

1 Q. Please cite the statutory regulatory authority which provides the Board with jurisdiction to
2 consider this Application.

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5 A. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's ("Hydro") application requests approval by the Board of
6 Commissioners of Public Utilities ("Board") of the following:

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- 8 • An economic test to be used to evaluate customer electrification programs;
 - 9 • A deferral account to provide for deferral of certain costs related to Hydro's Electrification,
10 Conservation and Demand Management ("ECDM") Plan and a related Cost Recovery
11 Adjustment to provide for the recovery of costs associated with that deferral account; and
 - 12 • Supplemental capital expenditures associated with the expansion of Hydro's electric vehicle
charging network.

13 The Board, pursuant to the *Public Utilities Act, RSNL 1990*, ("Act"), and in particular to Section
14 16, has the general supervision of all public utilities to ensure compliance by public utilities with
15 the law.

16 Additionally, under Section 58, the Board also may prescribe the form of all books, accounts,
17 papers and records to be kept by a public utility and the public utility must comply with all
18 directions of the Board relating to those books, accounts, papers, records, and returns.

19 Pursuant to Section 71 of the *Act*, the public utility must submit the rules and regulations which
20 relate to its service, and any amendments to them, for approval by the Board and pursuant to
21 Section 80(2) of the *Act*, the public utility may earn a just and reasonable return on rate base as
22 fixed and determined by the Board, as well as any expenses that the Board may allow as
23 reasonable and prudent and properly chargeable to an operating account.

1 Finally, pursuant to Section 41(3), a public utility shall not proceed with the construction,
2 purchase or lease of improvements or additions to its property where the cost of the
3 construction or purchase is in excess of \$50,000.

4 Section 80(2) of the *Act* provides for the opportunity to recover those expenses that the Board
5 may allow as reasonable and prudent. It is therefore on the basis of prudently incurred costs in
6 the provision of least-cost service that Hydro is seeking to recover the cost of capital investment
7 in public charging infrastructure.