six breakers per year beyond 2020 and an average of five breakers and
 4 overhaul one breaker per year for 2022 and 2023 and not require overhauls again until
 5 beginning 2030. As per the 2016 Capital Budget Application, “Upgrade Circuit Breakers –
 6 Various Sites” project, Hydro does not currently overhaul breakers rated below 138 kV.

7

8 Figure 10 shows the age distribution of circuit breakers not approved for replacement prior to
 9 2017.

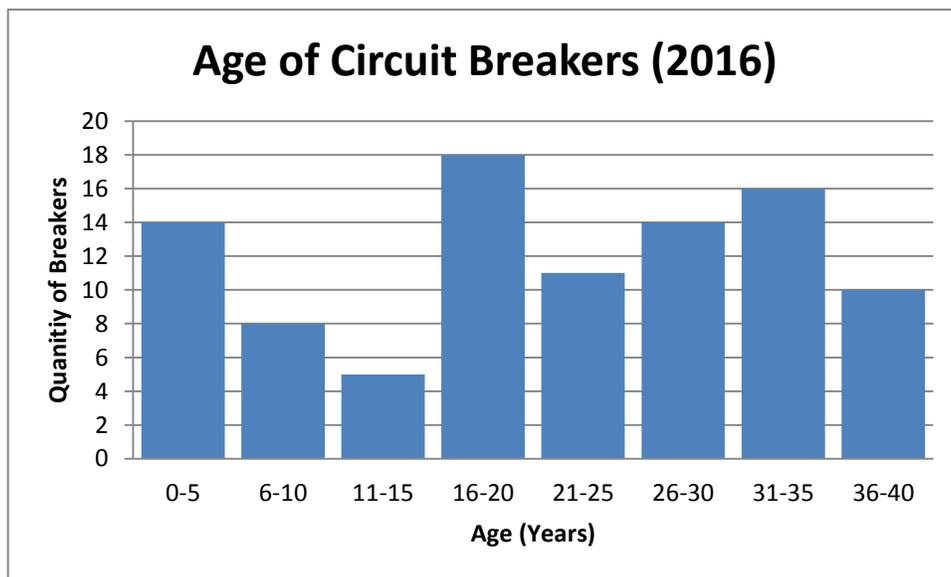


Figure 10: Age of Circuit Breakers Not Included in Ongoing Replacement Program

10 **4.1.8 Station Service Refurbishment and Upgrades**

11 The power required to operate the various terminal station and distribution substation
 12 (collectively referred to as “station” equipment) and infrastructure is provided by the station
 13 service system. The station service system provides AC (Alternating Current) and DC (Direct
 14 Current) power to operate the equipment in a station.

1 The AC station service is generally supplied by one or more transformers in the station. Due to
2 their criticality, 230 kV terminal stations have a redundant station service feed, fed either
3 through a redundant transformer tertiary winding, supplied from Newfoundland Power's
4 electrical system where available, or by a diesel generator. Common AC station service loads
5 are:

- 6 • transformer cooling fans;
- 7 • anti-condensation heaters;
- 8 • station lighting;
- 9 • control building HVAC;
- 10 • control building lighting;
- 11 • air compressors; and
- 12 • battery chargers.

13
14 The DC station service is supplied by a battery bank, which is charged from the AC station
15 service. The DC station service provides power to critical devices in the station and is designed
16 to allow operation of the station in the event of an AC station service failure. Hydro's DC station
17 service system is a 125 V system in the majority of the stations with some lower voltage
18 stations and telecommunications equipment having 48 V systems. Common DC station service
19 loads are:

- 20 • circuit breaker charging motors;
- 21 • digital relays;
- 22 • emergency lighting;
- 23 • disconnect switch motor operators; and
- 24 • telecommunications equipment.

25
26 As terminal station equipment is replaced, added, or upgraded, the AC and DC station service
27 loads may increase. Upon the installation of new equipment in the terminal station, Hydro
28 carries out a station service study to determine the loading on the station service system. In the
29 event that the new station service loads exceed the design load of the system, upgrades such as

1 cable, circuit breaker panel, splitter, and transfer switch replacements or additions are
2 required. Replacement of station service transformers is not included in this program, as they
3 are addressed separately in the Application, under the *Replace Power Transformers* project.

4

5 **4.1.9 Battery Banks and Chargers**

6 Battery banks and chargers supply direct current (DC) power to critical station infrastructure
7 such as circuit breakers, protection and control relays, disconnect switch motor operators, and
8 telecontrol equipment (Figure 11). Battery banks are designed to provide a minimum of eight
9 hours of auxiliary power to critical infrastructure in the event of a loss of AC station service
10 supply. The majority of Hydro's battery banks consist of lead-acid flooded-cell type batteries,
11 which have deteriorating capacity over time. Hydro adheres to IEEE 450 and 1188, which
12 recommends replacements of a battery if its capacity has fallen to 80% or less of its rated
13 capacity. The service life of flooded cell batteries is 18 to 20 years while valve regulated lead
14 acid (VRLA) batteries have a service life of 7 to 10 years.

15

16 Hydro regularly carries out testing on its battery banks to determine bank capacity and will
17 replace banks and chargers with insufficient capacity under this program.



Figure 11: 125 V Direct Current Terminal Station Battery Bank

1 **4.1.10 Install Breaker Bypass Switches**

2 High voltage circuit breakers, with their associated protection and control equipment, are used
 3 to control the flow of electrical current to ensure safe and reliable operation of the electrical
 4 system (Figure 12). When a breaker is removed for maintenance, troubleshooting,
 5 refurbishment, or replacement, an alternate electrical path must be implemented to avoid
 6 customer outages. On radial systems⁴, this alternate path is accomplished using a bypass
 7 switch. When closed, the bypass switch allows electricity to flow around the breaker allowing
 8 the breaker to be safely de-energized, while maintaining service continuity.

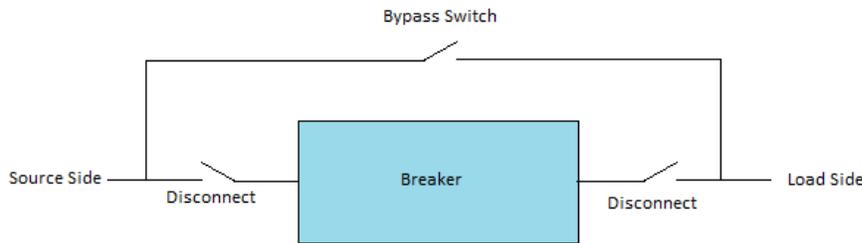


Figure 12: Example of Bypass Switch Installation

9 Listed in Table 1 are six radial systems, servicing multiple customers, where breakers are
 10 installed without bypass switches. To ensure service continuity during breaker downtime,
 11 Hydro will install breaker bypass switches in these locations.

Table 1: Circuit Breakers without Bypass Switches

Breaker Location	Customers Affected
Bottom Waters L60T1	2253 Bottom Waters area customers
Buchans B2T1	665 Buchans area Newfoundland Power customers and Duck Pond Mine
Doyles B1L15	3563 Grand Bay, Port aux Basque, and Long Lake area Newfoundland Power customers.
Howley B1T2	773 Hampden and Jackson’s Arm area customers and 665 Newfoundland Power Howley area customers (Approved Project Ongoing)
Peter’s Barren B1L41	1900 Great Northern Peninsula customers north of Daniel’s Harbor
South Brook L22T1	2340 South Brook area customers.

⁴ A radial system is an electrical network that has only one electrical path between the source and the load.

1 **4.2 Civil Works and Buildings**

2 **4.2.1 Equipment Foundations**

3 Reinforced concrete foundations support high voltage equipment and structures in Hydro's
4 terminal stations. These foundations range in age from one to forty-five years. Terminal station
5 foundations support equipment and bus work. The majority of these structures formed part of
6 the original station construction and are in excess of thirty-five years of age.

7
8 The service life of galvanized steel structures varies depending on the operating environment,
9 but can exceed 100 years, outliving the foundations on which they are built. A number of the
10 foundations in Hydro terminal stations have deteriorated significantly due to repeated
11 exposure to damaging freeze/thaw cycles, weathering, and age, leading to concerns over their
12 integrity. Degraded structure foundations are shown in Figure 13 and Figure 14.



Figure 13: Structure B1T1 Bottom Terminal Stations



Figure 14: Structure L01L37-1 Western Avalon Terminal Station

1 To ensure foundations perform as per the original design intent, severely deteriorated concrete
2 foundations must be refurbished or replaced. Failure to complete repairs could result in a
3 catastrophic failure, causing outages or personal injury. Hydro has carried out engineering
4 inspections of all 230 kV stations and identified foundations requiring repairs. Additionally,
5 Hydro performs visual inspections of foundations every 120 days during regular terminal station
6 inspections. Foundations identified for repair are addressed under this program.

7

8 **4.2.2 Fire Protection**

9 Hydro’s terminal station control buildings contain combustible materials. As these facilities are
10 unattended, a fire could spread causing severe damage to protection and control wiring and
11 equipment, which would cause extended and widespread outages. To restore a terminal station
12 severely damaged by fire to normal operation could take months.

13

14 Hydro is installing gaseous fire suppression systems in its 230 kV terminal stations to protect
15 the control cabinets and cables and any other critical equipment from being destroyed by a fire,
16 without damaging sensitive electronic equipment and wiring.

1 In the 2015 and 2016 Capital Budget Application “Install Fire Protection” projects, Hydro
2 received approval to install fire protection in the Holyrood and Bay d’Espoir terminal stations
3 respectively. Due to their criticality, Hydro intends to continue its program to install fire
4 suppression systems in all 230 kV terminal stations.

6 **4.2.3 Control Buildings**

7 Terminal station control buildings contain critical station infrastructure such as protection,
8 control, and monitoring equipment, telecontrol equipment, station service equipment, battery
9 banks, and compressed air systems. Many control buildings also contain office, breakroom, and
10 washroom facilities, for use by Hydro crews when working in the station. As the equipment in
11 control buildings is critical to the function of the terminal station, it is imperative that Hydro
12 ensures the structural integrity, weather-tightness, and security of its control buildings. While
13 addressing these issues, Hydro also ensures that building auxiliaries, such as electrical,
14 plumbing, and HVAC systems function properly to ensure reliable and safe operation and use of
15 the terminal station and the control building.

16
17 Typical refurbishment activities for control building involve replacement of the roof membrane,
18 siding, and doors and may also include replacement of electrical equipment (such as
19 distribution panels, transfer switches, or low-voltage disconnects), plumbing (such as water
20 service entries and internal plumbing), and HVAC (such as intake and exhaust fans, louvers,
21 heaters, and air conditioning).

22
23 Figure 15 and Figure 16 show deterioration at different control building locations.

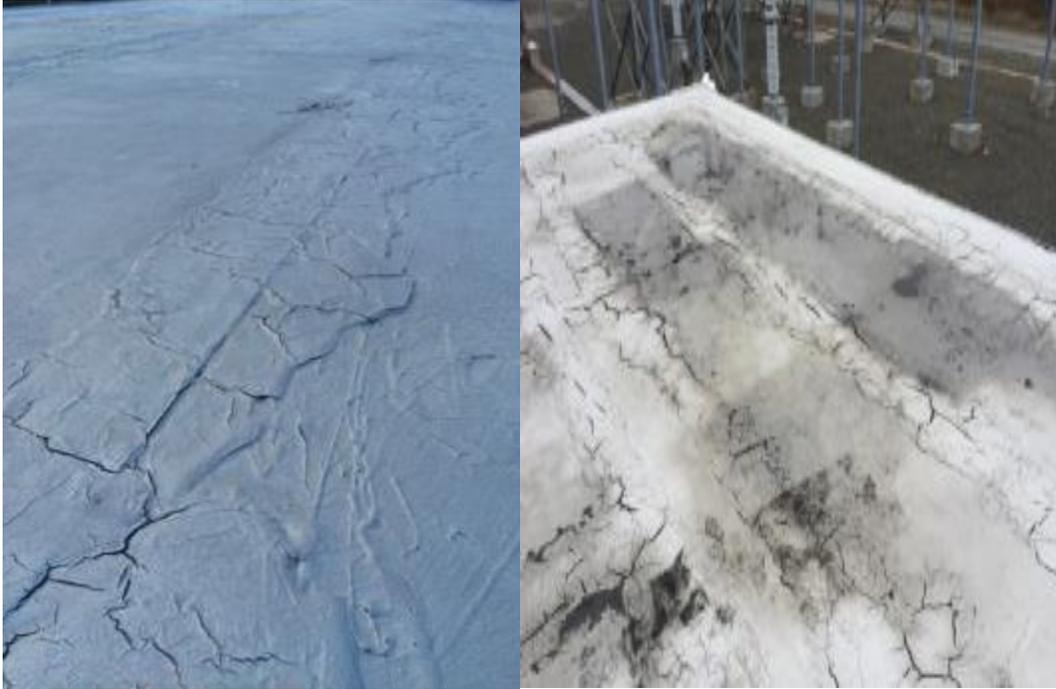


Figure 15: Terminal Station Control Buildings (Come By Chance and Sunnyside) showing cracking and deterioration of the roof membrane systems.



Figure 16: Building exterior cladding and doorways displaying severe rusting and deterioration

1 **4.3 Protection, Control, and Monitoring**

2 **4.3.1 Protection and Control Upgrades and Refurbishment**

3 The terminal station protection and control system automatically monitors, analyzes and causes
4 action by other equipment, such as breakers, to ensure the safe, reliable operation of the
5 electrical system or to initiate action when a command is issued by system operators. The
6 protection and control system also provides indications of system conditions and alarms and
7 allows the recording of system conditions for analysis. Hydro carries out capital work on various
8 protection and control equipment, including:

- 9 • protective relays;
- 10 • breaker failure protection;
- 11 • tap h controls;
- 12 • data alarm systems;
- 13 • frequency monitors;
- 14 • digital fault recorders; and
- 15 • cables and panels.

16
17 ***Electromechanical and Solid State Protective Relay Replacement***

18 Protective relays monitor and analyze the operation conditions of the electrical system. When a
19 relay identifies unacceptable operating conditions, such as a fault, it will initiate an action to
20 isolate the source of the condition by commanding high voltage equipment such as breakers to
21 operate. Protective relays play a crucial role in maintaining system stability, preventing
22 hazardous conditions from damaging electrical equipment, or preventing harm to personnel.

23
24 Older relays existing on Hydro’s system are the electromechanical and older solid state types
25 and lack features such as data storage and event recording capability. Modern digital
26 multifunction relays are used to replace these older style relays as they have increased setting
27 flexibility, fault disturbance monitoring, communications capability and metering functionality,
28 and greater dependability and security, thus enhancing system reliability. Digital and
29 electromechanical relays are shown in Figure 17.

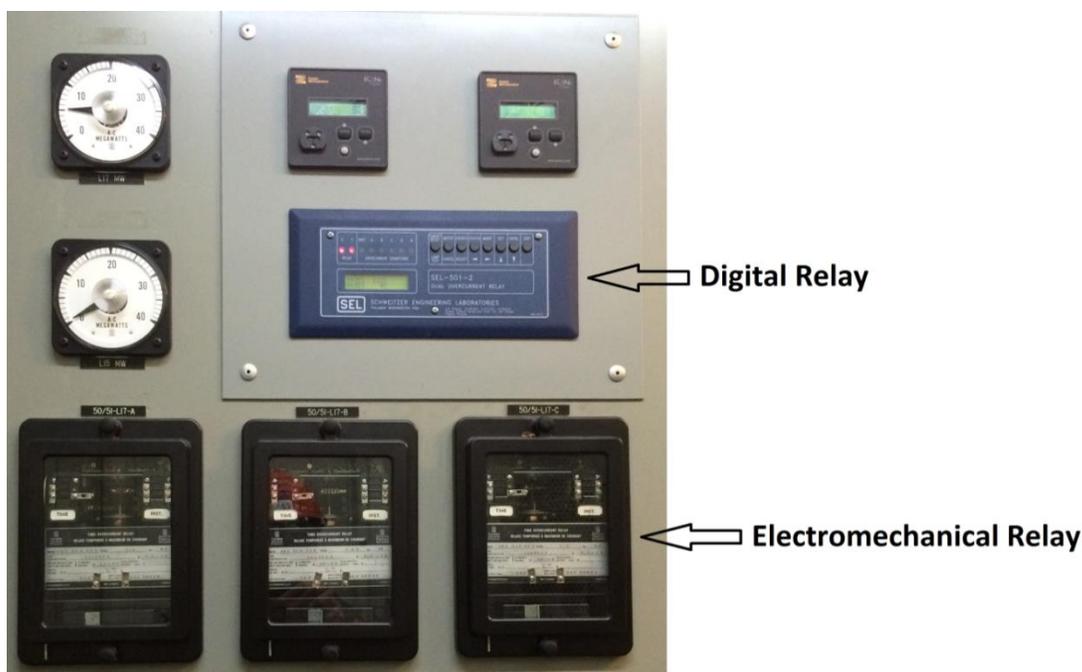


Figure 17: Digital and Electromechanical Relays

1 In the *“Report to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities Related to Alarms, Event*
 2 *Recording Devices, and Digital Relays”* dated August 1, 2014, Section 3.1, *“Review of Updates*
 3 *and Changes to Existing Digital Relay Program”* stated that *“Hydro plans to review its existing*
 4 *transformer, bus, and line protections in an effort to develop plans for future implementation*
 5 *of modern digital relays with data storage and fault recording capabilities.”* To fulfill this
 6 commitment, Hydro completed the following:

- 7 • A review of all transformer, bus, and line protection on 230 kV, 138 kV, and 69 kV
 8 systems, including data storage and fault recording capabilities; and
- 9 • A plan to replace all existing electromechanical transformer, bus, timer, and line
 10 protection relays with modern digital relays. The 230 kV relays are the priority for the
 11 first phase of the plan, with 138 kV and 69 kV to follow.

12
 13 As part of the annual Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project, Hydro will
 14 continue to execute the replacement of 230 kV electromechanical and obsolete solid-state
 15 transformer, line, and bus relays with modern digital multifunction relays, which began in 2016
 16 under the *“Replace Protective Relays”* program. Additionally, in line with Hydro's response to

1 request for information CA-NLH-037 of the 2016 Capital Budget Application, Hydro installed
2 redundant multifunction transformer protection relays in 2016 for transformers rated above 10
3 MVA. Under this program Hydro will continue to install these upgrades.

4

5 **Breaker Failure Protection**

6 Protective relaying is designed to trip a breaker during fault conditions to remove the fault from
7 the electrical system so as to minimize equipment outages and maintain system stability and
8 safe, reliable operation. When a breaker does not properly isolate a fault, other breakers will be
9 commanded to trip to isolate the fault. This will result in larger outages but will ensure isolation
10 of the original fault in time to minimize damage to equipment and minimize impact to the
11 system. The failure of a breaker to isolate a fault when commanded is called a Breaker Failure.
12 Circuit breaker protective relaying is designed to recognize a breaker failure and to initiate
13 action to surrounding breakers to minimize damage to equipment and the spread of the impact
14 of a breaker failure. This breaker protection feature is called Breaker Failure Protection.

15

16 Prior to 2014, breaker failure protection was implemented only in Hydro's 230 kV terminal
17 stations. In 2014, Hydro completed a review of breaker failure protection in 66 kV and 138 kV
18 terminal stations. Hydro also developed a protection and control standard "Application of
19 Breaker Failure Relaying" calling for breaker failure protection on transmission breakers rated
20 at 66 kV and above. From this review, Hydro identified 20 terminal stations requiring breaker
21 failure protection.

22

23 As part of the Hydro's 2016 Capital Budget Application, Hydro proposed and received Board
24 approval for the installation of breaker failure protection in three terminal stations. As part of
25 the annual Terminal Station Refurbishment and Modernization Project, Hydro will continue its
26 plan to execute the installation of breaker failure protection in the remaining terminal stations.

27

28 **Tap Changer Paralleling Control Replacement**

29 Tap changer paralleling controls are designed to:

- 1 • Ensure the load bus voltage is regulated as prescribed by the setting;
- 2 • minimize the current that circulates between the transformers, as would occur if the tap
- 3 changers operated on inappropriate tap positions; and
- 4 • ensure the controller operates correctly in multiple transformer applications regardless
- 5 of system configuration changes or station breaker operations and resultant station
- 6 configuration changes.

7

8 Current tap changer controls are of similar vintage as the power transformers, dating back to

9 the late 1960's, and require replacement. Recent feedback from the tap changer paralleling

10 control supplier indicated older equipment has capacitors that will dry out over time resulting

11 in control issues. Additionally, it was recommended the same controller model be applied to all

12 transformers to optimize tap changing control. The control issues, as described by the supplier,

13 have been observed by Hydro staff at numerous sites during review, which indicated that a high

14 number of operations were experienced at various sites.

15

16 Hydro plans to start replacing tap changer paralleling controls in 2018 beginning at Western

17 Avalon Terminal Station.

18

19 **Equipment Alarm Upgrades**

20 Alarms inform the Energy Control Center and operating personnel that equipment and relaying

21 requires attention and are communicated to the Energy Control Centre and/or displayed locally

22 on the station annunciator (Figure 18).



Figure 18: An annunciator commonly found in Hydro's terminal stations

1 Hydro's review of Alarms, Event Recording Devices and Digital Relays found that by providing
 2 more detailed alarm schemes, the ECC and local operators are able to troubleshoot system
 3 events more accurately and quickly.

4

5 Hydro's internal study identified required increases to alarm detail for five 230 kV terminal
 6 stations to the Energy Control Centre. Stony Brook, Holyrood, Sunnyside, Oxen Pond, and
 7 Massey Drive were assessed. Hydro proposed and received approval to implement the
 8 proposed upgrades at the Stony Brook terminal station as part of the 2016 Capital Budget
 9 Application "Upgrade Data Alarm Systems" project. Hydro will continue its plan to install
 10 improved data alarm management as part of the Terminal Station Refurbishment and
 11 Modernization project, with the remaining stations being addressed in future applications.

12

13 **Frequency Monitoring Additions**

14 As a result of investigations into the outage of January 2013, a recommendation was made to
 15 install frequency monitoring devices on the Island Interconnected System to allow better
 16 analysis of system events, such as pre- and post-fault scenarios. It was recommended that one

1 such device be installed in an Eastern, Western, and Central location on the Interconnected
2 System. Hydro Place (East), Massey Drive Terminal Station (West), and Bay d’Espoir Terminal
3 Station #2 (Central) have been chosen for the installation of frequency monitoring devices.

4

5 **Digital Fault Recorders**

6 Digital fault recorders (DFRs) record analog electrical data, such as voltage, frequency, and
7 current, as well as digital relay contact positions, at a high resolution to allow Hydro to
8 determine the cause and location of an electrical fault. This data allows Hydro to restore service
9 in a timely manner and address system configurations and settings to mitigate the impact of
10 future faults and improve the protection of critical electrical infrastructure. Hydro has DFRs
11 deployed in several stations and has a program to install DFRs in areas where Hydro does not
12 have sufficient DFR coverage to allow the analysis of faults.

13

14 **Protection and Control Cable and Panel Modifications**

15 This program will cover protection and control panels and wiring that may require alteration,
16 replacement or addition to existing wiring due to deterioration from environment conditions,
17 accidental damage or the modification/addition protection and control equipment.