

- 1 **Q. (Reference Application) Does NP own steel towers and if so, does it use coating to**  
2 **extend the life? Please explain why or why not and provide a cost benefit analysis**  
3 **comparing coating to replacement of the steel tower.**  
4
- 5 A. Yes, Newfoundland Power owns a limited number of both steel towers and steel poles.<sup>1</sup>  
6 These steel towers and poles are typically installed in areas with loading criteria and span  
7 lengths beyond what can be met using wood pole construction or in environmentally  
8 sensitive locations as an alternative to treated wood poles.  
9
- 10 Each steel tower and pole is inspected annually in accordance with Newfoundland  
11 Power's transmission line inspection and maintenance practices. The coating system is  
12 inspected as part of the annual inspection. Any coating deficiencies noted during the  
13 inspection are addressed as required to extend the service life of the tower or pole.  
14
- 15 The Company is currently not proposing to coat or replace any steel towers as part of its  
16 *2021 Capital Budget Application* or as part of its 5-year capital plan.

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<sup>1</sup> There are currently 13 steel towers and approximately 130 steel poles in operation throughout the Company's transmission system.