

1 **Q. (Reference CA-NP-111)**

2 **Please provide NP's assessment that shows its surveillance systems are**
3 **consistent with the least cost provision of service.**

4
5 A. The unauthorized entry of personnel within substations poses a significant safety risk to
6 Newfoundland Power's employees and the general public. Theft and vandalism continue
7 to be a concern at the Company's substations. As of June 9, 2024, Newfoundland Power
8 experienced 18 substation break-ins in 2024.

9
10 Surveillance systems are installed to deter break-ins. Most substation break-ins result in
11 the theft of bare copper wire due to the scrap value of copper. The theft of copper wire
12 in substations can cause abnormal electrical system conditions for customers, which
13 could also result in customer outages.

14
15 Newfoundland Power conducted a pilot program evaluating different surveillance
16 systems. Based on the results of the pilot, a surveillance system was selected that best
17 meets the needs of multiple groups across the organization. This standardization is
18 consistent with the least cost provision of service.

19
20 Installing surveillance systems in substations is therefore consistent with the
21 maintenance of safe and adequate facilities. It is also consistent with the least cost
22 provision of service as it reduces the cost associated with the repair or replacement of
23 materials due to theft and vandalism as well as the possible restoration of service to
24 customers.