

Q. Reference: "2027 Capital Budget Application," Newfoundland Power Inc., May 29, 2026, Supporting Materials, Substations: 2.3, Portable Substation, pp. 5 and 9-13; and response to Request for Information CA-NP-041, pp. 1-2.

In CA-NP-041, Newfoundland Power states that its assessment identified forecast periods when demand for portable substations exceeds the capacity of the existing fleet, based on planned transformer replacements, other substation capital work, maintenance activities, and emergency response requirements. Newfoundland Power also states that it does not recommend reducing the planned pace of approximately three transformer replacements per year.

Assuming Newfoundland Power completed an average of two planned power transformer replacements per year over the 2027-2031 period rather than three, would the additional portable substation proposed in the 2027 Capital Budget Application still be required? If yes, please provide the analysis demonstrating the requirement, including forecast portable substation utilization under the two-replacement-per-year scenario.

A. Yes, the additional portable substation would still be required beginning in 2030, assuming an average of two planned power transformer replacements per year. Figure 1 below shows that with an average of two planned power transformer replacements per year over the 2027 to 2031 period, the forecasted portable substation usage would still be projected to exceed 100% of the existing four portable substations. See also the response to Request for Information PUB-NP-015. The replacement pace of approximately three transformers per year is intended as a long-term planning guide, not a fixed annual replacement target.

Figure 1
Forecasted Portable Fleet Usage - 4 Portable Substations
May 1 to November 30

