B-24 Gas Turbine Assessments

Q. Provide outage statistics and data as to trips and failure to start for both Stephenville and Hardwoods for the last ten years, showing impacts on service with details as to the scheduled maintenance or down time.

A. In the last ten years (from 1996 to August 2006) there have been 86 trips and 71 failed starts recorded at Hardwoods and 32 trips and 46 failed starts recorded at Stephenville. Each of these events had varying degrees of impacts on service, depending upon the nature of system conditions at the time. The gas turbines at both sites are key elements of the power system, providing system voltage control and standby generation.

The impacts on maintenance for each event (trip or fail to start) vary depending upon the individual event. Typically maintenance decisions for gas turbines are based upon a review of equipment performance over time in addition to observation and judgment. In 2006 we have directed resources towards solving an ongoing capacity problem resulting from events we have recorded in recent years relating to high exhaust gas temperatures.