

Question 39:

Please confirm that as per the MRNF document Hydro-Quebec Integrated Network Integration Capability with Respect to the Addition of Wind Energy Generation Report, RSW Inc., June 2005:

- i) The integration capacity of the 315 kV lines between Rivière-du-Loup and Lévis is limited to 550 MW.
- ii) The combined integration capacity of the Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine with that of the Bas-St-Laurent and the Chaudière–Appalaches administrative regions that transit on the above lines are thereby limited to 550 MW. Does this mean that no more than 550 MW of wind-generated electricity located in the combined Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Bas-St-Laurent and Chaudière–Appalaches administrative regions will be contracted by this call for tenders?

Answer 39:

For the purpose of evaluating the transmission network integration capability with respect to the addition of wind farms, Hydro-Québec Distribution provides, in Appendix 6 of the call for tenders document, an indication of the capacity available from the source and strategic substations. HQD also provides, in response to Question 35, new capacities available in the Gaspésie region while avoiding the construction of a new line between Rivière-du-Loup and Rimouski substations. In addition, bidders who wish to know the residual capacity of a specific line circuit may request it in the form of a specific question submitted through the Website.

- i) With respect to the 315-kV lines between Lévis and Rivière-du-Loup, about 1000 MW of new generation can be integrated without having to build new lines linking the two substations. However, as stated in Appendix 6, other costs have to be considered. The aforementioned 1000 MW capacity is in addition to the 500 MW of additional wind capacity that Hydro-Québec Distribution will consider on the 315-kV Gaspésie network before triggering the construction of a new line between Rivière-du-Loup and Rimouski substations, as indicated in the answer to Question 35.
- ii) The capacity indicated above and the capacity provided in Table A-6.2 should not be seen as an absolute maximum MW value that could be contracted under the call for tenders. These are only indications of the available generation reception capacity without causing any line or transformer thermal overloads. If the capacity of the wind farms retained upon completion of the selection process exceeds the available capacity, Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie will add to its transmission system the equipment required for the integration of the wind farms to be interconnected.

Note that in addition to the 315-kV lines that connect Lévis and Rivière-du-Loup, the Chaudière–Appalaches administrative region is supplied by several other

transmission lines, the Lévis and Appalaches strategic substations, and the Beauceville, Chaudière, Montmagny and Thetford source substations, the available capacities of which are shown in Table A-6.2 in Appendix 6 and are cumulatively greater than the value indicated in the question..