

1 **Q. In reference to the evidence of Earl Ludlow, page 18, line 19, “rising fuel costs”,**
 2 **please provide that operating expense, year over year, from 1996 to current –**
 3 **actuals versus forecast and the percentage of increase/decrease, as the case may be.**

4
 5 A. Table 1 below provides a summary of total vehicle fuel costs for the period 1998 to
 6 forecast 2002, as well as the average pump price of fuel (regular gasoline and diesel) as of
 7 December 31st for each of these years.
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Table 1 Fuel Costs 1998 – 2002F			
		Average Pump Price of Fuel As of December 31st	
Year	Total Fuel Costs (\$000s)	Regular Gasoline (cents/litre)	Diesel (cents/litre)
1998	948	61.90	72.60
1999	976	75.90	74.90
2000	1,119	84.30	93.90
2001	1,114	69.60	71.50
2002F	1,003	80.90	80.50

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 10 On Page 18, lines 19-20 of the *Operations & Customer Service Evidence*, Mr. Ludlow
 11 refers to the fact that despite rising fuel costs, the Company’s operating expenses with
 12 respect to fleet operating and maintenance have come down from 1998 levels, and are
 13 expected to remain relatively flat through the forecast period. As shown in Table 1
 14 above, the average price per litre of regular gasoline and diesel fuels have increased by
 15 approximately 31 per cent and 11 per cent respectively from December 31, 1998 to 2002.