

General

Q. Ref: PUB-32 NP and PUB-33 NP. Explain why NP is purchasing the more expensive galvanized radiators that have a life expectancy of 30 to 50 years if the lower cost standard radiators that are to be replaced in 2003 lasted 30 years.

A. The Company's specification for radiators was changed from painted steel to galvanized steel in 1980. This was due to the high rate of rusting being experienced on painted radiators acquired after 1970.

While the Company does not track the cost associated with maintaining power transformer radiators, our experience is that the effort to maintain painted radiators due to rusting is significant. Galvanized radiators, on the other hand, do not experience rusting.