Section 2: Customer Operations/Operating Costs

1 2 3

4

5

Q. Volume 1, Section 2, page 2-35, lines 2-6. The increase in labour costs is forecasted to be 3.1%. The weighted labour rate inflation is forecasted to be 4.1%. What, if any, of the 1% difference can be attributed to changes in the forecast of Newfoundland Power's number of employees versus changes in employee wages?

6 7 8

9

10

A. The implied operating efficiency of approximately 1% per year is primarily due to forecast operating labour savings associated with the enhancement of operation technologies, and not due to a change in the forecast number of employees. See the response to Request for Information PUB-NP-013 for further information.

11 12

See the response to Request for Information PUB-NP-017 for details on Newfoundland Power's operating efficiency initiatives. 1

_

The responses to Requests for Information PUB-NP-023 and PUB-NP-027 provide further detail on efficiency initiatives in the general and customer services functions.