Q. (Reference 2027-2031 Capital Plan and PUB-NP-001 pertaining to NP's 2026 CBA)

a) It is stated (page 5) *"The Company is undertaking a climate risk vulnerability study to ensure its strategies and forecast of capital investments continue to reflect shifting priorities and risks related to climate change."* **Given that the last climate risk vulnerability study was completed in December 2021, what significant changes in priorities or risks have occurred since then that prompt the need for a new study?**

b) NP outlines actions it has taken in response to recommendations of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan. The actions primarily relate to grid design changes and grid resiliency. Are there any projects or programs in the 2027 CBA that reduce customer reliance on the grid and does the Climate Change Adaptation Plan include any behind-the-meter or smart grid applications?

A. a) Climate science, emissions scenarios, and regional projections continuously evolve. The updated assessment incorporates newer climate data and modelling outputs to provide a more refined understanding of potential future conditions. The updated assessment was completed by a third-party independent climate risk consultant using advanced climate modelling, geospatial analysis, and risk quantification tools that were not available in the previous study.

b) There are no projects in the *2027 Capital Budget Application* that reduce customer reliance on the grid.

The recommendations contained in the *Climate Change Adaptation Plan* focus primarily on improving the resilience, reliability, and adaptability of Newfoundland Power's transmission, distribution, generation, and substation infrastructure in response to identified climate hazards and do not pertain to behind-the-meter or smart grid applications.