

- 1 **Q. (Reference CA-NP-071 from 2024 CBA) It was stated "Ontario, British**  
 2 **Columbia, Quebec and the Yukon have active NWA initiatives, however the**  
 3 **majority of projects are in the pilot phase."**  
 4 **a) What is the current status of these initiatives?**  
 5 **b) Is NP conducting a pilot on NWA initiatives to inform it on future**  
 6 **distribution planning activities, or is NP taking a wait-and-see approach to**  
 7 **first gain insights from these ongoing initiatives?**  
 8
- 9 A. a) In Ontario, the Independent Electricity System Operator's York Region non-wires  
 10 alternatives ("NWA") demonstration has concluded.<sup>1</sup> Toronto Hydro's Benefit  
 11 Stacking Transmission and Distribution System NWA Pilot Project is ongoing through  
 12 2025.<sup>2</sup> The NRStor Powerwall Pilot Rental Program is complete.<sup>3</sup>  
 13  
 14 FortisBC's regional demand response management ("DRM") pilot was expanded to a  
 15 permanent program in 2023,<sup>4</sup> and their residential DRM pilot with a focus on older  
 16 and multifamily housing units is ongoing.<sup>5</sup> Planning for their commercial and  
 17 industrial DRM pilots are underway.<sup>6</sup>  
 18  
 19 Hydro-Québec has deployed two distributed solar plants.<sup>7</sup> Its battery storage pilot is  
 20 still ongoing,<sup>8</sup> and an expansion to the Lac-Mégantic microgrid is underway.<sup>9</sup>  
 21  
 22 Yukon Energy's grid-scale battery is under construction.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Independent Electricity System Operator (n.d.). *IESO York Region Non Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project*. Retrieved August 28, 2024 from <https://www.ieso.ca/en/Sector-Participants/Engagement-Initiatives/Engagements/IESO-York-Region-Non-Wires-Alternatives-Demonstration-Project>

<sup>2</sup> See Independent Electricity System Operator's *Benefit Stacking Transmission and Distribution System Non-Wires Alternatives Pilot Project*, page 2.

<sup>3</sup> See NRStor (n.d.). *Powerwall Pilot Program*. Retrieved August 29, 2024 from <https://nrstor.com/powerwall/>

<sup>4</sup> See FortisBC (April 8, 2024). *How a successful pilot project became a rewards program for customers*. Retrieved August 28, 2024 from <https://www.fortisbc.com/news-events/stories/how-a-successful-pilot-project-became-a-rewards-program-for-customers>

<sup>5</sup> See FortisBC (March 12, 2024). *FortisBC leads \$50 million pilot project to reduce energy use in older homes*. Retrieved August 28, 2024 from <https://www.fortisbc.com/news-events/media-centre-details/2024/03/12/fortisbc-leads--50-million-pilot-project-to-reduce-energy-use-in-older-homes>

<sup>6</sup> See FortisBC's *Application for Acceptance of Demand-Side Management (DSM) Expenditures Plan for the period covering 2023 to 2027*, page 10.

<sup>7</sup> See Hydro-Québec (n.d.). *Gabrielle-Bodis and Robert-A.-Boyd solar generating stations*. Retrieved August 28, 2024 from <https://www.hydroquebec.com/projects/solar-monteregie/>

<sup>8</sup> See EnergiMedia (March 15, 2024). *Hydro-Québec tests battery backup for residential customers*. Retrieved August 28, 2024 from <https://energi.media/news/hydro-quebec-tests-battery-backup-for-residential-customers/>

<sup>9</sup> See Government of Canada (October 23, 2023). *Government of Canada Announces \$2.5 Million for Lac-Mégantic Microgrid Capacity Building*. Retrieved August 28, 2024 from <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2023/10/government-of-canada-announces-25-million-for-lac-megantic-microgrid-capacity-building.html>

<sup>10</sup> See Government of Yukon's *2024-25 Five Year Capital Plan*, page 3.

- 1           b) Newfoundland Power considers NWAs as part of its capital and electrification,  
2           conservation and demand management planning.  
3

4           Commercial-grade battery storage was considered as an alternative to mitigate the  
5           two overload conditions outlined in the 2025 *Feeder Additions for Load Growth*  
6           project. For each overload condition assessed, battery storage was determined not  
7           to be a least-cost solution.<sup>11</sup>  
8

9           Demand management can also be classified as an NWA. Newfoundland Power is  
10          completing an Electric Vehicle Load Management Pilot Project from 2023 to 2025.<sup>12</sup>  
11          The information gathered through the pilot project on electric vehicle charging and  
12          the potential for demand management can help inform future NWA projects and  
13          pilots. For example, in the future, an electric vehicle demand management program  
14          may be a viable option in deferring or avoiding distribution upgrades.<sup>13</sup>  
15

16          Newfoundland Power will continue to evaluate the potential for NWA initiatives and  
17          assess if a pilot would have customer benefits.

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<sup>11</sup> See Newfoundland Power's *2025 Capital Budget Application, Schedule B*, pages 6-9.

<sup>12</sup> See Newfoundland Power's *2023 Conservation, Demand Management and Electrification Report*, page 9.

<sup>13</sup> To address the potential overloads that may result from electric vehicle charging on specific distribution feeders.