

Q. Please provide the Company's reported number of customers for each rate class at the year-end for the 6 most recent years. (There was a change in the availability clause for Rate 2.4 in 1997 that moved customers from Rate 2.3 to Rate 2.4)

A. Table 1 below provides a summary of the number of customers for each rate class as at December 31, 1996 through 2001.

Table 1 Customers by Rate Class ¹ December 31							
	Rate	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Domestic	1.1	179,375	181,168	182,324	183,921	185,287	186,828
General Service							
0-10 kW	2.1	11,291	11,500	11,764	11,763	11,919	11,939
10-100 kW	2.2	7,884	7,881	7,809	7,732	7,721	7,721
110-1000 kVA ²	2.3	950	930	940	921	926	948
Over 1000 kVA ²	2.4	29	45	49	49	48	53
Total General Service		20,154	20,356	20,562	20,465	20,614	20,661
Street & Area Lighting ³	4.1	9,267	9,162	9,224	9,255	9,309	9,390
Total Customers		208,796	210,686	212,110	213,641	215,210	216,879

1. As per Return 11 to Newfoundland Power's Annual Reports to the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, except as indicated in Note 3 below.
2. The decrease in the number of Rate 2.3 customers and the increase in the number of Rate 2.4 customers indicated in 1997 is largely the result of the change in the availability clause for Rate 2.4 in that year which moved customers from Rate 2.3 to Rate 2.4.
3. A change in the methodology used to count the number of Street and Area Lighting services in 1999 resulted in reductions in the number of these customers of approximately 1,350 as of December 31, 1996; 1,700 as of December 31, 1997; and 2,000 as of December 31, 1998.