

# **HYDRO-QUÉBEC DISTRIBUTION'S RESPONSE TO THE RÉGIE'S INFORMATION REQUEST #1**

**pages 13 to 41**

Translation commissioned by  
Association québécoise des consommateurs industriels d'électricité (AQCIE)  
and  
Québec Forest Industry Council (QFIC)

**REGULATORY PRINCIPLES AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
**International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)**

**4. Documents:** Exhibit B-0011, pp. 5-7

**Preamble:**

*"The various components of the Distributor's revenue requirement are determined on the basis of International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and the accounting policies, methods and practices approved by the Régie."*

**Requests:**

4.1 Please indicate whether Hydro-Québec's statutory financial statements will transition to IFRS as of January 1, 2015. If not, please explain.

**Response:**

**As of January 1, 2015, Hydro-Québec's general-purpose financial statements and the Distributor's regulatory financial statements will be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. (US GAAP).**

4.2 Please indicate whether the introduction of the new IFRS 14 standard, "Regulatory Deferral Accounts," will affect Hydro-Québec's statutory financial statements and the Distributor's regulatory financial statements for the test years 2015 and 2016. If so, please explain.

**Response:**

**See answer to question 4.1.**

**Return on variance and deferral accounts (VDAs)**

- 5. Documents:**
- (i) Exhibit B-0012, p. 6-7
  - (ii) Exhibit B-0016, p. 6
  - (iii) Exhibit B-0017, p. 29
  - (iv) Exhibit B-0017, p. 13

**Preamble:**

(i) *"Table 1 shows the variance accounts authorized by the Régie and the main arguments in support of their creation."*

**Table 1:**  
**Regulatory variance accounts authorized by the Régie**

Account	Date authorized	Decision	Justification
Variance account – transmission service for native load	2003	D-2003-93, p. 15-21	Factor beyond the Distributor's control - Potential discrepancy between the transmission rates recognized by the Régie and their inclusion in the revenue requirement Significant monetary issues
Pass-on account for electricity purchases	2005	D-2005-34, p. 36-50	Factor beyond the Distributor's control - Electricity price volatility - Climate conditions and fluctuations in demand - Other residual risks and uncertainties such as supplier equipment breakdown Significant monetary issues
Stabilization account for climate conditions	2006	D-2006-34, p. 19-21	Factor beyond the Distributor's control - Impact of climate conditions on transmission and distribution revenues
Variance account - fuel	2009	D-2009-016, p. 60-62	Factor beyond the Distributor's control - Price volatility
Variance account – load retention rate	2009	D-2010-022, p. 42-45	Factor beyond the Distributor's control - Impossibility of predicting use of rate by customers - Equitable treatment of all parties
Variance account – major outages	2009	D-2009-016, p.14-16 R-3644-2008, HQD-04-04	Impact of climate conditions on frequency and size of major outages Intergenerational equity Cost levelization Potentially significant monetary issues
Variance account – major projects	2010	D-2010-022, p. 45-47	Equitable treatment of all parties - Accelerating the inclusion of all project costs in the revenue requirement - Minimizing financing costs
Variance account – pension costs	2011	D-2011-028, p. 36-42	Factor beyond the Distributor's control - Unstable financial markets - Cost volatility (difficulty of forecasting factors such as the discount rate and return on assets) Significant monetary issues
Variance account - Bureau de l'efficacité et de l'innovation énergétiques (BEIÉ)	2013	D-2013-037, p. 74-77	Factor beyond the Distributor's control - Charge fixed by government decree Significant monetary issues
Variance account - Costs related to suspension of TCE deliveries	2014	D-2014-086 p.14	Intergenerational equity - Maintaining cost recognition on an annual basis

(ii) In Table 3, Rate of Return on the Distributor's Rate Base, the Distributor shows an average cost of debt of 6.511% and a rate of return on the rate base of 7.102% for the 2015 test year.

(iii) In Table E-1, Projected Economic Variables, 2014 and 2015, the Distributor shows a yield on Hydro-Québec 5-year bonds denominated in Canadian dollars of 3.051% for 2015.

(iv) In Table A-2, Projected Cost of Capital Inputs, 2015, the Distributor shows a bankers' acceptance rate (3 months), including a 23-basis-point credit spread, of 1.607%.

### Requests:

5.1 For each of the variance accounts listed in Table 1 and in total, please produce, in tabular form, a simulation of the rate impact of using the following rates of return for the 2015 test year:

(a) weighted average cost of capital, as shown in document (ii) (7.102%);

- (b) average cost of debt, as shown in document (ii) (6.511%);
- (c) projected yield on Hydro-Québec 5-year bonds for the test year, as shown in document (iii) (3.051%);
- (d) projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months), plus 23-basis-point credit spread, as shown in document (iv) (1.607%);
- (e) projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months), plus 23-basis-point credit spread, plus 50-basis-point guarantee fee (2.107%).

Please provide the Excel spreadsheet.

**Response:**

Table R-5.1 shows how application of the various rates of return listed by the Régie would impact the 2015 interest calculation for the variance accounts outside the rate base.

The simulated return on these accounts, using the various rates, has no impact on the revenue requirement for 2015 but would have an impact in subsequent years.

The rate impact of the variance accounts included in the rate base is presented in response 7.1.

**Table R-5.1**  
**Interest on accounts outside the rate base (\$ million) - 2015**

Accounts outside rate base	Forecasted balance at December 31, 2014 <sup>1</sup>	Included in 2015 revenue requirement or rate base	Balance bearing interest in 2015	Interest for 2015 at rate:				
				(a) 7.102%	(b) 6.511%	(c) 3.051%	(d) 1.607%	(e) 2.107%
Stabilization account for climate conditions	(44.0)	44.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Variance account – transmission service for native load	(5.1)	5.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pass-on account for electricity purchases, 2012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pass-on account for electricity purchases, 2013	54.9	-	54.9	3.9	3.6	1.7	0.9	1.2
Pass-on account for electricity purchases, 2014	325.1	-	325.1	23.1	21.2	9.9	5.2	6.8
Variance account - fuel	12.1	(12.1)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Variance account – load retention rate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Variance account – pension costs	(13.2)	13.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Variance account – major outages	27.4	(27.4)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Variance account - BEIÉ	(28.7)	8.0	(20.7)	(1.5)	(1.3)	(0.6)	(0.3)	(0.4)
Variance account – major projects	34.2	(34.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Variance account – Amount to be refunded to customers following change to rate base	(1.9)	1.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
	360.8	(1.5)	359.3	25.5	23.4	11.0	5.8	7.6

(a) Weighted average cost of capital

(b) Average cost of debt

(c) Projected yield on Hydro-Québec 5-year bonds for the test year

(d) Projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months), plus 23-basis-point credit spread

(e) Projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months), plus 23-basis-point credit spread, plus 50-basis-point guarantee fee

1. Source: Table 1, Exhibit HQD-9, Document 7 (B-0037)

The Distributor notes that the impacts presented in Table R-5.1 do not take into account the consequences that the change in the return on the various variance accounts would have on the cost of debt and the weighted average cost of capital, as explained in Exhibit HQD-3, Document 3 (B-0012) and in the response to questions 9.1 to 9.4.

The Distributor also notes that the projected 3.051% yield on Hydro-Québec 5-year bonds shown in Document (iii) includes neither the cost of the government guarantee (0.5%) nor the issuance fees Hydro-Québec would incur on 5-year bonds.

- 5.2 Please confirm that, had the Régie not authorized the creation of these variance and deferral accounts (VDAs), the costs related to these accounts would have been fully included in the revenue requirement for the year in question. If not, please explain.

**Response:**

If the Régie had not authorized the creation of these variance accounts, the costs incurred in a given year would have been recognized in actual results for that year, thereby affecting the Distributor's return as presented in its annual report. The difference between those actual costs and authorized costs would therefore have no upward impact on rates in the years in question.

6. Documents: Exhibit B-0012, pp. 8-17

**Requests:**

- 6.1 Please complete the submitted survey by indicating the method by which each of the Canadian regulatory bodies described grants a return on pass-on accounts, stabilization accounts for climate conditions, connection contribution accounts and energy efficiency accounts. Please specify whether they are included in the rate base and what rate of return is used in each case.

**Response:**

The Distributor is unable to complete the survey filed in Exhibit HQD-3, Document 3 (B-0012) within the prescribed deadline given the very high level of precision that is being requested. However, it will make every effort to file the additional information by October 23, i.e. together with the responses to the Régie's and intervenors' information requests.

**7. Documents:** Exhibit B-0037, p. 6**Preamble:**

**Table 1**  
**Evolution of variance accounts and other assets (\$ million)**

Description	Section	At December 31		
		2013 historic year	2014 base year	2015 test year
<b>Included in rate base</b>				
Contributions to connection projects	2	103.9	95.5	299.2
Stabilization account for climate conditions	3	135.2	222.9	142.3
		<b>239.1</b>	<b>318.4</b>	<b>441.5</b>

**Requests:**

7.1 For each of the variance accounts and other assets included in the rate base listed in Table 1, please produce, in tabular form, a simulation of the rate impact of using the following rates of return for the 2015 test year:

- (a) weighted average cost of capital, as shown in document (ii) (7.102%);
- (b) average cost of debt, as shown in document (ii) (6.511%);
- (c) projected yield on Hydro-Québec 5-year bonds for the test year, as shown in document (iii) (3.051%);
- (d) projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months), plus 23-basis-point credit spread, as shown in document (iv) (1.607%);
- (e) projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months), plus 23-basis-point credit spread, plus 50-basis-point guarantee fee (2.107%).

Please provide the Excel spreadsheet.

**Response:**

Table R-7.1 shows the impact that application of the various rates of return listed by the Régie would have on calculation of the return on the variance accounts included in the rate base.

**Table R-7.1**  
**2015 return on accounts included in the rate base (\$ million)**

Description	Average of 13 balances, 2015	2015 interest at:				
		(a) 7.102%	(b) 6.511%	(c) 3.051%	(d) 1.607%	(e) 2.107%
<b>Included in rate base</b>						
Contributions to connection projects	256.2	18.2	16.7	7.8	4.1	5.4
Stabilization account for climate conditions	142.3	10.1	9.3	4.3	2.3	3.0
	398.6	28.3	25.9	12.2	6.4	8.4

The Distributor notes that the impacts presented in Table R-7.1 do not take into account the consequences that the change in the return on the various variance accounts would have on the cost of debt and the weighted average cost of capital, as explained in Exhibit HQD-3, Document 3 (B-0012) and in the response to questions 9.1 to 9.4.

The Distributor also notes that the projected 3.051% yield on Hydro-Québec 5-year bonds shown in Document (iii) includes neither the cost of the government guarantee (0.5%) nor the issuance fees Hydro-Québec would incur on 5-year bonds.

- 7.2 Please confirm that, had the Régie not authorized the creation of the stabilization account for climate conditions, the amounts in that account would have been fully included in the revenue requirement for the year in question. If not, please explain.

**Response:**

**See answer to question 5.2.**

- 7.3 Please specify the accounting treatment of contributions to connection projects under IFRS and their presentation in the financial statements.

**Response:**

**Contributions to connection projects are presented in the divisions' other assets, in accordance with IFRS 8, "Operating Segments." These interdivision transactions are eliminated in Hydro-Québec's consolidated financial statements.**

- 8. Documents:** Exhibit B-0012, p. 11.

**Preamble:**

The Distributor stated:

*"In 2012, the BCUC also ruled on the issue in its decision G-110-12 concerning the rates of electric power distributor FortisBC for 2012-2013. The BCUC decided that VDAs should not be included in the rate base or earn the weighted average cost of capital. Its view was that, if operating and other costs are deferred for purposes of rate smoothing instead of being*

*recorded in current expenses, as would normally be the case, they do not become capital expenditures simply because they have been deferred, and that the most appropriate recovery mechanism is an interest rate of return."*

The Régie notes that in Decision G-110-12, the BCUC made a clear distinction between operating costs and their deferral for purposes of smoothing, on the one hand, and capital expenditures on the other.

**Requests:**

- 8.1 Please explain whether the Distributor considers the risks associated with VDA recovery to be similar, in nature and extent, to the risks associated with a capital expenditure for an asset with an estimated useful life of 40 years.

**Response:**

**See answer to question 9.1.**

9. Documents:
- (i) Exhibit B-0012, pp. 17-18
  - (ii) Exhibit B-0012, p. 18
  - (iii) Exhibit B-0012, p. 18
  - (iv) Exhibit B-0012, p. 17

**Preamble:**

(i) *"With respect to the cost of debt, given that Hydro-Québec manages its debt financing programs in a comprehensive, integrated manner, which means that there is no financing specifically for any of its operating segments (i.e. generation, transmission and distribution) or related specifically to a particular asset, the company's integrated cost of debt has been used to calculate the cost of debt for its regulated divisions since decision D-2002-95."* [emphasis added]

(ii) *"The cash deficits and surpluses associated with the assets and liabilities generated by the VDAs are included in consolidated cash flows provided by operating activities of Hydro-Québec and therefore factored into Hydro-Québec's capital requirement. As Hydro-Québec establishes and manages its financing program in an integrated manner, it is not possible to connect the cash deficits and surpluses associated with the VDAs to a specific source of financing."* [emphasis added]

(iii) *VDA-linked assets, like the Distributor's other assets, are therefore financed by Hydro-Québec by means of a mix of equity and debt. This applies to both long-term assets and current assets, the term of which may be similar to that of the VDAs, such as vehicles and accounts receivable arising from billed electricity sales."* [emphasis added]

(iv) *"The Distributor therefore believes that the weighted average cost of capital should be used to calculate the return on its VDAs."*

**Requests:**



- 9.1 Taking the hypothetical cases of a new \$400 million VDA to be recovered over 3 years or less and a \$400 million investment in equipment with a useful life of 40 years, are we to understand from the statements quoted in paragraphs (i) to (iii) above that Hydro-Québec would finance the two in exactly the same way, regardless of their radically different natures? Please elaborate.

**Response:**

Hydro-Québec finances all of its activities, including the Distributor's operations, on an overall basis. Its borrowings are made for all of its activities and are not linked to a specific asset, whether its cost is recovered over 3 years or 40 years.

Obtaining financing on terms and conditions based on the specific nature of an asset would entail providing specific security for that financing, to the benefit of the issuers of that specific debt.

It should be borne in mind that under the provisions of Hydro-Québec's financing agreements, providing an asset as security, e.g. a mortgage on a building to guarantee repayment of a loan, would constitute a default on Hydro-Québec's debt. In that event, the creditors would all be ranked as ordinary creditors and would have a claim on all of the company's assets to ensure payment of the debt.

Financial risk is therefore managed on an overall basis for both current and long-term assets. Hydro-Québec's debt is serviced not by the specific cash flows generated by an asset but rather by all the cash flows provided by its activities. Therefore, lenders do not make any distinctions based on asset type when they assess the risk associated with Hydro-Québec's debt.

The manner in which Hydro-Québec finances its activities is related to its financing objectives and strategies. One strategy consists in creating benchmark bonds maturing in 2035, 2040, 2045 and 2050, increasing their market liquidity. Through these issues, the useful lives of the bulk of the company's assets are matched with its debt maturities. These long-term issues are complemented by 3- to 5-year issues. For example, at December 31, 2013, the average maturity of Hydro-Québec's outstanding debt was approximately 19 years.

To stabilize year-to-year financing costs, Hydro-Québec also strives to stagger its debt maturities.

Hydro-Québec's short- and long-term financial requirements are considered in developing an optimal financing program. The factors that influence borrowing needs in a given year include debt maturities, cash flows provided by operations and cash needed for capital expenditures.

Hydro-Québec manages its debt effectively by, among other things, maintaining a targeted mix of fixed- and floating-rate debt. Hydro-Québec also monitors its capital structure with particular attention to its capitalization ratio, which may be affected by, among other things, changes in the match between the useful life of assets and debt maturities.

Finally, it should be noted that, overall, Hydro-Québec's comprehensive approach to financing yields benefits for its regulated divisions and their customers, such as co-insurance among the company's various activities and the government guarantee, with a favourable impact on the cost of debt.

- 9.2 In its financing decisions, does Hydro-Québec take maturity or the useful life of the financed assets into account? Please elaborate.

**Response:**

**See answer to question 9.1.**

- 9.3 In its financing decisions, does Hydro-Québec take the risk associated with the financed assets into account? Please elaborate.

**Response:**

**See answer to question 9.1.**

- 9.4 Taking the hypothetical case of a new \$400 million VDA account, please explain why, in the Distributor's view, it should be financed at the weighted average cost of capital, which includes the historic cost of debt, rather than a rate that reflects current interest rates and at current market conditions.

**Response:**

The weighted average cost of capital (WACC) includes the historic cost of debt as well as the cost of projected new financing. The use of WACC to finance a new variance account (VDA) is warranted insofar as all other components of the rate base also earn that rate. Therefore, while the components of the rate base were acquired over previous years, their rate of return is reviewed each year to incorporate recent financing costs.

As the example in Table R-9.4 shows, this method is simple. It also ensures the same recovery of financial expenses as would a calculation that assigned a distinct return to variance accounts at an interest rate based on current market conditions, after correcting the return on the rate base to exclude this "deemed" specific financing. In the example in Table R-9.4, this would increase the cost of debt applicable to the assets in the rate base, other than VDAs, from 6.511% to 6.676%.

Table R-9.4

**Illustration of calculation of return on \$400 million variance account  
using current method and a specific rate**

<b>Assumptions</b>					
New VDA account					\$400 million
Rate base (other than VDA)					\$10.7 billion
Short-term interest rate					2.107%
Historic debt rate (integrated cost of debt)					6.511%
Historic debt rate excluding "deemed" specific financing					6.676% <sup>1</sup>
<b>Calculations</b>					
	<b>Asset value</b>	<b>Debt portion</b>	<b>Value of debt- financed assets</b>	<b>Rate of return</b>	<b>Return</b>
<i>In \$ million</i>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>A x B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A x B x C</b>
<b><u>Return on VDAs pegged to integrated cost of debt</u></b>					
<i>(current method)</i>					
<b>Return-earning assets</b>					
Rate base (other than VDAs)	10,700	65%	6,955	6.511%	452.8
VDAs	400	65%	260	6.511%	16.9
	11,100				<b>469.8</b>
<b><u>Return on VDAs pegged to short-term interest rate</u></b>					
<b>Return-earning assets</b>					
Rate base (other than VDAs)	10,700	65%	6,955	6.676%	464.3
VDAs	400	65%	260	2.107%	5.5
	11,100				<b>469.8</b>

1. Historic debt rate excluding "deemed" specific financing

	Distributor's share	Minus: VDA share	
Numerator	470	5.5	464
Denominator	7215 <sup>2</sup>	260	6955
Cost of debt	<b>6.511%</b>		<b>6.676%</b>

2. 65% of total \$11.1 billion in assets

**Changes to Methodology for Disposal of 2013 and 2014 Pass-On Account Balances**

**10. Documents:** Exhibit B-0013, pp. 4 and 5.

**Preamble:**

*"Given the exceptional nature of the supply costs incurred during winter 2013-2014 due to harsh weather, substantial variances were recorded in the pass-on account for 2013 and 2014 at December 31, 2014, to be recovered from customers. The account balance, as presented in Exhibit HQD-9, Document 7, is as follows:*

- *2013 pass-on: \$54.9 million, reflecting the difference between the amount recognized in the revenue requirement for 2014 and the additional costs actually incurred in 2013, plus a \$3.7 million interest expense in 2014;*
- *2014 pass-on: \$325.1 million, based on actual figures for four months and forecasted figures for eight months.*

*Under the pass-on account disposal methodology currently in effect, this entire sum, \$380.0 million, should be included in the 2015 revenue requirement, increasing it from \$11.857 billion to \$12.237 billion.*

*[...]*

*The Distributor's proposal not to include any portion of the pass-on account balances for 2013 and 2014 in the 2015 revenue requirement would therefore limit the April 1, 2015 rate adjustment to 3.9% for all customers, except for large power industrial customers, for which the rate adjustment would be 3.5%."*

**Requests:**

10.1 Please specify the requested rate increase for all customers and for industrial customers, based on the current methodology for disposal of pass-on account balances. Please file updated versions of the following Exhibits:

- Additional revenue requirement and rate increase as of April 1, 2015 (Exhibit B-0008, tables 1, 2 and 3);
- Revenue requirement (Exhibit B-0019, tables 1 and 2);
- Regulatory cash requirement (Exhibit B-0033, tables 1, 2 and 5) and rate base (Exhibit B-0031);
- Variance account (Exhibit B-0037, Table 5).

**Response:**

**Based on the current methodology for disposal of pass-on account balances, the requested rate increase for all customers would be 7.6%, except large power industrial customers, for which it would be 7.3%.**

**The following tables have been updated on the basis of this hypothesis.**

**Table R-10.1-A**  
**Additional revenue requirement and rate increase at April 1, 2015 based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (\$ million)**

<b>2015 sales revenues (without rate increase)</b>	<b>11,405.1</b>
<b>Revenues other than electricity sales</b>	<b>182.2</b>
<b>2014 adjustment – regulatory provision</b>	<b>-135.4<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Total revenues for purpose of additional revenue requirement calculation</b>	<b>11,451.9</b>
<b>Revenue requirement</b>	
Purchases	
Electricity purchases	6,181.6
Transmission service	2,816.9
Distribution costs and customer service	
Operating expenses	1,355.4
Other expenses	1,080.4
Corporate expenses	30.8
Return on rate base and discount accretion	785.8
<b>Revenue requirement</b>	<b>12,250.9</b>
<b>2015 additional revenue requirement</b>	<b>-799.0</b>
<b>Sales revenues before increase</b>	
- Excluding special contracts	10,531.2
- Excluding special contracts and Rate L	9,102.2
<b>Requested increase - April 1, 2015</b>	
- Rate L customers	7.3%
- Other customers	7.6%
<b>Revenues generated in 2015 by the requested increase</b>	<b>541.7</b>
<b>2015 regulatory provision recovered in 2016</b>	<b>257.4<sup>2</sup></b>

1. Shortfall from January to March 2014 related to rate increase applied as of April 1, 2014, to be recovered in 2015.

2. Shortfall from January to March 2015 related to rate increase applied as of April 1, 2015, to be recovered in 2016.

Table R-10.1-B

Component of revenue requirement and sales revenues derived from applicable rates,  
based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (\$ million)

<b>Connected network</b>	
Sales (GWh)	171,952
Sales revenues	11,372.2
Revenue requirement	11,998.8
Difference	(626.6)
<b>Independent networks</b>	
Sales (GWh)	389
Sales revenues	32.9
Revenue requirement	252.1
Difference	(219.3)
<b>Total distribution networks</b>	
Sales (GWh)	172,341
Sales revenues	405.1
Revenue requirement	250.9
Difference	(845.8)
<b><u>Reconciliation with Table 1</u></b>	
Plus: Other revenues	182.2
Plus: Regulatory provision	(135.4)
Additional revenue requirement	(799.0)

**Table R-10.1-C**  
**Forecasted 2015 revenues, before and after the rate increase, and regulatory provision**  
**based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances**

2015	Contracts	Sales	Revenues before increase			Revenues after increase at January 1, 2015									Revenues after increase at April 1, 2015		
						Variances											
			January to March	April to December	Total	January to March	April to December	Total	January to March	April to December	Total	January to March	April to December	Total	Total	Variances	
	(number)	(GWh)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(\$ M)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(\$ M)		(%)
Domestic Rates D and DM Rate DT	3,632,62	66,326	1,915	3,180	5,096	2,061	3,423	5,485	146	243	389	7.6%	7.6%	7.6%	5,339	243	4.8%
	3,508,77	63,328	1,848	3,067	4,915	1,989	3,301	5,290	141	234	375				5,149	234	
	123,842	2,997	67	114	181	72	123	194	5	9	14				189	9	
General	322,046	50,655	1,129	2,878	4,007	1,214	3,099	4,313	85	221	306	7.6%	7.7%	7.6%	4,227	221	5.5%
Rates G, T1, T2, T3	292,876	9,812	304	665	969	327	716	1,043	23	51	74				1,020	51	
Public and Sentinel lighting	4,210	612	16	47	62	17	50	67	1	4	5				66	4	
Rate G-9	3,270	1,067	38	99	137	41	107	148	3	7	10				145	7	
Rate M	21,600	30,448	630	1,726	2,356	677	1,856	2,533	47	130	177				2,485	130	
Rate LG	89	8,708	141	340	482	152	369	522	11	29	40				511	29	
Rate H	1	7	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0				1	0	
Major industrial	157	55,361	567	1,736	2,303	593	1,814	2,407	26	78	104	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,381	78	N/A
Rate L	146	29,957	354	1,075	1,429	379	1,154	1,533	26	78	104	7.3%	7.3%	7.3%	1,507	78	5.5%
Special contracts	11	25,404	213	661	874	213	661	874	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	874	0	N/A
Total	3,954,823	172,341	3,611	7,794	11,405	3,868	8,336	12,204	257.4, <sup>1</sup>	541.7	799.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	11,947	542	N/A

1. Regulatory provision for 2015.

**Table R-10.1-D**  
**Revenue requirement components**  
**based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (\$ million)**

	2013 historic year	2014		2015 test year
		D-2014-037	Base year	
<b>REVENUE REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>11,046.7</b>	<b>11,302.7</b>	<b>11,504.6</b>	<b>12,250.9</b>
<b>ELECTRICITY PURCHASES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICE</b>	<b>7,937.8</b>	<b>8,193.3</b>	<b>8,336.8</b>	<b>8,998.5</b>
Electricity purchases	5,330.9	5,454.0	5,597.5	6,181.6
Transmission service	2,606.9	2,739.3	2,739.3	2,816.9
<b>DISTRIBUTION COSTS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE</b>	<b>3,108.9</b>	<b>3,109.4</b>	<b>3,167.8</b>	<b>3,252.4</b>
Operating expenses	1,245.0	1,318.6	1,330.2	1,355.4
Other expenses	968.5	1,001.2	1,004.3	1,080.4
Corporate expenses	30.9	33.5	31.2	30.8
Return on rate base and discount accretion	864.5	756.1	802.1	785.8
<b>RETURN ON RATE BASE<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>8.51%</b>	<b>7.13%</b>	<b>7.57%</b>	<b>7.10%</b>
<b>Rate</b>				
Debt	6.56%	6.56%	6.54%	6.51%
Equity	12.13%	8.20%	9.47%	8.20%
<b>Rate base (13-month average)</b>	<b>10,138.8</b>	<b>10,601.8</b>	<b>10,579.6</b>	<b>11,040.6</b>

1. Based on a 65% debt / 35% equity capital structure (D-2003-093, page 51).



**Table R-10.1-E**  
**Breakdown of revenue requirement**  
**based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (\$ million)**

	2013 historic year	2014			2015 test year
		D-2014-037 (1)	D-2014-037 (2)	Base year	
<b>REVENUE REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>11,046.7</b>	<b>11,303.3</b>	<b>11,302.7</b>	<b>11,504.6</b>	<b>12,250.9</b>
<b>ELECTRICITY PURCHASES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICE</b>	<b>7,937.8</b>	<b>8,193.3</b>	<b>8,193.3</b>	<b>8,336.8</b>	<b>8,998.5</b>
• Electricity purchases	<b>5,330.9</b>	<b>5,454.0</b>	<b>5,454.0</b>	<b>5,597.5</b>	<b>6,181.6</b>
Heritage	4,497.0	4,485.8	4,485.8	4,553.8	4,538.7
Post-heritage	1,060.9	1,199.2	1,199.2	1,675.8	1,445.4
Demand-side management tariff	21.8			10.9	
Special contracts adjustment	-239.9	-198.8	-198.8	-285.7	-182.5
Pass-on account for electricity purchases 2011	6.1				
Pass-on account for electricity purchases 2012	8.3	-4.3	-4.3	-4.3	
Pass-on account for electricity purchases 2013	-23.3	-27.9	-27.9	-27.9	54.9
Pass-on account for electricity purchases 2014				-325.1	325.1
• Transmission service	<b>2,606.9</b>	<b>2,739.3</b>	<b>2,739.3</b>	<b>2,739.3</b>	<b>2,816.9</b>
Native load	2,585.7	2,760.7	2,760.7	2,756.4	2,829.5
Adjustment for Transmission Provider's point-to-point revenues	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.9	-7.5
2012 variance account (native load)	-17.5				
2013 variance account (native load and point-to-point revenues)	29.8	-30.3	-30.3	-30.3	-0.6
2014 variance account (native load and point-to-point revenues)				4.3	-4.5
<b>DISTRIBUTION COSTS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE</b>	<b>3,108.9</b>	<b>3,110.0</b>	<b>3,109.4</b>	<b>3,167.8</b>	<b>3,252.4</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>	<b>1,245.0</b>	<b>1,319.2</b>	<b>1,318.6</b>	<b>1,330.2</b>	<b>1,355.4</b>
• Direct gross charges	<b>1,016.6</b>	<b>1,117.3</b>	<b>1,110.4</b>	<b>1,095.0</b>	<b>1,134.9</b>
Payroll	682.3	737.2	734.7	716.8	695.3
Basic salary	422.2	434.4	433.1	422.6	448.6
Overtime	49.5	31.8	31.1	40.5	35.0
Premiums and miscellaneous revenues	45.8	42.0	41.7	26.9	28.4
Corporate incentive plan	16.0	14.1	14.0		
Performance-based compensation	4.5	5.1	5.1	4.3	4.4
Other premiums	25.3	22.8	22.6	22.6	24.0
Employee benefits	164.8	229.0	228.8	226.8	183.3
Employee benefits - pension costs	141.3	108.8	108.8	90.4	107.1
Variance account - pension costs	-46.8	35.9	35.9	54.3	-10.0
Employee benefits - other	62.3	76.5	76.3	73.8	78.0
Other complementary retirement benefits - pensioners	8.0	7.8	7.8	8.3	8.2
Other direct expenses	389.5	426.2	421.8	427.9	486.1
Staff expenses and allowances	17.7	15.3	14.9	14.3	14.7
External services and financial resources	247.7	282.5	277.8	284.9	337.6
External services	169.4	177.8	167.0	174.6	184.9
Vegetation control	67.1	58.1	58.1	61.9	63.1
Mail, courier	19.9	20.0	20.0	22.0	23.0
Professional and other services	82.4	99.7	88.9	90.7	98.8
Financial resources	78.3	104.7	110.8	110.3	152.7
Bad debts	92.9	89.8	89.8	99.0	107.5
Accounts receivable, interest, and other	-4.3	3.5	4.4	1.5	2.6
Provision - major outages		8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Variance account - major outages	-19.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	27.4
Variance account - major projects	9.2	-5.2	0.0	-6.8	7.2
Variance account - smart meter project	9.2	-5.2		-6.8	7.2
Inventory, purchases, leasing and other	124.1	128.4	129.1	128.7	133.8
Cost recovery	-55.2	-46.1	-46.1	-49.7	-46.5
Attachment installation, pole space, ducts	-25.0	-25.1	-25.1	-24.8	-25.8
Third-party and other claims	-30.2	-21.0	-21.0	-24.9	-20.7

(continued next page)

(1) Based on updated information produced by the Distributor following Régie Decision D-2014-037.

(2) D-2014-037, including reallocation of the overall reduction in operating expenses and in amortization. Withdrawal of charges related to phases 2 and 3 of the smart meter project is presented under the respective headings.

**Table R-10.1-E (continued)**  
**Breakdown of revenue requirement**  
**based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (\$ million)**

	2013 historic year	2014			2015 test year
		D-2014-037 (1)	D-2014-037 (2)	Transaction year-	
• Shared service costs	538.2	572.6	560.4	565.0	549.3
Shared services centre	158.7	168.0	168.0	171.3	166.7
Acquisitions	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7
Real estate	63.6	68.9	68.9	68.4	68.2
Materiel management	33.8	36.2	36.2	36.2	36.4
Meals and accommodation	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Food services	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3
Air transport	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.6
Records management	4.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.1
Environment	3.6			3.8	
Transportation	45.2	49.1	49.1	49.1	49.2
Technology group	223.7	245.2	233.0	230.8	242.9
Innovation	22.8	24.6	24.6	21.9	25.1
Technological innovation	19.5	19.5	19.5	17.9	21.0
Technical support	3.3	5.1	5.1	4.0	4.1
Information and communication technologies (ICT)	200.9	220.6	208.4	208.9	217.8
Workstations – ICT					47.7
Enterprise products – ICT					33.8
Operating products – ICT					57.0
Network control	4.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.2
Mobile radios	22.5	19.1	19.1	19.1	17.6
Substations and generating stations	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7
Call centre, telephone consoles and other	15.7	21.7	20.0	20.2	28.8
Development services – ICT					30.0
Basic communications	26.0	28.3	28.3	28.3	
Basic services – IT	18.0	16.1	16.1	16.1	
Office automation services – IT	18.1	18.7	18.7	18.7	
Development services – IT	13.6	27.9	22.9	17.7	
Operating services – IT	73.6	77.0	71.5	77.0	
Cybersecurity - Telecommunications	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	
Cybersecurity – IT	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	
Corporate units	130.6	126.5	126.5	127.4	123.3
Finance	26.2	26.4	26.4	26.4	26.5
Human resources	73.4	69.0	69.0	68.9	66.4
Corporate affairs and general secretariat	31.0	31.1	31.1	32.1	30.4
Industrial security	16.6	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.8
Legal affairs	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.0
Other units	9.8	9.4	9.4	10.4	8.6
Hydro-Québec TransÉnergie	5.2	4.8	4.8	4.5	5.0
Hydro-Québec Production	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8
Hydro-Québec Équipement	4.7	2.6	2.6	5.1	3.3
Variance in pension costs not allocated to products	14.4	8.2	8.2	1.7	
Variance account – pension costs	-6.6	7.7	7.7	14.2	-4.8
Return for suppliers	5.3	7.6	7.6	8.0	11.1
Shared services centre	1.9	3.0	3.0	2.7	3.1
Technology Group	3.4	4.6	4.6	5.3	8.0

(continued next page)

(1) Based on updated information produced by the Distributor following Régie Decision D-2014-037.

(2) D-2014-037, including reallocation of the overall reduction in operating expenses and in amortization. Withdrawal of charges related to phases 2 and 3 of the smart meter project is presented under the respective headings..

**Table R-10.1-E (continued)**  
**Breakdown of revenue requirement**  
**based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (\$ million)**

	2013 historic year	2014			2015 test year
		D-2014-037 (1)	D-2014-037 (2)	Transaction year-	
• Capitalized costs	-309.8	-360.7	-352.2	-329.8	-328.8
Labour inputs	-266.3	-310.0	-301.5	-284.5	-283.5
Labour inputs	-276.7	-303.5	-295.0	-273.6	-285.6
Variance account – pension costs	10.4	-6.5	-6.5	-10.9	2.1
Materiel management	-43.5	-50.7	-50.7	-45.3	-45.3
• Overall reduction in operating expenses		-10.0			
<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>968.5</b>	<b>999.1</b>	<b>1,001.2</b>	<b>1,004.3</b>	<b>1,080.4</b>
• Fuel purchases	100.8	93.8	93.8	93.8	117.3
Fuel purchases	98.9	98.1	98.1	110.5	105.2
2011 variance account	-5.0				
2012 variance account	5.8	-3.5	-3.5	-3.5	
2013 variance account	1.1	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	-0.3
2014 variance account				-12.4	12.4
• Amortization and decommissioning	773.0	825.5	804.9	835.6	863.0
Fixed assets in service	468.1	485.5	471.2	488.8	518.7
Finance lease	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.3
Intangible assets	215.1	242.3	235.0	235.8	256.4
Global Energy Efficiency Plan	125.1	138.1	136.3	136.4	145.4
Bureau de l'efficacité et de l'innovation énergétiques (BEIE)	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4
Software and other intangible assets	74.6	88.8	83.3	84.0	95.6
Other assets	2.2	4.0	4.0	3.8	8.3
Contributions to connection projects	2.2	4.0	4.0	3.8	8.3
Net costs related to asset disposals	26.4	58.5	39.5	56.5	40.7
Stabilization account for climate conditions	56.5	52.7	52.7	48.0	36.6
Load retention rate	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	
Overall reduction in amortization		-20.0			
• Variance account – major projects	4.8	-22.7	0.0	-27.0	27.0
Variance account – smart meter project	4.8	-22.7		-27.0	27.0
• Variance account – customer refund following change to rate base in 2014	0.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	-1.9
• Taxes	89.9	100.7	100.7	100.1	75.0
Public utilities	40.7	42.6	42.6	41.6	43.3
Municipal and school taxes	14.9	13.5	13.5	13.9	15.2
Bureau de l'efficacité et de l'innovation énergétiques (BEIE)	34.3	44.6	44.6	44.6	16.5
BEIE	30.3	44.6	44.6	21.2	24.5
2013 variance account	4.0			3.3	-8.0
2014 variance account				20.1	
<b>Corporate expenses</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>30.8</b>
• Corporate expenses	31.7	32.6	32.6	29.8	31.3
• Variance account – pension costs	-0.8	0.9	0.9	1.4	-0.5
<b>Return on rate base and discount accretion</b>	<b>864.5</b>	<b>758.2</b>	<b>756.1</b>	<b>802.1</b>	<b>785.8</b>
• Discount accretion	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6
• Debt (regulated financial expenses)	432.1	452.1	450.7	450.0	467.3
• Equity (regulated earnings)	430.5	304.3	303.6	350.5	316.9
<b>Return on rate base</b>	<b>8.508%</b>	<b>7.135%</b>	<b>7.135%</b>	<b>7.567%</b>	<b>7.102%</b>
Cost of debt	6.557%	6.561%	6.561%	6.544%	6.511%
Return on equity	12.132%	8.200%	8.200%	9.465%	8.200%
<b>Rate base (13-month average)</b>	<b>10,138,771</b>	<b>10,601,762</b>	<b>10,568,545</b>	<b>10,579,623</b>	<b>11,040,609</b>

(1) Based on updated information produced by the Distributor following Régie Decision D-2014-037.

(2) D-2014-037, including reallocation of the overall reduction in operating expenses and in amortization. Withdrawal of charges related to phases 2 and 3 of the smart meter project is presented under the respective headings..

**Table R-10.1-F**  
**2015 collection time adjusted by regulatory provision, based on**  
**current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (in days)**

	Bi-monthly billing	Monthly billing
Average consumption lag	30.5	15.5
Payment lag	21	21
<b>Collection time before adjustment for regulatory provision</b>	<b>51.5</b>	<b>36.5</b>
Adjustment for regulatory provision	14.1	7.3
<b>Adjusted collection time</b>	<b>65.6</b>	<b>43.8</b>

**Table R-10.1-G**  
**Collection time adjustment arising from regulatory provision, based**  
**on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (in days)**

	Bi-monthly billing	Monthly billing
Sales (in \$ million)	9,055.0	2,891.7
Provision (in \$ million)	221	37
<b>Adjustment (585 days X Provision / Sales)</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>7.3</b>

**Table R-10.1-H**  
**2015 regulatory cash requirement**  
**based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances (in \$ thousand)**

VARIABLES	EXPENSES 2015	NET	RATE (2) / 365 DAYS	CASH REQUIREMENT
	(1)	(2)	(3)	
OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES				
Net payroll	218,903	43,73	11,98%	26,223
Government remittances	190,797	36,73	10,06%	19,197
Other expenses	396,400	28,06	7,69%	30,479
	806,100			
TAXES				
Tax on public utilities	43,300	183,38	50,24%	21,755
Property taxes	15,200	122,69	33,61%	5,109
Bureau de l'efficacité et de l'innovation énergétiques (BEIÉ)	16,500	15,36	4,21%	694
PURCHASES				
Electricity purchases	6,181,600	26,36	7,22%	446,410
Purchases of transmission services	2,816,900	26,36	7,22%	203,422
Purchases of fuel	117,300	26,36	7,22%	8,471
EFFECT OF CONSUMPTION TAXES				(68,900)
PROVISION POUR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS				(315,644)
<b>TOTAL REGULATORY CASH REQUIREMENT</b>				<b>377,217</b>

**Table R-10.1-I**  
**According to the current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances**

**RATE BASE - SUMMARY OF 2015 TEST YEAR**  
(Forecasts, in \$ thousand)

	January 1	January 31	February 28	March 31	April 30	May 31	June 30	July 31	August 31	September 30	October 31	November 30	December 31	Average
Fixed assets in service	16,501,755	16,541,259	16,589,798	16,635,860	16,676,949	16,725,549	16,773,867	16,824,878	16,863,294	16,915,047	16,963,631	17,008,016	17,155,570	16,782,729
Accumulated amortization	7,627,446	7,659,406	7,691,568	7,723,972	7,756,595	7,789,425	7,822,489	7,855,780	7,889,306	7,923,018	7,956,935	7,991,040	8,025,326	7,824,023
<b>Net value</b>	<b>8,874,309</b>	<b>8,881,854</b>	<b>8,898,230</b>	<b>8,911,887</b>	<b>8,920,355</b>	<b>8,936,125</b>	<b>8,951,379</b>	<b>8,969,097</b>	<b>8,973,988</b>	<b>8,992,030</b>	<b>9,006,696</b>	<b>9,016,976</b>	<b>9,130,244</b>	<b>8,958,705</b>
Finance lease	48,509	48,670	48,831	49,047	49,316	49,692	50,015	50,284	50,661	51,468	52,275	53,082	53,889	50,441
Accumulated amortization	14,808	14,992	15,177	15,362	15,548	15,735	15,923	16,112	16,302	16,494	16,688	16,885	17,084	15,931
<b>Net value</b>	<b>33,701</b>	<b>33,678</b>	<b>33,655</b>	<b>33,685</b>	<b>33,768</b>	<b>33,957</b>	<b>34,092</b>	<b>34,172</b>	<b>34,358</b>	<b>34,974</b>	<b>35,587</b>	<b>36,197</b>	<b>36,804</b>	<b>34,510</b>
Intangible assets in service	2,585,633	2,586,378	2,590,553	2,596,924	2,599,126	2,599,001	2,604,680	2,604,555	2,604,430	2,611,662	2,611,537	2,611,412	2,742,984	2,611,451
Accumulated amortization	1,354,703	1,375,785	1,396,743	1,417,820	1,439,021	1,460,260	1,481,500	1,502,877	1,524,255	1,545,633	1,567,133	1,588,633	1,610,133	1,481,884
<b>Net value</b>	<b>1,230,930</b>	<b>1,210,593</b>	<b>1,193,810</b>	<b>1,179,104</b>	<b>1,160,105</b>	<b>1,138,740</b>	<b>1,123,180</b>	<b>1,101,677</b>	<b>1,080,174</b>	<b>1,066,029</b>	<b>1,044,404</b>	<b>1,022,778</b>	<b>1,132,850</b>	<b>1,129,567</b>
<b>Other assets</b>	<b>261,083</b>	<b>260,781</b>	<b>260,480</b>	<b>477,362</b>	<b>476,526</b>	<b>475,622</b>	<b>474,472</b>	<b>472,109</b>	<b>471,139</b>	<b>466,976</b>	<b>461,782</b>	<b>460,776</b>	<b>464,776</b>	<b>421,837</b>
<b>Working capital</b>	<b>338,470</b>	<b>512,038</b>	<b>511,758</b>	<b>511,564</b>	<b>511,355</b>	<b>511,125</b>	<b>511,441</b>	<b>507,161</b>	<b>506,967</b>	<b>506,758</b>	<b>506,528</b>	<b>506,384</b>	<b>506,317</b>	<b>495,990</b>
<b>TOTAL RATE BASE</b>	<b>10,738,493</b>	<b>10,898,944</b>	<b>10,897,932</b>	<b>11,113,601</b>	<b>11,102,108</b>	<b>11,095,570</b>	<b>11,094,563</b>	<b>11,084,217</b>	<b>11,066,626</b>	<b>11,066,766</b>	<b>11,054,996</b>	<b>11,043,110</b>	<b>11,270,991</b>	<b>11,040,609</b>

**Table R-10.1-I (continued)**  
**Based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances**

**BREAKDOWN OF FIXED ASSETS IN SERVICE AND FINANCE LEASES FOR THE 2015 TEST YEAR**  
**(Forecasted figures, in \$ thousand)**

	January 1	January 31	February 28	March 31	April 30	May 31	June 30	July 31	August 31	September 30	October 31	November 30	December 31	Average
<b>Fixed assets in service</b>														
Metering equipment	886,572	902,723	924,114	939,721	955,546	974,020	990,071	1,006,359	1,017,260	1,023,707	1,027,125	1,030,507	1,033,771	977,807
Distribution substations	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160	62,160
Overhead distribution lines	9,487,710	9,504,526	9,524,948	9,547,096	9,565,187	9,585,905	9,607,992	9,633,161	9,652,299	9,680,838	9,709,171	9,733,311	9,815,323	9,619,036
Underground distribution lines	3,780,233	3,785,021	3,791,075	3,798,119	3,803,826	3,810,572	3,817,704	3,825,021	3,830,926	3,840,998	3,851,017	3,861,119	3,870,061	3,820,438
Independent networks	1,063,817	1,064,542	1,065,342	1,066,321	1,067,349	1,068,699	1,070,565	1,071,698	1,073,000	1,075,550	1,078,098	1,080,641	1,127,638	1,074,866
Other network assets	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733	20,733
Support facilities	1,232,943	1,233,966	1,233,837	1,234,122	1,234,560	1,235,873	1,237,056	1,238,157	1,239,327	1,243,474	1,247,738	1,251,956	1,263,090	1,240,469
Contributions to private switchyards and other third-party contributions	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(32,412)	(37,206)	(32,781)
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,501,755</b>	<b>16,541,259</b>	<b>16,589,798</b>	<b>16,635,860</b>	<b>16,676,949</b>	<b>16,725,549</b>	<b>16,773,867</b>	<b>16,824,878</b>	<b>16,863,294</b>	<b>16,915,047</b>	<b>16,963,631</b>	<b>17,008,016</b>	<b>17,155,570</b>	<b>16,782,729</b>
<i>Monthly commissionings and transfers</i>		39,504	48,538	46,062	41,090	48,600	48,318	51,010	38,416	51,754	48,583	44,385	147,554	
<b>Accumulated amortization</b>														
Metering equipment	299,981	302,031	304,209	306,544	309,004	311,591	314,319	317,175	320,160	323,244	326,402	329,618	332,891	315,167
Distribution substations	59,228	59,245	59,263	59,281	59,298	59,316	59,334	59,352	59,369	59,387	59,405	59,422	59,440	59,334
Overhead distribution lines	4,489,917	4,506,251	4,522,623	4,539,039	4,555,503	4,572,006	4,588,555	4,605,152	4,621,804	4,638,497	4,655,252	4,672,068	4,688,936	4,588,893
Underground distribution lines	1,513,139	1,522,292	1,531,464	1,540,658	1,549,876	1,559,116	1,568,380	1,577,669	1,586,983	1,596,318	1,605,686	1,615,086	1,624,519	1,568,553
Independent networks	600,696	602,583	604,473	606,365	608,260	610,157	612,059	613,966	615,877	617,791	619,713	621,642	623,578	612,089
Other network assets	12,163	12,216	12,268	12,321	12,374	12,426	12,479	12,532	12,584	12,637	12,690	12,742	12,795	12,479
Support facilities	652,690	655,192	657,711	660,246	662,797	665,366	667,955	670,565	673,197	675,849	678,530	681,243	683,986	668,102
Contributions to private switchyards and other third-party contributions	(367)	(405)	(443)	(480)	(518)	(555)	(593)	(631)	(668)	(706)	(743)	(781)	(818)	(593)
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,627,446</b>	<b>7,659,406</b>	<b>7,691,568</b>	<b>7,723,972</b>	<b>7,756,595</b>	<b>7,789,425</b>	<b>7,822,489</b>	<b>7,855,780</b>	<b>7,889,306</b>	<b>7,923,018</b>	<b>7,956,935</b>	<b>7,991,040</b>	<b>8,025,326</b>	<b>7,824,023</b>
<i>Monthly amortization expense and transfers</i>		31,960	32,162	32,404	32,622	32,830	33,064	33,292	33,526	33,712	33,917	34,106	34,285	
<b>Net value</b>														
Metering equipment	586,591	600,693	619,906	633,177	646,541	662,428	675,751	689,183	697,099	700,463	700,723	700,889	700,880	662,640
Distribution substations	2,932	2,915	2,897	2,879	2,862	2,844	2,826	2,809	2,791	2,773	2,756	2,738	2,720	2,826
Overhead distribution lines	4,997,793	4,998,275	5,002,325	5,008,057	5,009,684	5,013,899	5,019,436	5,028,009	5,030,496	5,042,340	5,053,920	5,061,244	5,126,387	5,030,143
Underground distribution lines	2,267,094	2,262,730	2,259,611	2,257,461	2,253,950	2,251,455	2,249,324	2,247,353	2,243,943	2,244,679	2,245,331	2,246,033	2,245,542	2,251,885
Independent networks	463,121	461,959	460,869	459,956	459,089	458,542	458,506	457,732	457,123	457,759	458,385	459,000	504,061	462,777
Other network assets	8,570	8,518	8,465	8,412	8,360	8,307	8,254	8,202	8,149	8,096	8,044	7,991	7,938	8,254
Support facilities	580,253	578,773	576,126	573,877	571,763	570,507	569,101	567,592	566,130	567,625	569,208	570,713	579,104	572,367
Contributions to private switchyards and other third-party contributions	(32,045)	(32,007)	(31,970)	(31,932)	(31,895)	(31,857)	(31,819)	(31,782)	(31,744)	(31,707)	(31,669)	(31,632)	(36,388)	(32,188)
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,874,309</b>	<b>8,881,854</b>	<b>8,898,230</b>	<b>8,911,887</b>	<b>8,920,355</b>	<b>8,936,125</b>	<b>8,951,379</b>	<b>8,969,097</b>	<b>8,973,988</b>	<b>8,992,030</b>	<b>9,006,696</b>	<b>9,016,976</b>	<b>9,130,244</b>	<b>8,958,705</b>
<b>Finance lease</b>														
Present value	48,509	48,670	48,831	49,047	49,316	49,692	50,015	50,284	50,661	51,468	52,275	53,082	53,889	50,441
Accumulated amortization	14,808	14,992	15,177	15,362	15,548	15,735	15,923	16,112	16,302	16,494	16,688	16,885	17,084	15,931
<b>Net value</b>	<b>33,701</b>	<b>33,678</b>	<b>33,655</b>	<b>33,685</b>	<b>33,768</b>	<b>33,957</b>	<b>34,092</b>	<b>34,172</b>	<b>34,358</b>	<b>34,974</b>	<b>35,587</b>	<b>36,197</b>	<b>36,804</b>	<b>34,510</b>

**Table R-10.1-I (continued)**  
**Based on current methodology for disposal of pass-on balances**

**BREAKDOWN OF OTHER LINE ITEMS FOR 2015 TEST YEAR**  
 (Forecasted figures, in \$ thousand)

	January 1	January 31	February 28	March 31	April 30	May 31	June 30	July 31	August 31	September 30	October 31	November 30	December 31	Average
<b>Intangible assets in service</b>														
Energy efficiency programs and activities														
Comprehensive energy efficiency plan	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,598,270	1,698,270	1,605,962
BEIE programs and activities	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296	154,296
Software	773,323	774,068	778,243	784,614	786,816	786,691	792,370	792,245	792,120	799,352	799,227	799,102	827,174	791,181
Other intangible assets	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	59,744	63,244	60,013
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,585,633</b>	<b>2,586,378</b>	<b>2,590,553</b>	<b>2,596,924</b>	<b>2,599,126</b>	<b>2,599,001</b>	<b>2,604,680</b>	<b>2,604,555</b>	<b>2,604,430</b>	<b>2,611,662</b>	<b>2,611,537</b>	<b>2,611,412</b>	<b>2,742,984</b>	<b>2,611,451</b>
<i>Monthly commissionings and transfers</i>		745	4,175	6,371	2,202	(125)	5,679	(125)	(125)	7,232	(125)	(125)	131,572	
<b>Accumulated amortization</b>														
Energy efficiency programs and activities														
Comprehensive energy efficiency plan	783,949	796,069	808,190	820,310	832,430	844,550	856,670	868,790	880,910	893,030	905,150	917,270	929,390	856,670
BEIE programs and activities	63,177	64,463	65,749	67,034	68,320	69,606	70,892	72,178	73,463	74,749	76,035	77,321	78,606	70,892
Software	489,760	497,253	504,622	512,110	519,721	527,372	535,022	542,811	550,599	558,388	566,299	574,210	582,122	535,407
Other intangible assets	17,817	18,000	18,183	18,366	18,550	18,733	18,916	19,099	19,283	19,466	19,649	19,832	20,015	18,916
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,354,703</b>	<b>1,375,785</b>	<b>1,396,743</b>	<b>1,417,820</b>	<b>1,439,021</b>	<b>1,460,260</b>	<b>1,481,500</b>	<b>1,502,877</b>	<b>1,524,255</b>	<b>1,545,633</b>	<b>1,567,133</b>	<b>1,588,633</b>	<b>1,610,133</b>	<b>1,481,884</b>
<i>Monthly amortization expense and transfers</i>		21,082	20,958	21,077	21,201	21,240	21,240	21,378	21,378	21,378	21,500	21,500	2,500	
<b>Net value</b>														
Energy efficiency programs and activities														
Comprehensive energy efficiency plan	814,320	802,200	790,080	777,960	765,840	753,720	741,600	729,480	717,360	705,240	693,120	681,000	768,880	749,292
BEIE programs and activities	91,119	89,833	88,547	87,261	85,976	84,690	83,404	82,118	80,832	79,547	78,261	76,975	75,689	83,404
Software	283,564	276,816	273,622	272,505	267,095	259,320	257,348	249,435	241,521	240,964	232,928	224,892	245,053	255,774
Other intangible assets	41,927	41,744	41,561	41,378	41,194	41,011	40,828	40,645	40,461	40,278	40,095	39,912	43,228	41,097
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,230,930</b>	<b>1,210,593</b>	<b>1,193,810</b>	<b>1,179,104</b>	<b>1,160,105</b>	<b>1,138,740</b>	<b>1,123,180</b>	<b>1,101,677</b>	<b>1,080,174</b>	<b>1,066,029</b>	<b>1,044,404</b>	<b>1,022,778</b>	<b>1,132,850</b>	<b>1,129,567</b>
<b>Other assets</b>														
Contributions to connection projects	95,474	95,172	94,871	311,753	310,917	310,013	308,863	306,500	305,530	301,367	296,173	295,167	299,167	256,228
Stabilization account for climate conditions	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327	142,327
Government refund	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282	23,282
<b>Total</b>	<b>261,083</b>	<b>260,781</b>	<b>260,480</b>	<b>477,362</b>	<b>476,526</b>	<b>475,622</b>	<b>474,472</b>	<b>472,109</b>	<b>471,139</b>	<b>466,976</b>	<b>461,782</b>	<b>460,776</b>	<b>464,776</b>	<b>421,837</b>
<b>Working capital</b>														
Working capital	192,997	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	377,217	363,046
Materials, fuel and supplies	145,473	134,821	134,542	134,347	134,138	133,908	134,224	129,945	129,750	129,541	129,311	129,167	129,100	132,944
<b>Total</b>	<b>338,470</b>	<b>512,038</b>	<b>511,758</b>	<b>511,564</b>	<b>511,355</b>	<b>511,125</b>	<b>511,441</b>	<b>507,161</b>	<b>506,967</b>	<b>506,758</b>	<b>506,528</b>	<b>506,384</b>	<b>506,317</b>	<b>495,990</b>



**Table R-10.1-J**  
**Evolution of pass-on account**  
**based on current disposal methodology (\$ million)**

OUTSIDE RATE BASE	Pass-on 2011	Pass-on 2012	Pass-on 2013	Pass-on 2014	Total	Impact on revenue requirement
<b>Balance at December 31, 2012</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>			<b>10.4</b>	<b>19.4</b>
<b>Operations in 2013</b>						
Transferred to revenue requirement	(6.1)	(8.3)			(14.4)	
Interest		(0.3)			(0.3)	14.4
Variance for year			23.3		23.3	
<b>Balance at December 31, 2013</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(4.3)</b>	<b>23.3</b>		<b>19.0</b>	<b>14.4</b>
<b>Operations in 2014</b>						
Transferred to revenue requirement		4.3	27.9		32.2	
Interest			3.7		3.7	(32.2)
Variance for year (4/8 estimate)				325.1	325.1	
<b>Balance at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>325.1</b>	<b>380.0</b>	<b>(32.2)</b>
<b>Operations in 2015</b>						
Transferred to revenue requirement			(54.9)	(325.1)	(380.0)	380.0
<b>Balance at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>380.0</b>

**11. Documents:** Exhibit B-0013, p. 5.

**Preamble:**

*"The Distributor believes that the size of the amounts in question warrants an ad hoc change to the disposal methodology for the 2013 and 2014 pass-on accounts in order to spread the balance over five years, starting in 2016, rather than including the entire amount in the revenue requirement for 2015, in accordance with established practice. By deferring the beginning of recovery to 2016 rather than 2015, the Distributor can limit the impact of the variances on the rate adjustment for 2015. This methodology will also spread out the cost impact of the winter 2013-2014 climate conditions over several years."* (emphasis added)

**Requests:**

11.1 Please explain and support the criteria on which the Distributor determined a 5-year amortization period.

**Response:**

In view of the exceptional nature of the amounts recorded in the pass-on account, basically due to the very harsh winter of 2013-2014, the Distributor deemed it most appropriate to propose an *ad hoc* disposal methodology similar to what is used for the stabilization account for climate conditions, for which the 2014 variances will be

amortized and included in the revenue requirement over a five-year period, starting in 2016.

The Distributor believes that the 7.6% rate increase that would result from application of the current disposal methodology for the pass-on account is considerable and therefore recovery of the 2013 and 2014 balances over a longer period is warranted in order to ensure a measure of rate stability.

11.2 Please provide an overview of the size of the forecasted rate increases for the 2016-2020 period, with and without the impact of the pass-on account disposal methodology proposed by the Distributor. Please comment.

**Response:**

As an indication only and subject to possible changes to some parameters and/or factors in the coming years, the projected rate increases, based on the proposed pass-on account disposal methodology, would be 3.9% in 2015, in the order of 3% for the years 2016 and 2017, and in the order of 2% for the years 2018 to 2020.

With the current pass-on account disposal methodology, the forecasted rate increases would be 7.6% in 2015, less than 0.5% in 2016 and 2017, and in the order of 2.5% in 2018 to 2020.

11.3 Please present, in tabular form, the rate impact for each of the years 2015 to 2020 of the current pass-on account disposal methodology compared with that proposed by the Distributor in this rate case. Please present the following information separately:

- The amortization expense, distinctly, for the 2013 and 2014 pass-on accounts on an annual and cumulative basis;
- Interest on the 2013 and 2014 pass-on accounts on an annual and cumulative basis, using the rate base rate (7.102%).

Please provide the Excel spreadsheet.

**Response:**

Table R-11.3 shows the impact on the amortization expense and on the return on the rate base of the current and proposed methodologies for disposal of the 2013 and 2014 pass-on account balances.

**Table R-11.3**  
**Rate impact of current and proposed methodologies for disposal of pass-on balance**

		Forecasted balance at 2014/12/31	Forecasted balance at 31/12/2015	Transferred to revenue					
				2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Current methodology									
2013 pass-on		54.9		54.9					54.9
2014 pass-on		325.1		325.1					325.1
				380.0	-	-	-	-	380.0
Proposed methodology									
2013 pass-on	Amortization		58.8	-	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	58.8
	Return on rate base			-	3.3	2.5	1.7	0.8	8.4
2014 pass-on	Amortization		348.2	-	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	348.2
	Return on rate base			-	19.8	14.8	9.9	4.9	49.5
				-	104.5	98.7	93.0	87.2	464.8
Rate impact									
2013 pass-on	Amortization			(54.9)	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	3.9
	Return on rate base				3.3	2.5	1.7	0.8	8.4
2014 pass-on	Amortization			(325.1)	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	23.1
	Return on rate base				19.8	14.8	9.9	4.9	49.5
				(380.0)	104.5	98.7	93.0	87.2	84.8

11.4 Please present, in tabular form, the rate impact for each of the years 2015 to 2020 of the pass-on account disposal methodology proposed by the Distributor (5-year amortization starting in 2016), compared with 3-year amortization starting in 2016. Please present the following information separately:

- The amortization expense, distinctly, for the 2013 and 2014 pass-on accounts on an annual and cumulative basis;
- Interest on the 2013 and 2014 pass-on accounts on an annual and cumulative basis, using the rate base rate (7.102%).

Please provide the Excel spreadsheet.

**Response:**

Table R-11.4 shows the impact on the amortization expense and on the return on the rate base of the disposal methodology for the 2013 and 2014 pass-on balances proposed by the Distributor compared with 3-year amortization starting in 2016.

**Table R-11.4**  
**Rate impact of pass-on disposal methodologies**  
**Proposal vs disposal over 3 years (\$ million)**

	Forecasted balance at 2014/12/31	Forecasted balance at 31/12/2015	Transferred to revenue						
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
2013 pass-on	54.9								
2014 pass-on	325.1								
<b>Proposed methodology - 5 yr. amortization</b>									
2013 pass-on	Amortization	58.8	-	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	58.8
	Return on rate base		-	3.3	2.5	1.7	0.8	-	8.4
2014 pass-on	Amortization	348.2	-	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	348.2
	Return on rate base		-	19.8	14.8	9.9	4.9	-	49.5
			-	104.5	98.7	93.0	87.2	81.4	464.8
<b>Proposed methodology - 3 yr. amortization</b>									
2013 pass-on	Amortization	58.8	-	19.6	19.6	19.6	-	-	58.8
	Return on rate base		-	2.8	1.4	-	-	-	4.2
2014 pass-on	Amortization	348.2	-	116.1	116.1	116.1	-	-	348.2
	Return on rate base		-	16.5	8.2	-	-	-	24.7
			-	154.9	145.3	135.7	-	-	435.9
<b>Rate impact</b>									
2013 pass-on	Amortization		-	7.8	7.8	7.8	(11.8)	(11.8)	-
	Return on rate base		-	(0.6)	(1.1)	(1.7)	(0.8)	-	(4.2)
2014 pass-on	Amortization		-	46.4	46.4	46.4	(69.6)	(69.6)	-
	Return on rate base		-	(3.3)	(6.6)	(9.9)	(4.9)	-	(24.7)
			-	50.4	46.6	42.7	(87.2)	(81.4)	(28.9)

11.5 Please present, at the same level of detail as in the table requested in question 11.3, a simulation of the impact of using the following interest rates for the years 2015 to 2020:

- Weighted average cost of capital (7.102%);
- Average cost of debt (6.511%);
- Forecasted yield on Hydro-Québec 5-year bonds for 2015 test year (3.051%);
- Projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months) plus 25 basis point credit spread (1.607%)
- Projected bankers' acceptance rate (3 months) plus 25 basis point credit spread plus 50-basis-point guarantee fee (2.107%).

Please provide the Excel spreadsheet.

**Response:**

Table R-11.5 shows, for the period 2015-2020, the impact on the revenue requirement of the various rates listed by the Régie.

**Table R-11.5**  
**Impact on revenue requirement at various interest rates (\$ million)**

	Forecasted balance at 2014/12/31	Forecasted balance at 2015/12/31	Transferred to revenue						
			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
<b>Current methodology</b>									
2013 pass-on	54.9								
2014 pass-on	325.1								
<b>a. Proposed methodology at a rate of: 7.102%</b>									
2013 pass-on		58.8	-	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	58.8
Return on rate base			-	3.3	2.5	1.7	0.8	-	8.4
2014 pass-on		348.2	-	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	69.6	348.2
Return on rate base			-	19.8	14.8	9.9	4.9	-	49.5
Rate impact			-	104.5	98.7	93.0	87.2	81.4	464.8
<b>b. Proposed methodology at a rate of: 6.511%</b>									
2013 pass-on		58.5	-	11.7	11.7	11.7	11.7	11.7	58.5
Return on rate base			-	3.0	2.3	1.5	0.8	-	7.6
2014 pass-on		346.3	-	69.3	69.3	69.3	69.3	69.3	346.3
Return on rate base			-	18.0	13.5	9.0	4.5	-	45.1
Rate impact			-	102.0	96.8	91.5	86.2	80.9	457.4
<b>c. Proposed methodology at a rate of: 3.051%</b>									
2013 pass-on		56.6	-	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	56.6
Return on rate base			-	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.3	-	3.5
2014 pass-on		335.0	-	67.0	67.0	67.0	67.0	67.0	335.0
Return on rate base			-	8.2	6.1	4.1	2.0	-	20.4
Rate impact			-	87.9	85.5	83.1	80.7	78.3	415.5
<b>d. Proposed methodology at a rate of: 1.607%</b>									
2013 pass-on		55.8	-	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	55.8
Return on rate base			-	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	-	1.8
2014 pass-on		330.3	-	66.1	66.1	66.1	66.1	66.1	330.3
Return on rate base			-	4.2	3.2	2.1	1.1	-	10.6
Rate impact			-	82.2	80.9	79.7	78.5	77.2	398.5
<b>e. Proposed methodology at a rate of: 2.107%</b>									
2013 pass-on		56.1	-	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	56.1
Return on rate base			-	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.2	-	2.4
2014 pass-on		331.9	-	66.4	66.4	66.4	66.4	66.4	331.9
Return on rate base			-	5.6	4.2	2.8	1.4	-	14.0
Rate impact			-	84.1	82.5	80.9	79.2	77.6	404.4