

**Q. TRANSMISSION**

**PUB 40.0 (RE: B-29, Rebuild Transmission Lines)**

**PUB 40.3**

**Has the Company conducted any analysis of past Transmission related rebuilds to determine the effectiveness of the work performed in improving reliability?**

A. The company rebuilt various sections of several transmission lines throughout the 1990s and since 2000. All the lines were targeted for reconstruction based on their age and condition as well as previous failures and outages. To date, none of the rebuilt sections have experienced any unplanned outages due to their design or construction (with the exception of one line which experienced outages related to a manufacturing problem with a replaced component).

By way of example, the full 301L was rebuilt during 2002 and 2003. In the previous 8 years there were 16 unplanned outages on that line directly related to weather conditions, broken parts, etc. Since the line was rebuilt in 2003, no service interruptions have been experienced.

Transmission lines are rebuilt to higher design and construction standards than those of 40-50 years ago. The Company would not expect any significant reliability issues with any line rebuilds within the first 20-25 years after reconstruction. As lines age and deteriorate, a decreased level of reliability would be expected. However, ongoing inspections and a good preventative maintenance program would identify most deficiencies before a weakened part fails.