

1 **Q. (Reference slide 12) It is indicated that Newfoundland Power expects to stop**
2 **investment in EV charging stations in 2025.**

3 **(a) Is this because Newfoundland Power expects that the number of EVs will be**
4 **sufficient for private business and other entities to undertake such investments**
5 **thereafter?**

6 **(b) Is there any other reason for Newfoundland Power to stop such investment in**
7 **2025?**

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9 A. *This Request for Information relates to the Electrification, Conservation and Demand*
10 *Management Plan: 2021-2025 (the “2021 Plan”) developed in partnership by*
11 *Newfoundland Power Inc. (“Newfoundland Power”) and Newfoundland and Labrador*
12 *Hydro (“Hydro”) (collectively, the “Utilities”) and the related Technical Conference*
13 *presented by the Utilities on February 1, 2022. Accordingly, the response reflects*
14 *collaboration between the Utilities.*

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16 (a) The objective of the Utilities’ EV Charging Network is to establish the minimum
17 geographic coverage necessary to permit EVs to travel throughout the island of
18 Newfoundland. It is expected that the capital expenditures planned from 2021 to
19 2025 will achieve this minimum geographic coverage.¹ This will ensure reasonable
20 access to public fast charging in the province, thereby addressing a primary barrier to
21 customers’ adoption of EVs.

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23 The need for utility investment in EV charging infrastructure reflects the weak
24 business case for private sector investment in the province. The weak business case
25 for private sector investment is the result of both the limited number of EVs in the
26 province and the upfront cost of installing EV charging infrastructure. The Utilities’
27 EV Charging Network and planned customer electrification programs will increase
28 EV adoption in the province. This is expected to improve the business case for
29 private sector investment in EV charging infrastructure over time.²

¹ The installation of charging stations is expected to be minimal following 2022 and no installations are expected beyond 2025.

² Further, the Utilities’ proposed make-ready model will reduce the upfront cost of EV charging infrastructure for private entities. See Newfoundland Power’s Application, Volume 2, 2021 Plan, pages 14 to 15.

1 The Utilities' electrification initiatives will be evaluated on an annual basis to ensure
2 the initiatives remain beneficial for customers. This evaluation will consider
3 changing market conditions surrounding electrification, including any private sector
4 investment. Any required changes to the Utilities' planned investments in the EV
5 Charging Network, including changes to the amount or timing of planned
6 investments, will be based on those future assessments. This approach is consistent
7 with Order No. P.U. 30 (2021), where the Board states:

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9 *“The circumstances surrounding electrification programming are rapidly*
10 *changing and this may require different approaches in the future with respect to*
11 *EV charging station capital expenditures. In future years the utilities will have to*
12 *demonstrate that further capital expenditures for additional EV charging stations*
13 *are justified in the circumstances.”³*

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15 (b) See part (a).

³ See the Reasons for Decision in issuing Order No. P.U. 30 (2021), page 13.