

- 1 **Q. (Reference Application, 2025 – 2029 Capital Plan, Table A-2)**  
 2 **a) Are the annual costs for the new meters and replacement meters**  
 3 **programs forecast to increase from \$457,000 and \$648,000 in 2025 to**  
 4 **\$774,000 and \$1,150,000 in 2029, increases of 69.4% and 77.5%,**  
 5 **respectively?**  
 6 **b) Does NP intend to use AMR meters for these programs?**  
 7 **c) Please explain in detail the procurement process that will be followed for**  
 8 **the new meters and replacement meters programs in the 2025 CBA.**  
 9 **d) Does Berg Insight forecast that 94% of Canadian households will have**  
 10 **smart meters by 2027?**  
 11 **e) Are smart meters now the metering system of choice in the industry? If**  
 12 **not, please identify utilities that are currently embarking on AMR metering**  
 13 **programs.**
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- 15 **A.** a) Yes, these numbers are confirmed according to Newfoundland Power's *2025 Capital*  
 16 *Budget Application, 2025 - 2029 Capital Plan, Table A-2.*  
 17  
 18 b) See the response to Request for Information CA-NP-045, part c).  
 19  
 20 c) Newfoundland Power's meter supplier supplies the Company's meters, compatible  
 21 meter reading technology and related software. The Company utilizes a purchase  
 22 order to procure meters when the requirement for new or replacement meters is  
 23 identified. This longstanding practice will be continued under the *New Meters* and  
 24 *Replacement Meters* programs proposed in the Company's *2025 Capital Budget*  
 25 *Application.*  
 26  
 27 d) The Company is aware of pre-filed evidence submitted by the Consumer Advocate's  
 28 consultant, C. Douglas Bowman, as part of Newfoundland Power's *2025/2026*  
 29 *General Rate Application*, which states: "*Over the next six years, the penetration of*  
 30 *smart meters will reach a level of 94% of homes in Canada, and 93% of homes in*  
 31 *the U.S.*"<sup>1</sup>  
 32  
 33 e) The metering industry has seen a shift from AMR technology towards smart  
 34 metering technology, when it is appropriate for a utility to do so. The business case  
 35 for smart meters differs for each utility, and therefore not all utilities are using smart  
 36 meters. In Canada, AMR technology is still being used by Manitoba Hydro,  
 37 Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro and Northland Utilities in the city of Yellowknife.  
 38 See the response to Request for Information CA-NP-016, part b) for additional  
 39 information.

<sup>1</sup> See Newfoundland Power's *2025/2026 General Rate Application, Pre-Filed Evidence of C. Douglas Bowman*, April 17, 2024, page 7, lines 30-33. The Company notes that the hyperlink provided in support of this statement links to an online article, dated January 3, 2023, and not directly to research results.