

1 **Q. [Account 362.1] – In response to CA-NP-084, the Company states that there was an**
2 **accounting change in 2004 that impacted life expectations for distribution poles. At**
3 **this time, please identify the specific accounting change referenced, providing what**
4 **accounting transactions were before the change and what the equivalent**
5 **transactions were after the change. Further, specifically state if the reversion back**
6 **in 2011 to retiring specific poles puts into place the identical accounting system that**
7 **was in effect prior to 2004. If not, identify all differences.**
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9 A. The reference in the response to Request for Information CA-NP-084 to an “accounting
10 change” in 2004 is not a reference to a change in accounting policy or the Company’s
11 accounting system. Rather, the passage in question was a reference to a change in 2004
12 in Newfoundland Power’s ability to access pole-specific information.
13

14 Prior to 2004, Newfoundland Power maintained a pole database in which it recorded
15 specific data on individual poles. The pole tracking system was discontinued in 2004
16 because it no longer met the Company’s requirements. In the absence of the pole
17 database, the Company’s field staff no longer had access to information on a pole-by-pole
18 basis. For this reason, it was necessary to estimate the age of poles removed from
19 service.
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21 In 2010 and 2011, Newfoundland Power conducted a GPS-based pole survey. As a result
22 of this detailed survey, the Company now has an up-to-date database of poles containing
23 information specific to individual poles.
24

25 The 2011 survey has, on a go-forward basis, provided Newfoundland Power with access
26 to age data on individual poles similar to the information that was available prior to 2004.