

- 1 **Q.** (Reference CA-NP-038) It is stated "*The 2022 Distribution Feeder Automation project*
2 *involves the installation of 16 downline reclosers on 14 distribution feeders. These*
3 *downline reclosers will allow the Company to maintain reliable service for customers*
4 *without the assistance of field crews and will contribute to reduced time to identify the*
5 *cause of outages."* Given the benefits of this program, why were the reclosers not
6 **installed previously; i.e., last year or the year before? Please show how Newfoundland**
7 **Power will meet its mandate in 2021 given that these reclosers have not already been**
8 **installed.**
9
- 10 **A.** Newfoundland Power described its strategy for the installation of downline reclosers over
11 a multi-year horizon in report *4.5 Distribution Feeder Automation* filed as part of its *2020*
12 *Capital Budget Application*. The report detailed a plan to install an average of 15
13 downline reclosers per year on select feeders from 2020 to 2024. The locations and
14 deployment configurations of the devices to be installed as part of that plan are evaluated
15 annually for inclusion in the Company's capital budget application.¹
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- 17 The deployment of downline reclosers in this manner will provide the Company with
18 more flexibility in operating its distribution system. This includes: (i) reducing the
19 overall number of customers who experience an outage; (ii) timelier restoration of service
20 to customers following extended outages; and (iii) more efficient use of field crews in
21 responding to customer outages. These benefits are consistent with Newfoundland
22 Power's mandate to provide reliable service to its customers at the lowest possible cost.²

¹ The selection of device locations and configurations will be dependent upon various feeder characteristics such as the number of customers, feeder load and geographic area.

² See response to Request for Information CA-NP-014 for further information on Newfoundland Power's mandate.