

**Distribution**

**Q. Provide further details on the “older vintage radio equipment and towers” referred to (B-64, Replace/Upgrade Communication Equipment).**

**A.** Newfoundland Power has approximately 340 VHF mobile radio units in service. These include Midland Model 70-341 units purchased in 1983, Motorola MCX-100 units purchased in 1985, MCX-1000 units purchased throughout the remainder of the 1980s and a variety of other manufacturers products purchased since that time. Since 1995 Newfoundland Power has replaced a small percentage of these 340 VHF radios each year. Table 1 provides a summary of the expenditure to replace VHF mobile radios since 1995.

| <b>Table 1<br/>(000s)</b> |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Year</b>               | <b>Cost</b> |
| 1995                      | \$24        |
| 1996                      | \$12        |
| 1997                      | \$23        |
| 1998                      | \$24        |
| 1999                      | -           |
| 2000                      | \$30        |
| 2001                      | \$25        |
| 2002                      | \$30        |
| 2003                      | \$25        |

Newfoundland Power maintains six VHF radio towers throughout the Province. Table 2 identifies the installation dates of these towers.

| <b>Table 2</b>   |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Site</b>      | <b>Year Installed</b> |
| Sandy Brook      | 1985                  |
| Rattling Brook   | 1984                  |
| Gambo Hill       | 1976                  |
| Whitbourne       | 1976                  |
| Peters River     | 1976                  |
| Torbayman's Pond | 1983                  |

Through the replacement of its older VHF mobile radios and periodic upgrades to its tower infrastructure, Newfoundland Power has been able to maintain its VHF mobile radio system in good operating condition.