

1 Q. **RE: p. B-32** Provide better particulars of the increase in the number of  
2 defective COB insulators on this transmission line, and how the number of  
3 defective insulators and the rate of increase in that number compares with  
4 Hydro's experience with insulators (COB and non-COB) on its other  
5 transmission lines.

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8 A. The number of structures that have been inspected each year was 15  
9 structures, which represents 20% of the total number of structures on the  
10 line. The results for 2000-2003 are as follows:

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Year	No. Structures Inspected	No. Of Structures with Defective Insulators	%
2000	15	5	33
2001	15	6	40
2002	15	1	6
2003	15	9	60

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13 These rates are comparable with the number of defective insulators on other  
14 transmission lines with COB insulators.

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16 The failure with the COB insulators is commonly the result of cement growth  
17 whereby hairline cracks appear in the cement and migrate into the porcelain  
18 and the insulator loses its electrical integrity.

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20 Transmission lines with Hydro's current approved insulators have not  
21 experienced any failures.