

1 **Q. Reference: “2021 Capital Budget Application,” Newfoundland Power, July 9, 2020,**
2 **Volume 1, Schedule B, Rebuild Distribution Lines (Pooled) at p. 45–47.**
3

4 **Has Newfoundland Power taken down any of its old distribution infrastructure in**
5 **the past ten years? If so, has it been mechanically tested? If so, did the results show**
6 **any remaining capacity in the components? Please provide the results of any testing**
7 **completed. If no testing was completed, why not?**
8

9 A. Newfoundland Power removes deteriorated plant from service in accordance with its
10 *Distribution Inspection and Maintenance Practices*. These practices outline the
11 inspection and testing procedures used to determine the integrity of distribution
12 infrastructure, including:
13

- 14 (i) Sounding tests, which involve striking a pole with a hammer at regular intervals on
15 all quadrants from the ground line to 2 metres above grade; and
16 (ii) Core sampling tests, which involve using an approved device to drill through the
17 centerline of the pole to extract a core sample for evaluation.
18

19 These testing procedures allow experienced Distribution Planners to obtain the required
20 information about the condition of poles, including whether replacement is required.
21 Other infrastructure, such as insulators and hardware, are replaced upon failure or during
22 distribution structure upgrades associated with pole replacements.
23

24 Additional mechanical testing is therefore not required.