

1 **Q. Referring to the LDCs selected for reliance in schedules 15-17, please explain in**
2 **detail why you relied on only these eight companies instead of a larger sample.**

3
4 A. The sample was limited to the eight companies selected to ensure:

5 (1) That the operations were primarily distribution-related;

6 (2) That the company was low risk (e.g., debt rating of A- or higher); and,

7 (3) That the growth forecasts represented a market consensus (i.e., 3 or more analysts
8 provide long-term forecasts).