

1 **Q. [Accounts 355.1 and 355.2] – As it relates to certain statements made in Mr.**
2 **Wiedmayer’s rebuttal testimony on pages 19 through 23 or in Appendix B pages 2**
3 **through 6, as it applies to Accounts 355.1 and 355.2 – Transmission Poles and**
4 **Fixtures, please provide a specific enumeration of each of the “other impacts that**
5 **will limit any increase in service life” as referenced on page 6 of Appendix B.**
6 **Further, for each of the other impacts, provide all supporting documentation**
7 **relating to the impact each will have on life expectancy and specifically explain how**
8 **each of the other impacts were taken into account and quantified.**
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10 **A.** Newfoundland Power is proposing that service lives in Accounts 355.1 and 355.2 be
11 increased from 44 years to 47 years. An increase in service life is warranted and a 3 year
12 increase is reasonable. Some of the factors impacting the decision to limit the increase to
13 3 years are:
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- 15 1. Recent history of damage caused by storms. Transmission infrastructure experienced
16 extensive damage in storms in each of 2007 and 2010. While not part of the
17 depreciation study period the trend continued in 2012.
18
- 19 2. Improved inspections standards result in additional poles being identified for
20 replacement.
21
- 22 3. The thriving Newfoundland economy has resulted in higher numbers of requests for
23 the relocation of transmission lines for road widening and property development.
24
- 25 4. The Company continues to receive requests from telecommunications companies to
26 attach to transmission infrastructure in remote areas where building stand-alone
27 telecommunications infrastructure is not practical. Such requests result in upgrades to
28 accommodate additional loading.
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30 The individual impact of these factors is difficult to quantify, and no attempt has been
31 made at quantifying them. However, they will have an impact on service life and are
32 valid reasons for using moderation in extending service life estimates.