

**Q.     SUBSTATIONS**

**PUB 7.0 (RE: p. 25 & 26 of 73) Distribution System Feeder Remote Control (\$1,114,000)**

**PUB 7.3**

**Since reclosers have an expected life of 30 years, and there are approximately 160 remaining, what percentage of the remaining reclosers is 30 years old or older? What percentage is between 25 and 30 years old?**

A.     The Company currently has 214 oil-filled reclosers that were purchased prior to 1999. This number includes 148 reclosers that are in service, either controlling feeders at substations or sections of feeders downstream from substations. The remaining 66 constitute a maintenance pool. The maintenance pool is used to replace reclosers that are withdrawn from the field for preventative maintenance work, or as emergency replacements for damaged reclosers.

Of the 66 reclosers in the maintenance pool, 34 are hydraulically controlled units, which utilize the oldest recloser technology in use by the Company. These units provide backup for 77 hydraulically controlled units that are currently in service. The use of the hydraulically controlled units is declining, as this technology is limited in its ability to interact with more modern power system protection equipment. The Company anticipates that many of the hydraulically controlled reclosers currently in service, and consequently many of the units in the maintenance pool, will be retired as the new electronic reclosers are installed.

Of the 214 oil-filled reclosers noted above, 48% are 30 years or older, while 18% are 25 to 29 years old.