

Wood Pole Line Management, p. B-39, \$2,302,600

Q. Please provide an update on the process of this program in 2005, including the actual expenditures to August 30, 2005, the number of poles replaced to August 30, 2005, and the forecast expenditures for 2005.

A. A detailed update of this program is contained in the report titled “ Wood Pole Line Management, Executive Summary Report, June 24, 2005” contained in Section H of the application.

The scope of the program for 2005 was to inspect, test and treat 4000 transmission poles and replace approximately 83 poles. The estimate for the pole replacements was based on the IOWA curve only, with no engineering analysis being done.

The engineering analysis of the poles inspected in 2003 and 2004 resulted in a requirement to replace 112 poles in 2005 rather than the originally estimated 83. Tenders for the pole replacements are due to close on September 7th and pending favorable results, the additional replacements may be accommodated within the approved budget. Operations staff are completing refurbishments in the Central and Northern Regions. The majority of the refurbishments are on the Avalon Peninsula. A contractor will complete these in October and November.

Approximately 60% of the pole inspection work is forecast to be complete by the end of August. The remaining inspections are forecast to be complete by the end of November.

- 1 Actual expenditures for the program to the end of July are \$1,023,000.
- 2 Estimated program expenditures to year-end are forecast to be within the
- 3 approved budget, of \$2, 587,600.