

- 1 **Q. (Reference Application Volume 2, Transmission Line Rebuild, page 3, footnote 7)**
 2
 3 **a) What is NP's average per kilometer maintenance cost on its transmission lines?**
 4 **How does this compare with Hydro and/or other similar Canadian utilities?**
 5
 6 **b) Do the figures in footnote 7 apply to the entire line or only the 30 km section that**
 7 **is proposed for rebuild?**
 8
 9 **c) Specifically, what maintenance projects have been carried out on the line since**
 10 **2015?**
 11
 12 **d) How would maintenance costs be impacted if the Board rejected this rebuild in**
 13 **2021?**
 14
 15 **A. a) The average maintenance cost for Newfoundland Power's transmission lines is**
 16 **approximately \$1,020/kilometre.¹**
 17
 18 Newfoundland Power does not have comparable data from Newfoundland and
 19 Labrador Hydro and/or other similar Canadian utilities.
 20
 21 **b) The figures in footnote 7 apply only to the 30 kilometre section of transmission 124L.**
 22
 23 **c) Since 2015, annual maintenance work completed on Transmission Line 124L**
 24 **consisted of the replacement of deteriorated ball link eye bolts, cross arms, porcelain**
 25 **Canadian Ohio Brass or Canadian Pacific insulators, amongst other items.**
 26
 27 **d) Based on the inspection completed in 2020, continued maintenance of this section of**
 28 **line is no longer feasible. Annual maintenance could not practically address the**
 29 **deterioration and deficiencies identified on this section of line. As outlined in Table**
 30 **2, page 3 of the Transmission Line Rebuild report, transmission line 124L currently**
 31 **has 174 deteriorated poles, 168 deficient eye bolts and 100 deteriorated cross braces.**
 32
 33 Addressing this level of deterioration would result in substantially overspending the
 34 transmission line maintenance budget of \$2,238,000 for 2021. Furthermore, it would
 35 compromise the Company's ability to address other high-priority deficiencies on the
 36 transmission system.

¹ Over the period 2016 to 2020F, the annual average maintenance cost for Newfoundland Power's transmission lines was approximately \$2.1 million (\$2.1 million / 2,060 kilometres = \$1,020/kilometre). See the *2021 Capital Budget Application, Volume 1, Schedule B*, page 25, Table 2.