

1 Q. Please advise as to the policy guidance that was provided by the provincial government in the  
2 development of the 2021 Plan.

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

9 Although the provincial government did not provide explicit and direct policy guidance to  
10 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (“Hydro”) in developing the 2021 Plan, the development of  
11 the 2021 Plan included consultations with the provincial government. The provincial  
12 government provided a letter of support for the 2021 Plan. The letter states:

13 The plan indicates the province's utilities are taking actions to begin addressing  
14 the electrification, and conservation and demand management (CDM)  
15 recommendations in the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities Rate  
16 Mitigation Options and Impacts Report. The Board's report demonstrated  
17 clearly that these action areas have excellent potential to assist with our rate  
18 mitigation efforts.<sup>1</sup>

19 Further, development of the electrification programs contained in the 2021 Plan was based on  
20 the objective of customer rate mitigation. This is consistent with the recommendations of the  
21 Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities (“Board”) as part of the Reference on Rate Mitigation  
22 Options and Impacts. In its final report, the Board encouraged the Utilities to work with the  
23 provincial government on the development of the most appropriate electrification and  
24 conservation and demand management (“CDM”) programs for the province.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> “Application for Approvals Required to Execute Programming Identified in the Electrification, Conservation and Demand Management Plan 2021–2025,” Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, rev. 1, July 8, 2021 (originally filed June 16, 2021), sch. 3, sch. M, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> “Reference to the Board – Rate Mitigation Option Impacts Muskrat Falls Project – Final Report,” Newfoundland & Labrador Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, February 7, 2020, p. 63.

1           The provincial government has also taken steps recently to support electric vehicle (“EV”)  
2           adoption in the province, which the 2021 Plan shows will support rate mitigation. Recent  
3           examples include a \$1 million investment in Hydro’s EV fast charging network, and the  
4           announcement of a \$2,500 EV rebate.