

1 Q. **Reference: Application**

2 With respect to construction, ownership and operation of charging station infrastructure:

3 a) What benefits are brought to the electrification program by Hydro’s ECDM partner
4 Newfoundland Power that are over and above those that Hydro can provide?

5 b) What benefits does Hydro bring to the partnership with respect to construction, ownership
6 and operation of charging station infrastructure that are over and above those that
7 Newfoundland Power can provide?

8 c) In effect, how do customers benefit from this partnership with respect to construction,
9 ownership and operation of charging station infrastructure?

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12 A. *This Request for Information relates to the Electrification, Conservation and Demand*
13 *Management Plan: 2021-2025 (the “2021 Plan”) developed in partnership by Newfoundland and*
14 *Labrador Hydro and Newfoundland Power (“Hydro” or, collectively, the “Utilities”). Accordingly,*
15 *the response reflects collaboration between the Utilities.*

16 In 2018, the provincial government issued a reference to the Board of the Commissioners of
17 Public Utilities (“Board”) on the Muskrat Falls Project rate mitigation. In its final report, the
18 Board recommended that the Utilities and provincial government work together on a
19 comprehensive and coordinated approach to developing the most appropriate programs for the
20 province.¹

21 By partnering together, the Utilities are able to deliver electrification programming under the
22 joint takeCHARGE brand. Offering electrification programming under takeCHARGE allows both
23 utilities to leverage the existing assets and brand recognition associated with takeCHARGE’s
24 conservation and demand management (“CDM”) programming, while allowing each utility to

¹ “Reference to the Board – Rate Mitigation Options and Impacts Muskrat Falls Project – Final Report,” Newfoundland & Labrador Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, February 7, 2020, p. ii.

1 interact with their own customer base in the province. Such an approach also avoids
2 redundancies in electrification and CDM programming and ensures a coordinated approach for
3 all customers on the Island Interconnected System.

4 With respect to the construction of charging station infrastructure, Hydro has led the
5 development of phase 1 of the provincial fast charging network and, as such, has experience in
6 planning, designing, and constructing the provincial network. Hydro has worked with the various
7 levels of government to secure funding for the network and incentive programs and is now
8 operating phase 1 of the province’s public fast charging network. This experience is being shared
9 as part of the takeCHARGE partnership to help facilitate a more efficient expansion of public fast
10 chargers in the province.

11 The partnership of the Utilities will facilitate a more rapid expansion of the charging network,
12 thus supporting provincial electrification opportunities. The plan for phase 2 seeks to begin
13 construction of 19 fast charging locations throughout the province in 2021. The Utilities have
14 worked collaboratively to deliver an efficient network expansion through joint project
15 management meetings and joint tendering of equipment where economies of scale were
16 achievable.