- Q. On page 2 of Corporate Overview Evidence it states that gross operating expenses have been reduced by approximately 22 percent since 1992. Please provide a comparable summary of gross operating expenses for 1992 and for 2001.
- A. Table 1 below shows a comparison of gross operating expenses for 1992, 2001 and 2002. Mr. Hughes' statement referred to the 22 per cent reduction in gross operating expenses from 1992 to 2002.

| Table 1 Comparison of Gross Operating Expenses (\$000s) | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Year | Gross Operating Expenses | Change | % |
| 1992 | 68,833 | - | - |
| 2001 | 55,083 | (13,750) | (20.0) |
| 2002 | 53,589 | (15,244) | (22.2) |