

- 1 Q. **Reference page 1, lines 10-11, *Network Additions Policy Review***
- 2 a. Explain the types of upstream network facilities that Hydro is referring to in the passage.
- 3 b. Will increased load of data centres/cryptocurrency mining during times other than the
- 4 system peak result in increases in additions to upstream network facilities? If so, please
- 5 explain what upstream network facilities would be needed.
- 6 c. Are the types of upstream network facilities additions caused by data
- 7 centres/cryptocurrencies similar to those caused by other customers that experience similar
- 8 levels of load growth?
- 9 d. Provide the costs of upstream network facilities additions caused by data
- 10 centres/cryptocurrencies.
- 11 e. Provide the costs of upstream network facilities additions caused by all other customers.
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- 14 A. a. Upstream network facilities refer to transmission system upgrades defined in the “Labrador
- 15 Interconnected System Transmission Expansion Study”¹ (“Study”). Potential projects to
- 16 accommodate load growth are summarized in the Study in Table 10 (page 30) for eastern
- 17 Labrador and in Table 11 (page 31) for western Labrador.
- 18
- 19 b. Transmission system upgrades are required in the event that the capacity of an existing
- 20 system is inadequate to meet peak load conditions. Therefore, it is the peak capacity
- 21 requirements (as opposed to the load profile or characteristics of a customer) that would impact
- 22 expansion requirements. Increased demand associated with data centres/cryptocurrency mining
- 23 operations or any other customer would require additions to upstream network facilities if the
- 24 load is forecasted to exceed existing system capacity. The extent of expansion requirements
- 25 would be a function of the forecasted peak load, as summarized in the reference found in part
- 26 (a) of this response.

¹ “Labrador Interconnected System Transmission Expansion Study,” April 3, 2019 (rev. 2), originally filed October 31, 2018.

1 **c.** As per part (b) of this response, the extent of transmission system expansion is a function of
2 the capacity requirement to meet the forecasted peak load and is independent of whether the
3 incremental load consists of data centres/cryptocurrency mining operations or other customers.

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5 **d.** Please refer to part (b) of this response. Costs associated with upstream network facilities
6 are summarized in the Study as noted in part (a) of this response.

7
8 **e.** Please refer part (b) of this response. Costs associated with upstream network facilities are
9 summarized in the Study as noted in part (a) of this response.