- Q. (Reference Application, LED Street Lighting Replacement Plan) Owing to the effectiveness of LED lighting, is it possible to reduce the number of required streetlights? Has NP attempted to assess the optimal number of streetlights after all have been replaced with LEDs?
- A. Newfoundland Power has approximately 65,000 street lights in service throughout its service territory. The physical infrastructure supporting these street lights consists of (i) distribution poles that are primarily installed to provide electricity service to customers, and (ii) dedicated street light poles typically installed in subdivisions or other planned roadways. Newfoundland Power has not attempted to assess the optimal number of street lights in service after all the High Pressure Sodium ("HPS") street lights have been replaced with LED street lights.

Street light locations are determined by Newfoundland Power in consultation with the customer. For street lighting requests involving roadways that are adjacent to the Company's distribution system, Newfoundland Power works with its customers to identify appropriate locations that will meet the customers' lighting needs. For newly planned subdivisions and roadways, Newfoundland Power typically provides a lighting layout to the customer for their approval.

Most of Newfoundland Power's street lighting locations were based on customer feedback and the use of the traditional HPS street lighting technology. As a result, the Company's primary focus in its transition from HPS to LED technology has been to provide LED street lights that provide lighting output that is generally equivalent to the HPS street light that is being replaced. In doing so, customers receive lower customer rates for the equivalent LED fixture, improved reliability, and better lighting quality.

Since Newfoundland Power has changed its lighting standard from HPS to LED technology, street lighting layouts for new roadways and subdivisions are being completed using LED lighting design tools. This change enables new street light locations to be optimized using the Company's new LED lighting technology.