Q. [Account R12 -Right of Ways] - Please provide the level of retirement activity that
would be expected associated with the various vintage plant balances for Account
R12 - Right of Ways based on a 55R4 life-curve combination as proposed by Hydro.
To the extent the resulting value exceeds actual reported retirements on page IV179 of the 2009 Gannett Fleming study, explain and justify why a longer average
service life or an average service life with a different dispersion pattern would not
be more appropriate than the 55R4 life-curve combination proposed by Hydro.

Α.

In order to provide the requested information, a significant number of calculations are required. As indicated at page V-90 of the Gannett Fleming depreciation study this account has 38 different install years in service as at December 31, 2009. For each of the 38 install years a separate calculation will need to be made for each of the 19 transaction years that are included in the observation period resulting in over 700 individual calculations. In order to be responsive to this information request, rather than perform over 700 individual calculations, Gannett Fleming acknowledges that the Iowa 55-R4 Iowa would have estimated a significantly increased amount of retirement activity as compared to the actual retirement activity. Gannett Fleming also acknowledges that an Iowa curve of a retirement dispersion of the R4 or greater combined with an average service life estimate of greater than 55 years would result in a lower amount of expected retirements as compared to the Iowa 55-R4 as recommended in this proceeding. This does not however, change Gannet Fleming's recommendation for R12 – Right of Ways.

The reasons for the choice of the Iowa 55-R4 and the reasons for not selecting a life of greater than 55 years are explained in response to CA-NLH- 116.