
**Report on Various Results of Operations
Issues in Pacific Gas & Electric
Company's 2014 General Rate Case Phase I**

**Prepared Testimony of
Jacob Pous**

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The Utility Reform Network**

**California Public Utilities Commission
Application 12-11-009**

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
JACOB POUS
ON BEHALF OF THE UTILITY REFORM NETWORK**

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DIRECT TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS OF JACOB POUS

ACRONYMS

AICPA	American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
ALG	Average Life Group
ASL	Average Service Life
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CI	Conformance Index
COMMISSION or CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
COMPANY or PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric Company
DUCI	Diversified Utility Consultants, Inc.
EPR	Ethylene-Propylene Rubber
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
HMWPE	High Molecular Weight Polyethylene
NARUC	National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners
REI	Retirement Experience Index
SCE	Southern California Edison Company
SCG	Southern California Gas Company
SDG&E	San Diego Gas & Electric
SPR	Simulated Plant Record Balance method
SSD	Sum of Squares Difference
TURN	The Utility Reform Network
USOA	FERC Uniform System of Accounts
XLPE	Cross-Link PE

1 **SECTION I: INTRODUCTION**

2
3 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

4 A. My name is Jacob Pous and my business address is 1912 W Anderson Lane, Suite 202,
5 Austin, Texas 78757.

6
7 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR OCCUPATION?**

8 A. I am a principal in the firm of Diversified Utility Consultants, Inc. (“DUCI”). A copy of
9 my qualifications appears as Appendix A.

10
11 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE DIVERSIFIED UTILITY CONSULTANTS, INC.**

12 A. DUCI is a consulting firm located in Austin, Texas with an international client base. The
13 personnel of DUCI provide engineering, accounting, economic, and financial services to
14 its clients. DUCI provides utility consulting services to municipal governments with
15 utility systems, to end-users of utility services, and to regulatory bodies such as state
16 public service commissions. DUCI provides complete rate case analyses, expert
17 testimony, negotiation services, and litigation support to clients in electric, gas,
18 telephone, water, sewer, and cable utility matters.

19
20 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED IN PUBLIC UTILITY PROCEEDINGS?**

21 A. Yes. Appendix A also includes a list of proceedings in which I have previously presented
22 testimony. I have testified on behalf of The Utility Reform Network (“TURN”) in
23 previous general rate cases (“GRC”) before the California Public Utilities Commission
24 (“CPUC” or the “Commission”), including the Pacific Gas & Electric Company
25 (“PG&E”) 1999 and 2003 test year GRCs and Southern California Edison Company’s
26 (“SCE”) 2003 and 2012 test year GRCs and the 2012 test year GRCs for Southern
27 California Gas Company (“SCG”) and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (“SDG&E”)
28 rate case. In addition, I have been involved in numerous utility rate proceedings that
29 resulted in settlements before testimony was filed. In total, I have participated in well
30 over 400 utility rate proceedings in the United States and Canada. Also worthy of note is

1 that I have testified on behalf of the staff of five different state regulatory commissions
2 and one Canadian regulator.

3
4 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND?**

5 A. I am a registered professional engineer. I am registered to practice as a Professional
6 Engineer in the State of Texas, as well as numerous other states.

7
8 **Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU PROVIDING THIS TESTIMONY?**

9 A. I am providing testimony on behalf of TURN.

10
11 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

12 A. The purpose of my testimony is to address several depreciation issues raised by PG&E in
13 its test year 2014 General Rate Case filing submitted to the Commission. My testimony
14 will address the following depreciation issues : (1) Mass property net salvage, (2) Mass
15 property average service life (“ASL”) , and (3) Corrections to hydroelectric plant values
16 that the Company identified in its errata filing.

17
18 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR TESTIMONY.**

19 A. The Company proposed depreciation rates that would produce a total of \$1,922,557,794
20 of depreciation and amortization expense as estimated for plant as of December 31,
21 2011.¹ The proposed depreciation rates are based on a depreciation study performed by
22 Gannett Fleming, Inc. The Gannett Fleming analyses are based on data through 2009 for
23 plant as of December 31, 2011.² After review of the Company’s filing, workpapers, data
24 responses, other available information (including two days of interview with Company
25 personnel during a prior case), and applying my judgment and experience, I conclude that
26 the Company’s request is unreasonable. I recommend adjustments totaling \$45.9 million
27 for plant as of December 31, 2011, as shown on the attached Schedule (JP-1). The key
28 points and corresponding approximate stand-alone impacts of each are as follows:

¹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 pages 11-2 through 11-10.

² Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 pages 11-1 and 11-18.

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- Mass Property Net Salvage – The Company’s depreciation calculations for its electric, gas, and common mass property accounts include approximately \$25 billion of negative net salvage expected to be experienced over the remaining life of the utility’s plant investment. In this area of the depreciation study, Gannett Fleming’s proposals in many instances are much more negative than any other industry value. Gannett Fleming basically relies on the results of mechanical averaging of historical data without adequate assessment of the validity of underlying the data. The historical database that Gannett Fleming relies on for its PG&E - specific statistical analysis has a number of flaws including an accounting error that PG&E is still attempting to correct. In addition, the Company’s historical database reflects an unsubstantiated allocation of costs incurred in replacement activity to cost of removal rather than as a component of the cost of the new installation. These as well as other concerns require adjustments to many of Gann ett Fleming’s net salvage proposals. Based on a review of all the information made available, and my experience and judgment, I recommend adjustments to net salvage for 10 mass property accounts. The stand -alone impact of these various adjustments results in a \$324 million annual reduction to the utility’s proposed depreciation expense for plant as of December 31, 2011.
 - Mass Property Life – For its proposed ASL and corresponding dispersion curve for each account, Gannett Fleming relied almost exclusively on the results of its semi-actuarial life analyses, and, to a far lesser extent, industry data. A review of the various mass property accounts identifies numerous problems with Gannett Fleming’s proposed life parameters for mass property. In particular, the Company often ignore d the best fitting statistical results of its life analyses and gave significant weight to the existing life parameters developed years ago. Based on a review of all the information made available, and my experience and judgment, I recommended longer ASLs or different dispersion patterns for 10 accounts. The stand -alone impact of the various mass property life recommendations results in a \$174 million reduction to the utility’s proposed plant as of December 31, 2011 depreciation expense.
 - Hydroelectric Plant – PG&E has identified a reduction of \$2.9 million in annual depreciation expense in its errata filing.
 - Combined impact of Mass Property Recommendations – The total impact of the life and net salvage recommendations is not simply the sum of each component on a stand -alone basis. If the life is

1 changed for an account, it affects the annual level of net salvage
2 collected. As shown on the attached Schedule (JP-1), the combined
3 impact on mass property depreciation expense due to my
4 recommendations is a \$456 million reduction for the test year plant
5 as of December 31, 2011 as compared to PG&E's proposal. In
6 addition, \$2.9 million further reduction is warranted due to
7 Company identified errors for hydroelectric plant.
8

9
10
11 **SECTION II: DEPRECIATION**

12
13 **Q. WHAT IS DEPRECIATION?**

14 A. There are two commonly -cited definitions of depreciation. The first comes from the
15 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"):³

16
17 'Depreciation,' as applied to depreciable plant, means the loss in service
18 value not restored by current maintenance, incurred in connection with the
19 consumption or prospective retirement of gas plant in the course of service
20 from causes which are known to be in current operation and against which
21 the utility is not protected by insurance. Among the c causes to be given
22 consideration are wear and tear, decay, action of the elements, inadequacy,
23 obsolescence, changes in the art, changes in demand and requirements of
24 public authorities.
25

26 The second definition, from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
27 ("AICPA"), is similar:

28
29 Depreciation accounting is a system of accounting which aims to
30 distribute the cost or other basic value of tangible capital assets, less
31 salvage (if any) over the estimated useful life of the unit (which may be a
32 group of assets) in a systematic and rational manner. It is a process of
33 allocation, not of valuation. Depreciation for the year is a portion of the
34 total charge under such a system that is allocated to the year. Although the
35 allocation may properly take into account occurrences during the year, it is
36 not intended to be a measurement of the effect of all such occurrences.

³ Title 18 of the Code of Federal Regulations ("CFR") Part 201, Definition 12.

1 **Q. WHAT ARE THE TWO GENERAL FORMULAS USED IN DETERMINING**
2 **DEPRECIATION RATES?**

3 A. The whole life and the remaining life technique are the most commonly used formulas.
4 The whole life technique is as follows:

5
$$\text{Depreciation Rate \%} = (\text{Original Cost} - \text{Net Salvage}) / \text{Average Service Life} / \text{Original Cost}$$

6 The remaining life technique is as follows:

7

8
$$\text{Depreciation Rate \%} = (\text{Original Cost} - \text{Accumulated Provision For Depreciation} - \text{Net}$$

9
$$\text{Salvage}) / \text{Remaining Life} / \text{Original Cost}$$

10

11 The two formulas should equal each other when the difference between the theoretical
12 reserve and the actual accumulated provision for depreciation is recovered over the
13 remaining life of the investment under the whole life technique.

14

15 **Q. ARE THERE ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS IN DEPRECIATION BEYOND**
16 **THE DEFINITIONS?**

17 A. Yes. The definitions provide only a general outline of the overall utility depreciation
18 concept. In order to arrive at a depreciation-related revenue requirement in a rate
19 proceeding, a depreciation system must be established.

20

21 **Q. WHAT IS A DEPRECIATION SYSTEM?**

22 A. A depreciation system constitutes the method, procedure, and technique employed in the
23 development of depreciation rates.

24

25 **Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WHAT IS MEANT BY “METHOD.”**

26 A. “Method” identifies whether a straight -line, liberalized, compound interest, or other type
27 of calculation is being performed. The straight -line method is normally employed for
28 utility depreciation proceedings.

29 **Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WHAT IS MEANT BY “PROCEDURE.”**

30 A. “Procedure” identifies a calculation approach or grouping. For example, procedures can
31 reflect the grouping of only a single item, items by vintage (year of addition), items by

1 broad group or total grouping, or equal life groupings. The average life group (“ALG”)
2 procedure is used by the vast majority of utilities.

3
4 **Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WHAT IS MEANT BY “TECHNIQUE.”**

5 A. There are two main categories of techniques with various sub-groupings: the whole life
6 technique and the remaining life technique. The whole life technique simply reflects
7 calculation of a depreciation rate based on the whole life (e.g., a 10-year life would imply
8 a 10% depreciation rate over the life of the plant). The remaining life technique
9 recognizes that depreciation is a forecast or estimation process that is never precisely
10 accurate and that requires true-ups in order to recover exactly 100% of what a utility is
11 entitled to over the entire life of the investment. Therefore, as time passes, the remaining
12 life technique attempts to recover the remaining unrecovered balance over the remaining
13 life or other period of time. Most utilities rely on a remaining life technique in utility rate
14 matters.

15
16 **Q. DO THE METHODS, PROCEDURES, AND TECHNIQUES INTERACT WITH
17 ONE OTHER?**

18 A. Yes. Different depreciation rates will result depending on what combination of method,
19 procedure, and technique is employed. Differences will occur even when beginning with
20 the same ASL and net salvage values.

21
22 **Q. GENERALLY SPEAKING, WHAT IS NET SALVAGE?**

23 A. Net salvage is the value obtained from retired property (the gross salvage) less the cost of
24 removal. Net salvage can be either positive, in cases where gross salvage exceeds cost of
25 removal, or negative, in cases where cost of removal is greater than gross salvage.

26 **Q. HOW DOES NET SALVAGE IMPACT THE CALCULATION OF
27 DEPRECIATION?**

28 A. The intent of the depreciation process is to allow the Company to recover 100% of
29 investment less net salvage. Therefore, if net salvage is a positive 10%, then the utility
30 should only recover 90% of its investment through annual depreciation charges, under the

1 theory that it will recover the remaining 10% through net salvage at the time the asset
2 retires (90% + 10% = 100%). Alternatively, if net salvage is a negative 10%, then the
3 utility should be allowed to recover 110% of its investment through annual depreciation
4 charges so that the negative 10% net salvage that is expected to occur at the end of the
5 property's life will still leave the utility whole (110% - 10% = 100%).
6
7

8 **SECTION III: MASS PROPERTY NET SALVAGE ANALYSIS**

9 10 **A. General**

11 12 **Q. WHAT IS NET SALVAGE?**

13 A. Net salvage, as defined in FERC's Uniform System of Accounts ("USOA"), is as
14 follows:

15
16 Net salvage value means the salvage value of property retired less the cost
17 of removal.⁴

18
19 "Salvage" and "cost of removal" are defined in Title 18 of the CFR part 101 as follows:

20
21 Salvage value means the amount received for property retired, less any
22 expenses incurred in connection with the sale or in preparing the property
23 for sale; or, if retained, the amount at which the material recoverable is
24 chargeable to Materials and Supplies, or other appropriate amount.

25 Cost of removal means the cost of demolishing, dismantling, tearing down
26 or otherwise removing gas plant including the cost of transportation and
27 handling incidental thereto.
28

29 In other words, "net salvage" is simply the value received for the sale, reuse, or
30 reimbursement of retired property (gross salvage) less the cost of retiring such property
31 (cost of removal), whether the retirement reflects demolition of the item of plant or only
32 the accounting transaction for retiring an item or property in place (abandonment).
33

⁴ Title 18 of the CFR Part 101 Definition 19.

1 **Q. CAN YOU ILLUSTRATE USING AN ACTUAL EXAMPLE OF HOW PG&E'S**
2 **PROPOSED NET SALVAGE IMPACTS REVENUE REQUIREMENTS?**

3 A. Yes. For Account 365 – Electric Distribution Overhead Conductors and Devices, the
4 Company requests a negative 200% net salvage. Given the plant balance of \$3.4 billion
5 as of December 2011, the Company's proposed net salvage results in approximately \$6.8
6 billion of revenue requirements over the life of the investment above the recovery of the
7 original \$3.4 billion investment.⁵ Dividing PG&E's proposed \$6.8 billion by its proposed
8 remaining life of 30.53 years results in an annual revenue requirement impact of over
9 \$220 million for this account alone. For the higher plant balance in the 2014 test year, the
10 impact would be greater.

11
12 **Q. WHAT PERIOD HAS THE COMPANY CHOSE TO ANALYZE FOR ITS NET**
13 **SALVAGE ANALYSIS?**

14 A. The Company has analyzed a 20 -year period, 1990 through 2009.⁶ Gannett Fleming did
15 have data through 2011 but had concerns regarding the accuracy of the 2010 and 2011
16 figures and chose not to use such data.

17
18 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED ALL THE INFORMATION PRESENTED BY THE**
19 **COMPANY IN SUPPORT OF ITS NET SALVAGE REQUEST?**

20 A. Yes. I've carefully reviewed the testimony and workpapers, and have requested
21 substantial amounts of additional information that, in my experience, is necessary in the
22 performance of a depreciation study. To the extent the utility provided substantive
23 responses to those data responses, I also reviewed and considered that information.

24
25 **Q. WHAT GENERAL CONCLUSION HAVE YOU REACHED BASED ON YOUR**
26 **REVIEW?**

27 A. The information PG&E has provided is inadequate to support or demonstrate the
28 appropriateness of its request for an overall negative 95% net salvage for electric and gas

⁵ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 page 11 -4.

⁶ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -490 for example.

1 distribution property.⁷ PG&E's depreciation study includes \$25 billion for negative net
2 salvage related to electric and gas mass property over the life of the investment.⁸

3
4 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING PG&E'S**
5 **PROPOSED NET SALVAGE VALUES FOR MASS PROPERTY.**

6 A. PG&E's net salvage analysis is flawed and insufficiently substantiated and, as a result,
7 proposes excessive levels of negative net salvage or inadequate levels of positive salvage.
8 I recommend a reduction to PG&E's depreciation expense based on recommended
9 adjustments to many of its proposed net salvage levels. The stand-alone impact of my net
10 salvage recommendations is a reduction of \$ 324,208,952 million in annual depreciation
11 expense based on plant as of December 31, 2011.

12
13 **Q. WHAT ACCOUNTS ARE YOU RECOMMENDING CHANGES TO FOR NET**
14 **SALVAGE?**

15 A. I am recommending changes to 10 mass property accounts. Those adjusted accounts are
16 listed below.

17
Mass Property Net Salvage

<u>Account</u>	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Company Proposed</u>	<u>TURN Recommended</u>	<u>Impact⁹</u>
362 – Electric Distribution	-15%	-40%	-15%	\$17,358,581

⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 pages 11-4 and 11-7.

⁸ *Id.* Mass property includes electric transmission, electric and gas distribution, and common general plant.

⁹ Impacts are calculated based on EOY 2011 plant levels. The impacts will be greater when the recommended net salvage values are applied to 2014 plant levels.

Station Equipment				
364 – Electric Distribution Poles, Towers, and Fixtures	-80%	-150%	-100%	\$44,944,344
365 – Distribution Overhead Conductors and Devices	-77	-200	-110	\$99,658,726
366 – Electric Distribution Underground Conduit	-20%	-100%	-20%	\$46,711,849
367 – Electric Distribution Underground Conductors and Devices	-40%	-50%	-35%	\$17,395,145
368.01 – Electric Distribution Line Transformers – Overhead	-6%	-25%	-15%	\$7,356,870
369.01 – Electric Distribution Services – Overhead	-75%	-135%	-75%	\$12,702,500
376 – Gas Distribution Mains	-52%	-65%	-50%	\$9,194,570
380 – Gas Distribution Services	-105%	-180%	-105%	\$52,940,719
390 – Common Plant Structures and Improvements	-10%	-10%	+25%	\$15,945,647

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Q. WHY DO YOU BELIEVE PG&E’S PROPOSED NET SALVAGE LEVELS ARE INAPPROPRIATE?

A. There are numerous problems with PG&E’s proposals. For example:

- PG&E failed to adjust the historical database for its net salvage proposals to correct for known errors, and to remove temporary abnormally high levels of labor cost.
- PG&E failed to justify its allocation of costs between costs of removal and the cost of installation of replacement plant, even though that allocation has a substantial impact on the amount of the recorded costs of removal.
- PG&E failed to adequately recognize, or to recognize at all in some cases, the likely cost reduction impact of economies of scale as it retires a greater amount of plant on an annual basis in the future.
- PG&E failed to adjust the historical database in making its proposal for higher cost of removal attributable to situations where emergency failure of investment may have occurred on a

1 disproportionate basis. Company personnel have acknowledged
2 that replacement of plant associated with emergency situations
3 normally results in higher cost of removal. The Company's
4 development and implementation of inspection and maintenance
5 programs should reduce the number of replacements in the future
6 that occur due to such failures.
7

- 8 • For certain accounts PG&E failed to recognize the relationship of
9 the account investment mix compared to the investment mix of the
10 annual retirements. This failure to have the analysis recognize the
11 difference between investment and retirement mixes can render the
12 historical database less useful for predicting what will transpire
13 when the Company retires the majority of investment in an account
14 in the future.¹⁰
15
- 16 • PG&E has failed to properly adjust for the inclusion of higher cost
17 of removal associated with reliance on overtime pay for in-house
18 personnel and premium charges for outside contract labor to
19 perform retirement activities. This results in more negative net
20 salvage proposals than are warranted if, going forward, it is
21 reasonable to conclude that PG&E will reduce its reliance on such
22 higher-priced labor options.
23

24 **B. Failure to Normalize Data**

25
26 **Q. DOES GANNETT FLEMING RELY HEAVILY ON THE HISTORICAL**
27 **AVERAGE OF NET SALVAGE ASSOCIATED WITH RETIREMENTS?**

28 A. Yes. Gannett Fleming relied on a 20-year historical database for the period 1990-2009 in
29 analyzing net salvage. Quite often, Gannett Fleming relied on the overall average for the
30 20-year period while in other instances relied on more recent average values within the
31 same database.

32 **Q. IS IT APPROPRIATE TO RELY ON HISTORICAL AVERAGES?**

33 A. Yes and no. Historical averages can provide useful tool for estimating future expected net
34 salvage when utilized properly. However, it is not appropriate to overly rely on historical
35 averages without adequate investigation to determine the validity of the data contained
36 therein as it applies to future expectations.
37

¹⁰ For example, the Company's reliance on data reflecting a disproportionate level of complex pole installations to assign cost of removal to simple pole retirements. See discussion for Account 364 herein.

1 **Q. HAS GANNETT FLEMING IDENTIFIED OR DESCRIBED IN SUFFICIENT**
2 **DETAIL ITS INVESTIGATION OF HISTORICAL DATA TO DETERMINE**
3 **WHETHER THOSE DATA ARE AN APPROPRIATE PROXY FOR**
4 **PREDICTING FUTURE NET SALVAGE EXPECTATIONS FOR EACH**
5 **ACCOUNT?**

6 A. No. Indeed, the only time that Gannett Fleming describes making any meaningful
7 investigation of the historical data, it was for a period outside the time frame it actually
8 relied upon for net salvage expectations. In providing information associated with the
9 calendar years 2010 and 2011, Gannett Fleming did question the resulting net salvage
10 values. Based on limited investigation, it was determined that a problem exists with the
11 Company's historical database.¹¹

13 **Q. HAS THE COMPANY DEMONSTRATED THAT THE BALANCE OF**
14 **ACCOUNTS IN ITS DEPRECIATION ANALYSIS DO NOT ALSO SUFFER**
15 **FROM THE SAME INFIRMITY AS IDENTIFIED FOR GAS DISTRIBUTION**
16 **ACCOUNTS 376 AND 380?**

17 A. No. What is clear with the Company's recorded net salvage information is that the
18 correction of the problem can only result in a less negative net salvage to the extent the
19 problem exists in each account.

20 **Q. DOES THE HISTORICAL DATABASE RELIED UPON BY GANNETT**
21 **FLEMING ALSO INCLUDE OTHER SITUATIONS THAT REQUIRE**
22 **ADJUSTMENT?**

23 A. Yes. For example, the Company identifies that it has increased the crew size for electric
24 distribution repair and maintenance activity to include apprentice and pre-apprentice
25 employees. Such increase in labor is done effectively for training purposes on a
26 temporary basis. While this practice is in place, repair and maintenance costs are higher
27 than they would be absent the practice. The Company admits that once these apprentices

¹¹ The problem is the Company's failure to properly transfer retirement activity from one computer software program to another, thus resulting in significant overstatement of negative net salvage in the two instances for gas plant in service identified and discussed later.

1 and pre -apprentices become adequately trained and become journeymen linemen, the
2 need for the overstaffing will no longer be required and labor costs associated with cost
3 of removal will decline.
4

5 **Q. DID GANNETT FLEMING ADJUST THE HISTORICAL DATABASE IT
6 RELIED UPON TO REMOVE SUCH TEMPORARY INCREASES IN LABOR
7 COSTS?**

8 A. No. Instead, it appears Gannett Fleming overemphasized these particular periods of time
9 in the development of its proposed net salvage values for certain accounts.
10

11 **Q. ARE THERE OTHER PROBLEMS WITH GANNETT FLEMING'S
12 MECHANICAL APPROACH OF RELYING ON HISTORICAL AVERAGES
13 WITHOUT INVESTIGATION OF WHAT IS CONTAINED THEREIN?**

14 A. Yes. The above noted problems, along with other problems, are reflected in the account
15 specific discussions contained later in my testimony.
16

17 **C. Gradualism**
18

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE CONCEPT OF GRADUALISM?**

20 A. The concept of gradualism normally reflected in utility ratemaking is one where there is a
21 recognized need to change values , but the change is allowed to occur over time rather
22 than all at once.

23 **Q. DOES GANNETT FLEMING EMPLOY THE CONCEPT OF GRADUALISM?**

24 A. Yes, but not consistently . Gannett Fleming employs the concept basically in its life
25 analysis portion of the depreciation study (and then does so excessively). Gannett
26 Fleming fails to apply the concept to any meaningful extent in the net salvage portion of
27 the depreciation study.
28

29 **Q. HOW DID GANNETT FLEMING TREAT THE TWO MAIN COMPONENTS OF
30 ITS DEPRECIATION STUDY INCONSISTENTLY?**

1 A. As discussed elsewhere in the testimony, for many distribution accounts, the Company
2 limited the increase in ASL to two year when t he statistical analyses indicated much
3 larger increases in ASL were warranted. It specifically identified the criteria of not being
4 prepared to increase ASL from the existing 40 -year level more than two years, or a five
5 percent increase in life expectation s. However, when it comes to decreasing negative net
6 salvage values (that is, making them more negative) , Gannett Fleming basically discards
7 the concept of gradualism. For example, Gannett Fleming proposes a change to a -100%
8 net salvage for Account 366 – Electric Distribution Underground Conduit from the
9 existing -20%. This proposed change represents a value 500% times the existing value.
10 Put in proper relationship, Gannett Fleming wants to limit life increases to a 5% level but
11 is more than prepared to in crease net salvage many hundreds of percent at the same time
12 in the same study.

13

14 **Q. DOES GANNETT FLEMING’S INCONSISTENT TREATMENT OF THE**
15 **CONCEPT OF GRADUALISM RESULT IN HIGHER DEPRECIATION**
16 **EXPENSE IN ALL INSTANCES?**

17 A. Yes. Gradualism is employed in the life portion of Gannett Fleming’s depreciation
18 analysis to limit the lengthening of ASLs, where such lengthening decreases depreciation
19 expense, all else equal. Alternatively, employing concept of gradualism in the net salvage
20 portion of the depreciation stud y would limit the increases to depreciation expense, all
21 else equal. Gannett Fleming’s inconsistent practices in this regard always result in higher
22 depreciation expense than would be the situation if gradualism were consistently
23 employed or ignored.

24 **D. Inappropriate Allocation of Installation Costs to Cost of Removal**

25

26 **Q. HOW DOES THE COMPANY ESTABLISH COST OF REMOVAL AMOUNTS**
27 **REFLECTED IN THE NET SALVAGE ANALYSIS?**

28 A. The Company employs two different methods. In those relatively rare instances in which
29 retirement occurs without replacement activity, 100% of the costs are assigned to cost of
30 removal. In those instances where replacement activity occurs, the Company assigns a
31 portion of the overall replacement work order costs to cost of removal.

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Q. ARE THE VAST MAJORITY OF RETIREMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH REPLACEMENT ACTIVITY?

A. Yes.

Q. ARE THERE REASONS FOR CONCERN WITH THE COMPANY'S ALLOCATION PRACTICE?

A. Yes. For example, the Company admits that it recently has been installing more complex electric distribution poles.¹² The cost to install more complex poles is higher than that of installing less complex poles as was the case in the past. However, since the Company assigns a percentage of the overall replacement work order costs to cost of removal, it has created an inappropriate impact on the establishment of appropriate net salvage values.

For example, assume that PG&E has determined that 20% is the assigned value to cost of removal for a replacement work order that includes the cost to retire an old pole. If the replacement pole is a relatively complex pole and the entire cost is \$14,000, then \$2,800 is assigned to cost of removal. But if the replacement of a less complex pole results in a \$7,000 total work order cost, then the assigned cost of removal is only \$1,400. The same pole is retired in both instances, yet the Company's allocation approach assigns a higher cost (\$1,400 in this example) to the same retirement activity simply due to the installation of a complex pole versus a less complex pole. In other words, the Company's procedure may be easier to implement, but it can result in inappropriate levels of cost of removal being recorded.

Q. HAS GANNETT FLEMING TAKEN SUCH CONSIDERATIONS INTO ACCOUNT IN ITS NET SALVAGE ANALYSIS?

A. Not in any way that appeared in the testimony, the depreciation study, or in the responses to TURN data requests. Instead, Gannett Fleming relies largely if not entirely on the mechanical results of historical averages in making its net salvage proposals.

¹² More complex means more switches and attachments than a simple pole as was installed in the past.

1 **E. Economies of Scale**

2
3 **Q. WILL GREATER DOLLAR LEVELS OF RETIREMENT ACTIVITY OCCUR IN**
4 **THE FUTURE?**

5 A. Yes. PG&E's recorded retirement activity represents a very small portion of the total
6 plant recorded in each account. In future years as a greater level of the Company's
7 investment approaches its ASL, a greater amount of investment will actually retire on an
8 annual basis. This greater level of annual retirement should result in reductions to the per-
9 unit cost of removal as economies of scale are realized. Depreciation analysis should
10 recognize this information ; the purpose is to forecast reasonable depreciation expense,
11 with the forecast reflecting what the utility is likely to experience going forward.
12 Unfortunately, the Company's approach generally limits itself to analyzing recent
13 historical data without properly evaluating or adjusting for future expectations.

14
15 **Q. ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY SOURCES THAT CONCUR WITH YOUR**
16 **CONCEPT OF ECONOMIES OF SCALE?**

17 A. Yes. The National Association of the Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("NARUC") in
18 their publication *Public Utility Depreciation Practices* indicates, among other things,
19 that while future cost of removal may be logically higher than past costs, this premise
20 does not necessarily indicate that the percentage cost of removal will increase over time.
21 Moreover, the publication acknowledges that as labor costs increase over time so do the
22 number of items to be removed, thus making it more economical in many cases to invest
23 in special tools, which actually result in an overall decrease in cost of removal per item
24 removed.¹³ The appropriate depreciation rates in the future should reflect future
25 economies of scale.

26
27 **Q. ARE YOU AWARE OF OTHER SPECIFIC CONCEPTS APPLICABLE TO**
28 **PG&E THAT FIT INTO THE CATEGORY OF PRODUCTIVITY SAVINGS**
29 **BEING ACHIEVED DUE TO ECONOMIES OF SCALE?**

¹³ 1996 edition at pages 160 and 161.

1 A. Yes. Many utilities have expended large sums of money to implement new software
2 systems. Many of these new software systems provide a basis for scheduling labor in a
3 more efficient manner and assuring that the right equipment and material is taken to the
4 site in order to reduce overall costs, which would include cost of removal. The
5 efficiencies gained due to the expenditure of such sums is another form of economies of
6 scale (i.e., larger levels of plant being retired justifying the expenditure of funds for the
7 development of specialized tools such as computer software programs.)
8

9 **F. Emergency And Unplanned Retirements**

10
11 **Q. DOES PG&E EXPERIENCE RETIREMENTS IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS?**

12 A. Yes. All utilities experience retirement of equipment at unplanned and inconvenient
13 times.
14

15 **Q. DOES IT COST MORE TO RETIRE THE SAME ITEM OF PLANT DURING
16 EMERGENCY SITUATIONS?**

17 A. Yes, typically. PG&E acknowledges that higher replacement cost, a portion of which is
18 designated as cost of removal, is incurred during emergency events than during
19 retirements carried out under a more planned schedule.¹⁴

20 **Q. CAN YOU PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF WHY COST OF REMOVAL WOULD
21 BE HIGHER DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS?**

22 A. Yes. As a hypothetical, take the retirement of two poles installed at the same time at the
23 same location and costing the same amount. One pole is struck by lightning during a
24 storm occurring early on a Sunday morning during a holiday weekend. The other pole is
25 removed as part of a scheduled project without incident at the end of its useful life. The
26 labor costs associated with removal of that first pole will be at a multiplier many times
27 the normal pay level, while the removal of the second pole is likely using labor at
28 standard in-house rates. Since costs of removal are mostly labor-related costs, this is

¹⁴See, for example, Exhibit (PG&E -4) Chapter 16 page 16-17, Item 5. Reliability-Related Cable Replacement. There PG&E describes how replacing underground assets in a proactive manner avoids incurring higher emergency restoration costs, including overtime wages.

1 likely to have a large impact on the overall cost for each removal. This is but one
2 example of the potentially significant difference of the cost of removals that incur for the
3 same general type of activity, the retirement of identical poles. The cost for the removal
4 of the first pole would also increase for other potential variables that might occur in
5 conjunction with an emergency. For example, if the first pole noted above also happened
6 to be located at a remote location where the terrain required additional crews or
7 equipment to reestablish service to customers, costs would increase significantly.

8
9 **Q. HAS THE COMPANY ATTEMPTED TO ADJUST ITS HISTORICAL**
10 **DATABASE TO REFLECT A MORE REPRESENTATIVE COST FOR**
11 **RETIREMENT OF EQUIPMENT IN SITUATIONS WHERE EMERGENCIES**
12 **ARE NOT THE DRIVING FACTOR?**

13 A. No. The Company cannot identify what percent of its historical database is associated
14 with any particular cause of retirement.¹⁵

15
16 **Q. IS IT REASONABLE TO ANTICIPATE THAT FUTURE RETIREMENTS WILL**
17 **EXPERIENCE THE SAME PROPORTION OF RETIREMENTS DUE TO**
18 **EMERGENCY OR UNANTICIPATED SITUATIONS AS HISTORICAL**
19 **RETIREMENT?**

20 A. No. As greater amounts of the investment in an account begin to reach their ASL and a
21 greater level of retirement activity occurs, companies will implement greater levels of
22 planned retirement activity, and the proportion of retirement activity due to emergency
23 situations should be expected to be lower.

24
25 **G. Investment Mix Versus Retirement Mix**

26
27 **Q. WHAT IS THE ISSUE ASSOCIATED WITH THE MIX OF INVESTMENT**
28 **VERSUS RETIREMENT MIX?**

29 A. The Company performed its analysis, in general, by account and in a few instances by
30 subaccount where overhead and underground investment resided in the same FERC

¹⁵ Response to TURN 63 -45 for example.

1 account. But most FERC accounts contain many different types of investment. Each of
2 the different items of investment within an account can have a different net salvage
3 associated with its retirements.
4

5 **Q. HOW CAN THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF INVESTMENT IMPACT THE**
6 **RESULTING NET SALVAGE FOR AN ACCOUNT?**

7 A. Take Account 362 – Electric Distribution Station Equipment as an example. This account
8 has over 50 different categories of investment.¹⁶ Normally the vast majority of the
9 investment is in transformers and switches. However, transformers may have far different
10 salvage values and removal costs on a percentage basis than switches. Without knowing
11 what type of plant investment is reflected in the actual dollars of retirement that the
12 Company relied upon in establishing its net salvage proposal, one does not know if the
13 majority of the retirements are associated with switches, breakers, and other types of
14 devices that would provide little gross salvage and take more time to remove on a per unit
15 basis than would be the situation if transformers comprised the highest category of
16 retirements. This becomes a more important issue when one reviews the actual historical
17 data for this account; the Company experienced levels of gross salvage during the 1990s
18 and early 2000s, but has dropped to a zero level of net salvage from 2002 through the
19 present.

20 By analogy, if one assumes a fleet of taxi cabs where 5% of the investment is in Yugos,
21 and the remaining 95% of the investment is in Toyotas, analysis of historical retirement
22 activity would yield skewed results if retirement of Yugos represented 60% of the
23 historical activity and retirement of Toyotas represented only 40%. Since Yugos are no
24 longer sold due to their poor quality, while Toyotas have captured a significant portion of
25 the market due to their high quality, lack of recognition of such investment mix versus
26 retirement mix would yield noticeably inaccurate expectations for future events. In
27 setting depreciation rates for the future, the Commission is adopting a forecast of the
28 costs of future events, that is, the retirement of plant currently in service. In doing so,
29 proper correlation between the mix of investment in an account and the mix of

¹⁶ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -456.

1 retirements analyzed for indications of the future must be performed if data is available,
2 as it is for this Company.

3
4 **H. Overtime and Outside Contractor Premium Payments**

5
6 **Q. DOES THE COMPANY PAY A PREMIUM FOR OVERTIME WORK?**

7 A. Yes. My understanding is that the Company pays its employees a premium for certain
8 types of overtime work. Indeed, some of the preventative maintenance and safety
9 programs proposed elsewhere in PG&E's GRC showing seem aimed at least in part at
10 reducing costs by reducing overtime work.¹⁷

11
12 **Q. DOES PG&E PAY A PREMIUM FOR OUTSIDE CONTRACTOR WORK?**

13 A. Yes. Outside contractors are not limited to recovery of costs plus a set return on
14 investment. Outside contractors can charge two to three times the normal rate for their
15 overtime operations in responding to Company requests.¹⁸

16 **Q. WAS THE COMPANY ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE PREMIUM PAYMENTS
17 MADE FOR OVERTIME AND OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS IN ITS
18 HISTORICAL DATABASE?**

19 A. No. The Company has not identified any level of payments for overtime and payments to
20 outside contractors during the historical database it relied upon to determine its net
21 salvage proposals.¹⁹

22
23 **Q. IN YOUR VIEW, WILL THE COMPANY CONTINUE TO INCUR PREMIUMS
24 PAID IN ASSOCIATION WITH RETIREMENTS IN THE FUTURE?**

25 A. Yes, but as a smaller proportion of the overall costs of removal. The Company will
26 always incur some level of premium payments for retirement work in the future, as there

¹⁷ For example, PG&E describes the work of its Safety Department as aiming to avoid the potential for overtime.
Exhibit (PG&E-7) Chapter 2, p. 2-1.

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Response to TURN 6-11.

1 will always be some plant that fails at inconvenient times that causes overtime pay costs
2 that might otherwise have been avoided . However, as a greater proportion of retirement
3 work is performed by in-house personnel or on a planned basis, the level of such
4 premium payments reflected in the historical values should decrease as a proportion of
5 recorded costs of removal.
6

7 **Q. HAVE YOU MADE SPECIFIC ADJUSTMENTS IN YOUR ANALYSIS**
8 **ASSOCIATED WITH THIS SITUATION?**

9 A. I have not specifically adjusted my recommendation to reflect the quantification of excess
10 premium payments made by the Company. However, I took such information into
11 account, along with all other information available, in exercising my judgment and
12 arriving at my individual account recommendations.

13 **I. Electric – Account Specific**

14
15 **Account 362 – Distribution Station Equipment**

16
17 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 362 –**
18 **DISTRIBUTION STATION EQUIPMENT?**

19 A. The Company proposes a substantial increase in negative net salvage for this account.
20 The Company proposes a -40% net salvage compared to the existing -15% net salvage.²⁰
21

22 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

23 A. Gannett Fleming relied on an overall average of PG&E’s historical database from 1990 -
24 2009. Gannett Fleming further noted that there has been no salvage recorded for this

²⁰ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -456.

1 account for an extended period of time.²¹ In addition, through discovery, it was
2 determined that Gannett Fleming also appeared to consider that it cost more to retire
3 station equipment at indoor substations, but provided no further analysis of the impact of
4 such information. Gannett Fleming also noted that there will be increased capital
5 expenditures resulting in higher costs of removal, and even raised concerns regarding
6 potential increases in costs to prevent spills or unwanted run-offs at work sites.²²

7
8 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL?**

9 A. No. The Company's proposal is more negative than warranted. I recommend retention of
10 the existing -15% net salvage.

11
12 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

13 A. My recommendation relies on a review of the Company's historical data. It also takes
14 into account other facts that have an impact on the appropriate net salvage for this
15 account.

16 First, it is necessary to place the Company's proposed change in proper perspective.
17 PG&E's proposal to go from -15% to -40% for this account would produce an increase of
18 more than \$500 million in depreciation expense over the remaining life of the investment.
19 On an annual basis this single proposal would increase the test year revenue requirement
20 by more than \$17 million. The Company provides very limited support for its proposal.
21 Moreover, the proposal is inconsistent with the concept of gradualism employed in the
22 life analysis portion of the depreciation study.

23
24 From a historical standpoint, it must be noted that the Company reported gross salvage in
25 every year from the beginning of its database in 1990 through 2001. However, from 2001
26 through the present, it has not recorded a single dollar of gross salvage for retirements in
27 this account.²³ I submit that as the Company has experienced problems elsewhere in its

²¹ *Id.*

²² Response to TURN 6-22 Attachment 2 and TURN 63-33.

²³ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11-918.

1 accounting for property transactions, this represents yet another potential area of error.²⁴
2 Rather than unquestioningly relying on simple historical averages as the Company has
3 performed, it should investigate and, as necessary, correct potential problems in its
4 accounting system. For example, the retirement of any transformer should result in some
5 amount of gross salvage, given that transformers contain large quantities of copper and
6 the price of scrap copper is well over \$3 per pound. Alternatively, to the extent the
7 Company has not retired any transformers during the past decade, a situation hard to
8 imagine, then the historical database would be inappropriately skewed to a negative level
9 because the data do not reflect the impact of the retirement of transformers, even though a
10 substantial portion of the Company's investment in this account (and the subject of future
11 retirements) is in transformers. In addition, the absence of any recorded gross salvage in
12 the last six or seven years is even more puzzling given the increase in the scrap metal
13 price for copper, which has increased by hundreds of percentage points during that
14 period. Given the continued expansion of the economies in China and India, the demand
15 for scrap metal can reasonably be expected to remain high or increase, thus keeping
16 pressure on higher scrap metal prices than existed in the early 2000s or before. Under
17 these conditions, the absence of any recorded salvage value during this period should
18 have appeared unrealistic or at least surprising and engendered further investigation.

19
20 The proposed level of negative net salvage should have set off a red flag as Gannett
21 Fleming is fully aware that such a high level of negative net salvage is not only atypical
22 for California utilities, but also for the industry as a whole. Indeed, Gannett Fleming
23 notes in its study that SCE relies on a -10% net salvage,²⁵ and SDG&E relies on a -15%
24 net salvage compared to the proposed -40% for PG&E. Moreover, Gannett Fleming's
25 historical industry database yields an average net salvage of approximately negative 10%
26 and does not identify a single value so negative as it proposes for PG&E out of almost 70
27 reported values.²⁶ Thus, from an industry standpoint, the Company's proposed -40% is so
28 much more negative than that of other utilities that the Commission should find it
29 unacceptable absent significant support and justification, which PG&E has not presented.

²⁴ TURN 63-18 for example.

²⁵ Increased to a -20% in CPUC Application 10-11-015 (D.12-11-051) for SCE pages 674-675 and 677-678.

²⁶ Response to TURN 6-8 Attachment 1.

1
2 In summary, given that transformers make up a sizeable portion of the investment in this
3 account²⁷ and that the scrap price of copper has increased substantially in the last six to
4 seven years, one would expect a less negative level of net salvage than currently exists.
5 However, based on the information available at this time, a conservative value for
6 depreciation purposes would be the retention of the existing -15%. In conjunction with
7 this recommendation, I also recommend that the Commission order the Company to
8 perform a detailed analysis of the reasons why the gross salvage values for the past
9 decade have been zero even though there has been significant retirement activity, and the
10 reasons why the Commission should expect the absence of any gross salvage value to
11 continue into the future. Such information, along with all supporting documentation,
12 should be submitted with the Company's next depreciation study.
13

14 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

15 A. As compared to the utility's recommendation, my recommendation results in a
16 \$17,358,580 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of December 31,
17 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this account, my
18 recommendation results in an increase of \$0 rather than \$17.4 million under the utility's
19 request.
20

21 **Account 364 – Distribution Poles, Towers and Fixtures**
22

23 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 364 –**
24 **DISTRIBUTION POLES, TOWERS, AND FIXTURES?**

25 A. Gannett Fleming proposes a substantial decrease (a more negative value) from the
26 existing -80% to a -150% net salvage.²⁸
27

28 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

²⁷ Response to TURN 63 -17.

²⁸ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -475.

1 A. Gannett Fleming states that PG&E has little or no salvage value for disposal of poles and
2 equipment. Gannett Fleming further states that disposal costs associated with poles
3 removed is dependent on location due to local regulations. Gannett Fleming then notes
4 that the database from 1990-2009 yielded a -149% net salvage and that such data reflects
5 very large removal costs in recent years that are consistent with the pole replacement
6 program. Finally, Gannett Fleming notes that the most recent percentage of net salvage is,
7 in some cases, over 600% negative and that there are many utilities expecting negative
8 net salvage in excess of 100%.²⁹

9
10 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL?**

11 A. No. The Company's proposal is unduly negative, in substantial part because it is not
12 indicative of future trends. I recommend nothing greater than a -100% net salvage.

13
14 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

15 A. First, it is necessary to place the Company's proposal in perspective. The Company's
16 request for an additional 70 percentage points in negative net salvage results in a \$63
17 million annual revenue requirement increase based on plant as of December 31, 2011.³⁰
18 In addition, if the recent level of negative net salvage being reported (i.e., -911% in 2008
19 and -1,200% in 2009) were indicative of actual future costs, it would result in negative
20 net salvage values that differ so greatly from the rest of the utility industry that there
21 would be no comparative data whatsoever that even began to approach such values. In
22 other words, the Company's historical database that Gannett Fleming relies upon for its
23 significant movement in the level of negative net salvage is questionable on its face, and
24 should have resulted in further investigation and analyses by the Company.

25
26 In order to better understand why the historical database yields such negative values, and
27 why those values are not indicative of long-term expectations, it is necessary to
28 understand how the Company develops its cost of removal. The Company's cost of

²⁹ *Id.* at workpaper WP 11 -474.

³⁰ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 page 11 -4 Calculation of Annual Accrual with a -80% rather than -150% net salvage.

1 removal is based on a cost estimation performed for an entire replacement work order.³¹
2 There is no specific estimate made of the cost of removal activities associated with
3 retirement of a pole. Instead, the Company relies on a cost estimate that utilizes an
4 internally developed software program (Fast Flow Estimating) for determining the
5 portion of the total cost of a given work order that should be assigned to cost of removal
6 as a proxy for an estimate of the actual removal activities.³² Therefore, to the extent the
7 cost of installing a new pole increases, which it has, a fallout result of such situation is
8 that cost of removal is assumed to automatically increase in proportion to the increase in
9 the cost of the new installation.³³ Given that the cost to replace a pole is estimated to
10 increase from \$5,000 in 2001 to approximately \$12,000 in 2014, application of a preset
11 percentage estimator for cost of removal for a given work order will also increase the
12 retirement cost to reflect the higher installation costs.³⁴ According to PG&E, there has
13 been an approximate 1400% increase in the cost of installing a new pole during the past
14 10 years.³⁵

15 In my view these circumstances cried out for further investigating the development of the
16 percentage allocators applied to cost of removal associated with replacement work orders,
17 and perhaps investigating the reason for significant increase in installation costs to assess
18 whether the increased installation costs are likely to persist or are likely to produce higher
19 costs of removal. But Gannett Fleming chose to review the historical database and
20 reference net salvage values experienced by the industry as support for adoption of its
21 proposed historical average.

22
23 It is not at all clear that Gannett Fleming was aware of or considered in its analysis two
24 significant facts that should have resulted in moderation of the proposed level of increase.
25 First, the Company has increased the normal crew size utilized for pole replacement
26 projects by adding new apprentice and pre-apprentice employees to complement the

³¹ Response to TURN 46-5(a) Step 2 and Step 3.

³² Response to TURN 46-5 Step 2.

³³ Response to TURN 46-5(g).

³⁴ Response to TURN 46-10(a) and Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11-474.

³⁵ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11-474.

1 experienced Journeymen Linemen.³⁶ In addition, the number of complex pole projects
2 has also increased, thus resulting in higher average costs of pole installations.³⁷

3
4 The increased labor costs due to the addition of apprentices and pre-apprentices is a
5 practice that is temporary in nature ; “as these junior employees become journeymen
6 linemen, PG&E will be able to reduce crew sizes to historic levels.”³⁸ In other words, in
7 order to train new employees to meet the system requirements, the Company has
8 temporarily increased the size of the crews associated with its pole replacement program.
9 This temporary increase in crew size is part of the reason for the dramatic increase to the
10 cost to install new poles during recent years. Given the Company’s practice of assigning
11 an estimated standard percentage of the costs of a replacement work order in order to
12 determine cost of removal, the increased labor cost for current training is reflected in the
13 historic database as higher cost of removal. But the actual activities necessary to remove
14 a pole have not changed as dramatically as the cost of the new installation with this
15 temporary cost of training for apprentices and pre-apprentices. Therefore, in the future,
16 even under the Company’s practice of assigning an estimated standard percentage of the
17 total overall installation cost of a replacement work order to cost of removal, the total
18 cost of removal should decline compared to that reflected in recent history.

19
20 Turning to the greater number of complex poles being installed in recent periods that the
21 Company identified in discovery , this again supports a conclusion that any proposed
22 increase in negative net salvage based on the recent historical data should have been
23 modified to reflect this. More complex pole installations (i.e., those with additional
24 materials installed on the poles such as switches, transformers, cut-outs, and raptor
25 construction) will likely cost more to replace than a less complex pole installation.
26 However, the Company’s practice of assigning an estimated standard percentage of the
27 replacement work order to cost of removal resulted in a disproportionate level of such
28 type of complex pole being reflected in recent years. Moreover, the average number of
29 poles retired per year recently has declined significantly from the period from the last

³⁶ Response to TURN 46-10(b).

³⁷ *Id.*

³⁸ *Id.* at (c) (Emphasis added).

1 1990s through the mid 2000s.³⁹ The relationship of fewer poles being retired coupled
2 with a larger number of complex poles being installed compounds the problem more so.

3
4 Turning to industry comparative data, one also finds a somewhat puzzling presentation
5 by Gannett Fleming in its summary. As previously noted, Gannett Fleming noted that
6 many utilities experience high cost of removal percentage well over -100%.⁴⁰ However,
7 when Gannett Fleming's actual industry database is reviewed, one finds very limited
8 levels of negative net salvage values of -100% or greater.⁴¹ Indeed, Gannett Fleming's
9 database identifies only three values more negative than a -100% out of 65 reported
10 values. That means that only 5% of the reported industry reflects values even remotely as
11 negative as proposed by Gannett Fleming in this case. In particular, Gannett Fleming
12 does not report any values more negative than a -125%. The degree to which the -150%
13 net salvage proposed by Gannett Fleming for PG&E deviates from the industry can best
14 be identified by comparison with the average value recommended by Gannett Fleming
15 elsewhere, which is -41%.⁴² In other words, Gannett Fleming's proposal is many standard
16 deviations beyond the mean and should be identified as an outlier.

17
18 Given the historical skewing of the database as noted above, retention of the existing -
19 80% net salvage is an appropriate recommendation. However, in order to remain very
20 conservative I recommend a -100% net salvage. In conjunction with my recommendation
21 for a -100% net salvage, I also recommend that the Commission order the Company to
22 perform a detailed investigation into the appropriate cost of removing a pole along with
23 all support and justification associated with such investigation and present such
24 information in the next depreciation study. My recommendation provides the Company
25 with more than adequate financial recovery of current levels of cost of removal until such
26 time as the Company can develop and present sufficient justification for realistic and
27 appropriate cost of removal amounts for the investment in this account.⁴³

³⁹ Response to TURN 63 -25 18,149 average for 2005-2011 versus 29,866 average from 1997 -2004.

⁴⁰ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -476.

⁴¹ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1.

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ Current levels of cost of removal being incurred are between \$15 million and \$23 million annually, as noted in Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -921. A -100% net salvage will yield approximately \$90 million of

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Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?

A. As compared to the utility’s requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation results in a \$44,944,344 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this account, my recommendation results in an increase of \$ 18 million rather than \$63 million under the utility’s request.

Account 365 – Distribution Overhead Conductors and Devices

Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 365 – DISTRIBUTION OVERHEAD CONDUCTORS AND DEVICES?

A. The Company proposes a substantial decrease (a more negative value) in this account. The Company proposes a -200% net salvage compared to the existing -77% net salvage.⁴⁴

Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?

A. Gannett Fleming relied on the overall average of PG&E’s historical database from 1990 - 2009. Gannett Fleming further noted that cost of removal “is extremely high and is continually increasing;” the overall average was -244% and the five -year average was over -500%.⁴⁵ From this information, Gannett Fleming concluded that the “data indicating (200) percent net salvage rate appropriately approximates the trend of increasing net salvage for this account.” Gannett Fleming then claims that movement to a -200% is conservative considering the increase in the past five years.⁴⁶

Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?

A. No. The Company’s figure is too negative. I conservatively recommend an increase to -110% net salvage.

Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?

negative net salvage on an annual basis through depreciation rates, as calculated based on data in Exhibit (PG&E -2) Chapter 11 page 11-4.

⁴⁴ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -484.

⁴⁵ *Id.*

⁴⁶ *Id.*

1 A. This account represents the single largest dollar level of investment for any account on
2 the Company's system.⁴⁷ As previously discussed, the Company's proposed -200% net
3 salvage results in over \$220 million in annual revenue requirements based on plant as of
4 December 31, 2011. Of that, \$136 million represents the revenue requirement impact of
5 the Company's requested increase in this case. Proposed changes in revenue requirements
6 of this magnitude demand substantial justification, which PG&E has not presented.

7
8 I have relied on the historical database to a lesser extent than did the Company, as is
9 appropriate here. It is known that the Company's database contains errors in the level of
10 reported retirements. Also known is that the recent years in the Company's historical
11 database include much higher labor costs than the amounts likely to be incurred in the
12 future due to the increase in crew size performing installation and removal activities in
13 order to train apprentices and pre-apprentices. Considering those factors, the change
14 proposed by Gannett Fleming for net salvage is not warranted.

15 Viewed from an industry comparative standpoint, the Gannett Fleming's proposed -200%
16 represents an outlier, even when only measured against other California utilities. Indeed,
17 in SCE's recent rate proceeding, the utility requested and received permission to change
18 the prior existing -100% net salvage to a -110% net salvage.⁴⁸ The substantial difference
19 between Gannett Fleming's proposal in this case and its own database for other utilities
20 further illustrates the unusual level proposed for PG&E. Gannett Fleming's industry
21 database does not contain a value for other utilities more negative than a -100% net
22 salvage and reflects an overall average of approximately -35%. In other words, what
23 Gannett Fleming is proposing for PG&E is approximately six times the average level it
24 proposed for other utilities.

25
26 My recommendation also reflects a realistic application of the concept of gradualism.
27 Reliance on some form of gradualism is especially important in this situation given the
28 Company's poor historical database and the level of costs being recorded, not necessarily

⁴⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 pages 11-2 through 11-10.

⁴⁸ CPUC Application 10-11-015; D.12-11-051, pp. 674-675 and 678-679.

1 incurred, for cost of removal. In conjunction with my recommendation, I further request
2 that the Commission order the Company to perform a detailed investigation of the actual
3 costs (as distinct from allocated costs) incurred to retire overhead conductors rather than
4 simply applying percent allocation factors to total replacement work order costs.
5 Moreover, such investigation and analysis must demonstrate that the high level of
6 negative net salvage being reported by PG&E, especially when compared to other
7 utilities, is not due to unusual or inappropriate actions in cost of removal activities or the
8 allocation of costs associated with replacement work orders. The Company must clearly
9 identify what it is about its cost of removal practices for the investment in this account
10 that leads it to seek a net salvage value far more negative than the average for all other
11 utilities. The Company must also provide detailed support and justification for any
12 conclusion it presents.

13
14 It is further worth noting that my recommendation for a -110% net salvage still provides
15 the Company in excess of \$120 million of annual negative net salvage based on plant as
16 of December 31, 2011. This level of negative net salvage is 4.5 times the highest level of
17 negative net salvage ever reported by the Company in any given year and is 9.5 times the
18 average level of negative net salvage experienced by the Company since 1990.

19
20 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

21 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
22 results in a \$99,658,726 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
23 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
24 account, my recommendation results in an increase of \$ 37 million rather than \$1 36
25 million under the utility's request.

26
27 **Account 366 – Distribution Underground Conduit**

28
29 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 366 –**
30 **DISTRIBUTION UNDERGROUND CONDUIT?**

1 A. The Company proposes a -100% net salvage.⁴⁹ This level represents a level five times the
2 current -20% net salvage.⁵⁰

3

4 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

5 A. Gannett Fleming relied on the average historical database from 1990-2009 which
6 “indicated no salvage but very constant high cost of removal.”⁵¹ Gannett Fleming notes
7 that the overall net salvage was a -102%, and the most recent five years was a -311% net
8 salvage. From these items of information, Gannett Fleming concluded that “a move in
9 that [more negative net salvage] direction is warranted.”

10

11 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

12 A. No. The Company’s proposal is too negative compared to the type of investment at issue
13 and industry information. I conservatively recommend retention of the existing salvage.

14 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

15 A. Again it is necessary to place the Company’s request in proper perspective. The
16 Company’s requested -100% net salvage amount would result in PG&E collecting \$2.261
17 billion future negative net salvage costs. Using the requested 38.73-year remaining life
18 for this account, this means the Company is requesting \$58 million of annual revenue
19 requirements associated solely for net salvage of the investment in this account as of the
20 end of 2011.⁵² This request for a \$58 million annual revenue requirement is 16 times the
21 highest level of annual negative net salvage the Company has recorded for this account
22 from 1990-2011.⁵³ Moreover, it is 50 times the average level of negative net salvage
23 incurred during the last 22 years corresponding to the Company’s historical database.⁵⁴
24 Further perspective is gained by a brief review of other California utilities, as noted by
25 the Company in its depreciation study. Indeed, the Company identifies -20% net salvage

⁴⁹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -494.

⁵⁰ *Id.*

⁵¹ *Id.*

⁵² Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 page 11 -4.

⁵³ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -925.

⁵⁴ *Id.*

1 for SCE and -40% net salvage for SDG&E.⁵⁵ Gannett Fleming's proposal in this case is
2 33% higher than the highest value it has recommended elsewhere.⁵⁶ The Commission and
3 customers are entitled to significant support and justification when the Company
4 proposes a value that represents an outlier compared to an industry benchmarking
5 analysis. It must also be noted that Gannett Fleming failed to rely on the concept of
6 gradualism for the net salvage proposals as it did for the life analysis portion of the same
7 study.

8
9 Based on Company specific data, it appears that Gannett Fleming's recommendation fails
10 to correlate the type of retirement activity with the corresponding negative net salvage.
11 As noted in the Company's life analysis, "conduit is generally retired only when
12 accidentally dug up due to relocations or upgrades;"⁵⁷ otherwise it is typically retired in
13 place, a much lower-cost alternative. The experience reflected in the Company's
14 database is likely to be disproportionately associated with emergency retirements.
15 Emergency retirements normally result in un usually high levels of cost of removal given
16 the very nature of the situation. However, in any instance, it is not expected that the vast
17 majority of the \$2.3 billion of investment in this account will be retired associated with
18 emergency situations, relocation requests, or an unusually large number of small
19 retirements.⁵⁸ As such, the historical database does not provide a valid basis upon which
20 to project future costs for the vast majority of investment in the account. This is
21 especially true when the his torical database relied upon reflects less than one percent of
22 retirement activity for the entire 22 years of historical data presented by the Company.⁵⁹
23 The Company's database is statistically not robust even absent consideration of the
24 unusual activity reflected therein.

25
26 Next, given the limited level of historic retirement activity, it is worth investigating the
27 years in which the greatest dollar level of retirement activity occurred for indications of
28 any potential economies of scale. Indeed, two out o f the 22 years in the Company's

⁵⁵ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -494.

⁵⁶ Response to TURN 28-3 Attachment 1.

⁵⁷ *Id.*

⁵⁸ Response to TURN 63-37 where PG&E notes over 10,000 work order s over a two-year period.

⁵⁹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -925.

1 database reflect over 40% of the entire retirement activity during the two decade period.⁶⁰
2 When the two years with by far the greatest level of retirement activity are reviewed, the
3 average negative net salvage declines to -40%. While a -40% net salvage is still a very
4 high number, likely due to the inclusion of significant levels of emergency retirement
5 situations, it at least produces a more realistic but high side starting point for the analysis.
6 Gannett Fleming states that it does not rely on individual year values because of a
7 concern relating to potential timing differences in the recording of values.⁶¹ This concern
8 has not been shown to have any meaningful impact. Indeed, Gannett Fleming and PG&E
9 admit that neither has performed any analysis that would provide the Commission with
10 the average or maximum time period between recording a retirement and the associated
11 costs of removal and salvage.⁶²

12
13 Another consideration for a much less negative level of net salvage than proposed by
14 Gannett Fleming is the fact that underground conduit may in fact be abandoned in place
15 in certain instances. Thus, the net salvage level associated with abandonment situations
16 normally produces nominal levels of cost of removal and thus nominal levels of negative
17 net salvage. But if PG&E's historical data for this account reflects a disproportionate
18 amount of retirements other than abandonments in place, the resulting average would be
19 an overly negative forecast going forward.

20
21 In summary, Gannett Fleming has not demonstrated that an increase to a level that is five
22 times the existing level of net salvage is warranted. Moreover, Gannett Fleming fails to
23 investigate the impact of emergency retirement situations on the historical database.
24 Simply put, Gannett Fleming incorrectly assumes that the historical database is indicative
25 of the future retirement scenarios for the entire \$2.3 billion investment, especially given
26 the statement in the life analysis portion of the depreciation study that underground
27 conduit is normally not retired unless due to dig-ins or other unusual circumstances.
28 Further red flags should have been seen when comparisons were made with other
29 California utilities, and when Gannett Fleming considered its own experience working

⁶⁰ *Id.* for years 1999 and 2003.

⁶¹ Response to TURN 63-36.

⁶² Response to TURN 28-20.

1 with other utilities which has not yielded a value as negative as proposed in this case in
2 all its prior proceedings. In addition, when the Company's proposal to collect over \$58
3 million of annual costs for future net salvage is compared to the current cost of removal
4 activity, which is closer to \$1.5 million per year, further analysis and investigation should
5 have been performed and presented. Therefore, while retention of the existing -20% net
6 salvage would be reasonable and appropriate, a conservative recommendation of a -40%
7 based on Company actual experience corresponding to the two years that reflect 40% of
8 the entire retirement activity during the past 22 years is reasonable under the
9 circumstances. In conjunction with my recommendation for such a high level of negative
10 net salvage, I further recommend that the Commission order the Company to perform a
11 detailed analysis of retirement activity and corresponding costs associated with
12 underground conduit and present such analysis along with all support and justification in
13 its next depreciation study.

14
15 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

16 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
17 results in a \$35,029,338 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
18 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
19 account, my recommendation results in a \$ 0 change rather than a \$35 million increase
20 under the utility's request.

21
22 **Account 367 – Distribution Underground Conductor and Devices**

23
24 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 367 –**
25 **DISTRIBUTION UNDERGROUND CONDUCTOR AND DEVICES?**

26 A. The Company proposes a -50% net salvage.⁶³ This proposed level represents a more
27 negative value than the existing -40%.⁶⁴

28
29 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

⁶³ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -504.

⁶⁴ *Id.*

1 A. Gannett Fleming simply notes that there is a high level of gross salvage, but that cost of
2 removal is even higher in its historical database. It further notes that the average for the
3 period studied is -46% and the most recent five-year average is -60%. It then concludes
4 that based on recent trends, the data “suggests” a net salvage level more negative than the
5 presently authorized -40%.⁶⁵

6
7 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

8 A. No. I recommend a -35% net salvage.
9

10 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

11 A. My recommendation is also based on a review of the Company’s historical data, but
12 tempered with Company-specific information and industry practices.
13

14 First, from a historical data standpoint, the level of retirement activity varies greatly
15 depending on whether the retirements are due to an emergency failure of direct buried
16 underground cable or planned replacement of cable in a conduit. In fact, Gannett
17 Fleming’s interview notes identify that when upgrading underground cable, the Company
18 employs a process where it can “usually pull -out and pull -in” conductor when dealing
19 with cable in a conduit.⁶⁶ In other words, limited digging is required to gain access to the
20 cable in conduit, resulting in reduced levels of cost of removal for newer cable in conduit.
21 For example, the year with the lowest dollar level of retirement activity during the past 15
22 years results in the highest level of negative net salvage.⁶⁷ Further, the second -lowest
23 year of retirement activity during the past decade results in the second -highest level of
24 negative net salvage.⁶⁸ These values appear to indicate emergency replacement situations
25 or potentially a disproportionate level of retirement of direct buried cable, given that
26 many years surrounding these values are in the upper -20% range.⁶⁹
27

⁶⁵ *Id.*

⁶⁶ Response to TURN 6-22 Attachment 2.

⁶⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11-927 for 2009.

⁶⁸ *Id.* for 2010.

⁶⁹ *Id.*

1 This limited replacement effort when dealing with cable in conduit is important when
2 dealing with replacement situations.⁷⁰ Recall the Company assigns a percentage of the
3 entire work order cost to cost of removal. Therefore, as the Company admits, the overall
4 cost of a replacement work order can be minimized by using the easier “pull-out and pull-
5 in” process when dealing with cable in conduit, then cost of removal is reduced. Given
6 that “since 1995 all underground cable is in conduit,”⁷¹ it stands to reason that overall the
7 level of negative net salvage should become less negative in the future given well over
8 50% of the investment in this account has been added since 1994.

9
10 From an economies of scale standpoint, when the four years with the largest level of
11 retirements over the past 10 years are reviewed, they yield a -32% net salvage.⁷² This
12 value compares to a -152% net salvage for the two years with the lowest level of
13 retirement activity (about half the level of activity in the years with the largest level of
14 retirements).

15
16 From an industry comparative standpoint, the proposed -50% net salvage is also unduly
17 high. Gannett Fleming’s database yields an industry average value less negative than -
18 20% for its industry expectations.⁷³ Therefore, a small reduction from the existing -40%
19 to a -35% is warranted at this time.

20
21 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

22 A. As compared to the utility’s requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
23 results in a \$17,395,145 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
24 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
25 account, my recommendation results in a decrease of \$6 million rather than an increase of
26 \$12 million under the utility’s request.

27

⁷⁰ Response to TURN 63 -42.

⁷¹ Response to TURN 6 -22 Attachment 2.

⁷² Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -927 for 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2011.

⁷³ SCE did retain a -60% net salvage in its recent rate case.

1 **Account 368 – DISTRIBUTION LINE TRANSFORMERS - OVERHEAD**

2
3 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 368.01 –**
4 **DISTRIBUTION LINE TRANSFORMERS - OVERHEAD?**

5 A. The Company proposes -25% net salvage for this account.⁷⁴ This represents a value more
6 than four times the existing -6% net salvage.⁷⁵

7
8 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

9 A. While Gannett Fleming states that the overall database “indicated” -11% net salvage,
10 Gannett Fleming also references that the five-year average is a -56%. Therefore, based on
11 the most recent years, net salvage was increased to -25%.⁷⁶

12
13 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

14 A. No. The Company’s proposal is too negative. I recommend a -15% net salvage.

15
16 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

17 A. My recommendation is consistent between the life and salvage portions of the
18 depreciation analysis. As noted in the life portion of the depreciation analysis, retirements
19 in this account have been due to overload conditions that result in replacements either on
20 a preventative basis or in failure mode, as well as due to deterioration and lightning
21 strikes which normally are associated with emergency situations. As previously noted,
22 when plant failures occur in such situations, it is normal to expect that the resulting cost
23 of removal will be more negative in comparison to the planned replacement retirement
24 situation associated with the vast majority of the investment in the future. In planned
25 retirement situations, lower levels of overtime likely will be incurred, the appropriate
26 replacement materials should be available on a timely basis, all of which results in an
27 overall lower replacement cost work order, all else equal. This is significant since the
28 Company allocates the overall replacement work order cost on a percentage basis to cost
29 of removal.

⁷⁴ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -513.

⁷⁵ *Id.*

⁷⁶ *Id.*

1
2 Another consideration for limiting the increase to a -15% is the fact that the Company's
3 updated database on an overall basis yields -14% net salvage if 2010 and 2011 are
4 included.⁷⁷ The practice of relying on an overall database is one utilized by Gannett
5 Fleming for numerous accounts in this proceeding. Further, limiting the increase to -15%
6 provides a level of gradualism to the extent higher levels are actually appropriate, which
7 they are not, based on the available information.

8
9 Another consideration is the fact that line transformers normally can be expected to have
10 some levels of salvageable copper. Given that the price for scrap copper has increased
11 hundred of percent in the last decade, and continues to remain at high levels, indicates the
12 cost of removal percentages should become less negative in the long run due to the higher
13 costs of scrap copper.

14
15 Further, Gannett Fleming's proposal for a -25% net salvage is at the high end of its own
16 industry database.⁷⁸

17 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

18 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
19 results in a \$7,356,870 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
20 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
21 account, my recommendation results in an increase of \$ 7 million rather than \$ 14 million
22 under the utility's request.

23
24 **Account 369.01 – Distribution Services - Overhead**

25
26 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 369.01 –**
27 **DISTRIBUTION SERVICES - OVERHEAD?**

⁷⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -929.

⁷⁸ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1 with the exclusion of the singular outlier for Company 52.

1 A. The Company proposes a -135% net salvage.⁷⁹ This represents a substantially more
2 negative net salvage value than the existing -75%.⁸⁰

3
4 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSED CHANGE?**

5 A. Gannett Fleming again relied on a historical average for a portion of its basis. The overall
6 net salvage average was -56%, but Gannett Fleming noted that in the most recent five-
7 year period the average had decreased to -177%. From this historical analysis, Gannett
8 Fleming concludes that net salvage might be increased (become more negative) to reflect
9 statistical analysis, but determined that a move to a -175% “is a large move, therefore at
10 this time we will limit the increase and will recommend a -135% net salvage.”⁸¹

11
12 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

13 A. No. The Company’s proposal is too negative. I recommend nothing more negative than
14 the current -75% negative net salvage.

15
16 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

17 A. Again, it is necessary to place the Company’s proposal in proper perspective. The
18 Company’s request for a -135% net salvage represents the most negative net salvage
19 value identified by Gannett Fleming for investment in this account both in California and
20 in the industry.⁸² Further, the Company’s proposed 60 percentage point increase in
21 negative net salvage results in an approximate \$13 million annual increase in revenue
22 requirement.

23
24 The Company’s proposed substantial change is based on a review of five years of
25 historical data without any meaningful investigation or discussion as to the
26 representativeness of such limited time frame. Gannett Fleming’s reliance on a more
27 recent five-year period in fact is misplaced. The Company admits that it has increased its
28 crew size to incorporate a temporary increase for new apprentice and pre-apprentice

⁷⁹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -533.

⁸⁰ *Id.*

⁸¹ *Id.*

⁸² Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1.

1 employees.⁸³ This increase in crew size is temporary in nature, and as these junior level
2 employees become journeymen linemen, the Company plans on reducing crew sizes back
3 to historic levels, thus returning net salvage relationships to more realistic prior levels.⁸⁴
4

5 Another consideration is the fact that the services retirements reflected in the Company's
6 data base were typically replaced due to failures. Thus, the historic data appears to reflect
7 a level of emergency retirement situations that is likely to be higher than the proportion
8 going forward. It is expected that disproportionately high levels of negative net salvage
9 were incurred due to the emergency situations, particularly due to corresponding
10 overtime charges.

11
12 Review of the historical database updated through 2011 yields a -76% overall average.⁸⁵
13 Gannett Fleming relied on the overall database for other accounts; for this account it is
14 even more appropriate given the unusual staffing levels reflected in recent historical data.
15 Indeed, the retention of the existing -75% net salvage still leaves the Company near the
16 high end of the industry range for net salvage and still yields a dollar level of negative net
17 salvage on an annual basis greater than the Company has experienced in any annual
18 period reflected in its 22-year historical database.

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

20 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
21 results in a \$12,702,500 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
22 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
23 account, my recommendation results in no increase rather than \$ 13 million under the
24 utility's request.

25
26 **J. Gas – Account Specific**

27
28 **Account 376 – Gas Distribution Mains**

29

⁸³ Response to TURN 46-10(b) and (c).

⁸⁴ *Id.*

⁸⁵ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -933.

1 **Q. WHAT NET SALVAGE DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 376**
2 **– GAS DISTRIBUTION MAINS?**

3 A. The Company proposes a -65% net salvage.⁸⁶ This represents a more negative value than
4 the existing -52%.⁸⁷

5
6 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

7 A. Gannett Fleming proposes a -65% value based on a review of the 1990 -2009 historical
8 database. The average for that period was -63% and Gannett Fleming rounded the value
9 up to -65%. Gannett Fleming states that recent years have shown a -100% cost of
10 removal in a number of years and that management confirms that pipe generally is not
11 salvageable. Gannett Fleming further notes that there is very little insertion of pipe in the
12 replacement program and that most replacements require an open trench, increasing the
13 cost of retiring the pipe being replaced. Gannett Fleming concludes its analysis by stating
14 that the existing -52% is too low that that a -65% net salvage is more representative.⁸⁸

15
16 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

17 A. No. Gannett Fleming’s proposal is too negative based on the available information. I
18 recommend a -50% net salvage.

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

20 A. The Company’s presentation is predicated on a flawed database and fails to recognize
21 corrected data available through 2011, the time period actually reflective of the data in
22 the Company’s depreciation study. When corrected Company data for the period 1990
23 through 2011 is reviewed in total, the Company’s reported level of negative net salvage is
24 reduced to -59%.⁸⁹ However, there has been no demonstration that the retirement pattern
25 reflected in the overall historical period is representative of the future retirement
26 expectations for current plant in service. Further, Gannett Fleming’s mechanical
27 averaging of many years of data does not capture trends in the data which may be

⁸⁶ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -671.

⁸⁷ *Id.*

⁸⁸ *Id.*

⁸⁹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -953 and response to TURN 46 -12. It must be noted that any additional correction of historical data should result in a further decline in the level of negative net salvage since the error is related to the underreporting of retirement dollars.

1 reflective of changes in the mix of plant or other changing situations. Indeed, the trend in
2 the data is to ward a less negative level of net salvage and is more indicative of -40% net
3 salvage level.⁹⁰

4
5 Another consideration is the level of retirement activity in any given year. Years with
6 greater levels of retirement activity may be indicative of situations reflecting economies
7 of scale or greater levels of planned retirements versus emergency related retirements.
8 Cost of removal is normally higher in emergency replacement situations. A review of the
9 historical data identifies four years with noticeably higher levels of retirement activity.⁹¹
10 The average net salvage for those four years was -30%.⁹² Such lesser levels of negative
11 net salvage may be indicative of either economies of scale or fewer emergency related or
12 unusual retirement projects, or fewer open trench replacements. In this case the years
13 with higher levels of retirement activity should be more indicative of the negative net
14 salvage that will be experienced by the vast majority of the \$2.1 billion of investment in
15 the account in the future. It must be noted that Gannett Fleming states that it does not rely
16 on individual year values because of a concern relating to potential timing differences in
17 the recording of values.⁹³ This concern has not been shown to have any meaningful
18 impact. Indeed, Gannett Fleming and PG&E admit that neither has performed any
19 analysis that would provide the Commission with the average or maximum time period
20 between recording a retirement and the associated costs of removal and salvage.⁹⁴

21
22 Yet another consideration for a less negative level of net salvage than proposed by the
23 Company is comparison with industry information. Gannett Fleming's industry database
24 for Account 376 yields an average negative net salvage of 35%.⁹⁵ In addition, the other
25 two major California gas utilities have less negative levels of net salvage than proposed

⁹⁰ *Id.*

⁹¹ Average annual retirement from 1990 -2011 was \$5.3 million. The highest four years of annual retirement activity averaged \$11.6 million.

⁹² *Id.* for the years 1998 through 2000, and 2010 (\$13,901,949 of negative net salvage / \$46,534,377 of retirement activity = -30% net salvage).

⁹³ Response to TURN 63 -36.

⁹⁴ Response to TURN 28 -20.

⁹⁵ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 2.

1 by the Company and average only -50%.⁹⁶ From an industry comparative standpoint, my
2 recommendation for -50% net salvage is also excessively negative, but not to the same
3 extent as is the Company's proposal.
4

5 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

6 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
7 results in a \$ 9,194,570 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
8 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
9 account, my recommendation results in a decrease of \$1 million rather than an increase of
10 \$9 million under the utility's request.
11

12 **Account 380 – Gas Services**

13
14 **Q. WHAT NET SALVAGE DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 380**
15 **– GAS SERVICES?**

16 A. The Company proposes a -180% net salvage.⁹⁷ This represents a substantial increase in
17 the level of negative net salvage from the existing -105% net salvage level.⁹⁸

18 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

19 A. The Company's proposal is based on Gannett Fleming's review of historical data from
20 1990 through 2009. During this period, Gannett Fleming calculates a -182% net salvage
21 average, with five years reporting over -250%. Gannett Fleming also considered that
22 analysis of more recent year bands reflect an increasing trend in cost of removal which
23 further resulted in its reliance on the rounded overall average of a -180%.⁹⁹ Gannett
24 Fleming also claims that higher labor rates and potential environmental and situational
25 concerns as factors.¹⁰⁰
26

⁹⁶ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -671 and the -55% net salvage recently approved by the CPUC in Application 10-12-005 (D. 13-05-010) for SCG.

⁹⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -701.

⁹⁸ *Id.*

⁹⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰⁰ Response to TURN 65 -25.

1 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL?**

2 A. No. The Company's proposal is unduly negative. I conservatively recommend retention
3 of the existing -105% net salvage.
4

5 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

6 A. First, it is necessary to place the Company's request in proper perspective. Not only is the
7 Company's requested -180% net salvage excessively negative compared to other
8 California gas utilities, it is also excessively negative compared to the industry. For
9 California utilities, the Company identifies -90% net salvage for SDG&E, and -85% for
10 SCG.¹⁰¹ In the test year 2012 GRC for SDG&E and SCG, the utilities proposed and the
11 Commission adopted a negative net salvage rate of -80% for SDG&E and SCG, or 5 to
12 10 percentage points less negative than the prior values.¹⁰² PG&E has not explained what
13 it is about its gas service investment or the practices underlying the recorded removal
14 costs and salvage that would produce such disparate figures for the major California gas
15 utilities. Further, based on Gannett Fleming's industry database, the industry average for
16 this account is approximately -70%.¹⁰³
17

18 Another problem is that the net salvage database relied upon by Gannett Fleming reflects
19 accounting errors. The Company failed to properly transfer retirements between various
20 software systems, which resulted in erroneously reported lower levels of retirements.¹⁰⁴
21 Underreporting of retirements inflates the percentage level of negative net salvage for this
22 and other accounts because the retirements are the denominator of the ratio. The overall
23 database average for the 20 -year period reviewed by Gannett Fleming declines by 26
24 percentage points after limited additional retirement activity for 2010 and 2011 are
25 included.¹⁰⁵ However, the limited corrections still appear to overstate the negative level
26 of net salvage reported in historical values. PG&E has not explained how the accounting
27 errors appeared for the first time in 2010, so there is some question in my mind as to

¹⁰¹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 at workpaper WP 11 -702.

¹⁰² Application numbers 10 -12-005 for SDG&E and 10 -12-006 and SCG (D.13 -05-010).

¹⁰³ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 2.

¹⁰⁴ Response to TURN 46 -12.

¹⁰⁵ *Id.* and Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -959 which reflects a corrected overall database value of -165%.

1 whether the accounting errors began to appear earlier than 2010 and influenced the
2 Company's recorded values that result in the requested level of net salvage, which place
3 the proposed value in the position of being an outlier.
4

5 Yet another concern is Gannett Fleming's treatment of limited additional years of data.
6 As previously noted, Gannett Fleming's practice for this account is to rely on the
7 resulting averages of recorded historical transactions from 1990 through 2009. The
8 failure to test the reasonableness of such a mechanized analysis results in unrealistic and
9 inappropriate proposals. For example, PG&E relied on a 10-year mechanical averaging of
10 historical transactions in its 1999 General Rate Case. This mechanical practice of simply
11 averaging values without an explanation of the further investigation that was performed
12 and what that investigation yielded caused the Company to propose a -350% net salvage
13 in that case.¹⁰⁶ The Commission denied the Company's request in that case and retained
14 the existing -120%. In the very next depreciation case, the 2003 General Rate Case,
15 Gannett Fleming again relied on mechanical averaging of limited updated historical data.
16 In that case Gannett Fleming changed its previous proposal of -350% to -85%.¹⁰⁷ In this
17 case, Gannett Fleming still failed to present testimony describing a more thorough
18 evaluation of the historical database to determine the differences within the recorded
19 transactions, but again proposes a substantial change in net salvage from a -105% to a -
20 180%. Gannett Fleming's assumption that mechanical averaging of recorded transactions
21 yields the appropriate net salvage ratio is not substantially different from the approach in
22 PG&E's 1999 GRC that the Commission rejected. It would be inappropriate to adopt the
23 results of that type of approach where, as here, the result is an additional \$2 billion of net
24 salvage over the life of the plant.¹⁰⁸
25

26 The need to investigate and, if necessary, make adjustments for different periods of
27 historical transactions is demonstrated by the fact that PG&E employs many different
28 methods when replacing services.¹⁰⁹ Depending on the method employed the replacement

¹⁰⁶ CPUC Application 97-12-020, Exhibit 367 at page 92.

¹⁰⁷ CPUC Application A.02-11-017, Exhibit (PG&E-6) Chapter 10 workpaper 10-226.

¹⁰⁸ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 page 11-7 value of \$2.6 billion times 75% (180% - 105%).

¹⁰⁹ Response to TURN 65-24.

1 of a service can range from 20 man hours to 128 man hours, not taking into consideration
2 special circumstances or overtime costs. ¹¹⁰ When variances of such magnitude exist,
3 simple mechanical averaging of data can fail to produce an appropriate net salvage value.
4 The analysis should identify and assess the impact of the different methods and, by
5 extension, the resulting net salvage values.

6
7 In addition, the database for this account illustrates a particular challenge of developing a
8 forecast of future cost of removal and gross salvage costs based on the retirement of a
9 very small percentage of the total plant investment in the account. Here the annual level
10 of retirement activity reflected in the database relied on by Gannett Fleming is very small
11 in comparison to the plant in service. Under these circumstances, the Commission has
12 cause to be concerned that the recorded retirements do not reach a level of materiality,
13 and any conclusions drawn from the data lack sufficient support as a result. In fact, when
14 the two years with the greatest dollar level of retirement activity are reviewed, the
15 resulting net salvage values are a -35% and a -32%, respectively. ¹¹¹ This means that,
16 when more material levels of retirement activity are analyzed, the results indicate much
17 less negative levels of net salvage, more indicative of what other utilities are
18 experiencing. Those years with higher levels of retirement activity may also be indicative
19 of the concept of economies of scale that can be expected to occur in the future when the
20 higher levels of retirement activity are more regularly experienced. For this account,
21 there is also the question of whether the recorded retirements represent a reasonably
22 representative mix of retirement activity that can be expected in the future. In other
23 words, many services are currently retired due to emergency situations (e.g., dig-ins)
24 versus more planned retirement events (e.g., relocations). Under emergency situations,
25 more negative levels of net salvage are expected due to the lack of preplanning and
26 related level of unknowns, including potential high levels of overtime. I suspect that even
27 the Company would agree that going forward, the proportion of the \$2.5 billion of current
28 investment in gas distribution services that is retired in emergency situations will decline,
29 while the proportion that is retired as part of planned replacements will increase.

¹¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹¹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -959.

1
2 Finally, even with retention of the existing -105% net salvage, the Company's net salvage
3 level is extremely negative, not only in comparison to other California utilities but in
4 particular to the industry. Therefore, in conjunction with my recommendation of a -105%
5 net salvage, I further recommend that the Commission require the Company to perform a
6 detailed investigation of why it is recording such high levels of negative net salvage (e.g.,
7 emergency situations, unexpectedly high levels of overtime, improper accounting, etc.)
8 and present such analyses along with all support in its next depreciation study.
9

10 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

11 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
12 results in a \$ 52,553,020 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
13 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
14 account, my recommendat ion results in n o increase rather than \$ 53 million under the
15 utility's request.

16 **K. Common Plant – Account Specific**

17
18 **Account 390 – Common Plant Structures and Improvements**

19
20 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 390 – COMMON**
21 **PLANT STRUCTURES AND IMPROVEMENTS?**

22 A. The Company proposes to retain the existing -10% net salvage for the investment in this
23 account.¹¹²
24

¹¹² Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -775.

1 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

2 A. Gannett Fleming calculated an overall average from its historic database and noted that it
3 resulted in a -25% net salvage. It further noted that more recent years show the net
4 salvage increased (became less negative) to a -17% based on a five -year average, with
5 some years falling below -10%. Based on these items of information, Gannett Fleming
6 elected to retain the existing -10% net salvage. When asked to provide a detailed
7 explanation of how and why it recorded retirement, cost of removal and gross salvage
8 values for a number of the years in the historical database, PG&E merely said that it
9 “incurred retirement, cost of removal and gross salvage values ... that are consistent with
10 building and maintenance requirements.” PG&E apparently could not provide any further
11 explanation specifically supporting its historical cost of removal levels, other than it
12 believes that such activity is indicative of what can be expected in the future.¹¹³

13
14 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

15 A. No. The Company’s proposal is unrealistic based on the type of investment at issue . I
16 believe that a positive 25% net salvage is an extremely conservative figure that in reality
17 will significantly understate the net gain that the Company would obtain if it were to sell
18 its buildings at time of retirement.

19 I renew the offer I have made in previous PG&E GRCs – rather than collect negative net
20 salvage for its investment in Account 390, it should adopt a net salvage of 0% for this
21 account. Once each of its buildings has reached 120% of the Company’s assumed ASL ,
22 it should turn the building over to me, at no cost to the utility or its ratepayers . I will take
23 responsibility for the cost of removal so that ratepayers do not have to incur any such
24 proposed cost. As proposed, my recommendation would save customers over \$112
25 million.

26
27 **Q. CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE BASIS FOR YOUR ALTERNATIVE**
28 **RECOMMENDATION?**

¹¹³ Response to TURN 65 -32.

1 A. Yes. In the past GRCs the Company elected not to accept my offer. Assuming that is the
2 case here, my alternative recommendation is the Commission adopt a positive 25% net
3 salvage in recognition of the significant value the Company is likely to obtain when it
4 does ultimately dispose of such facilities. An office complex in downtown San
5 Francisco, with almost two million square feet, is an extremely valuable structure both
6 now and well into the future. In reality, for the San Francisco Bay area, as well as most
7 other metropolitan areas, there has been a significant increase in the value of buildings
8 located in the downtown core as many decades pass. Indeed, Bloomberg.com reported in
9 December 2012 that occupancy costs surged 36.4% in downtown San Francisco to \$90 a
10 square foot due to demand from technology-industry tenants.¹¹⁴ Given that the
11 Company's general office complex is 1.8 million square feet implies that it could rent for
12 as much as approximately \$160 million annually. Such high potential for rental income
13 makes it hard to imagine that PG&E could not find a buyer for its complex at the time of
14 retirement and not only avoid tearing the complex down, but actually obtain a sizeable
15 gain.

16
17 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

18 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
19 results in a \$ 15,945,647 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
20 December 31, 2011. As compared to the currently authorized net salvage rate for this
21 account, my recommendation results in a decrease of \$ 16 million rather than no change
22 under the utility's request.

23
24
25 **SECTION IV: MASS PROPERTY – LIFE**

26
27 **A. General**

28
29 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LIFE PORTION OF A DEPRECIATION**
30 **ANALYSIS?**

¹¹⁴ <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-12-14/san-francisco-office-costs-increase-the-most-in-the-world.html>.

1 A. The purpose of a life analysis is to determine the ASL, the dispersion pattern, and
2 remaining life for each account or subaccount. This information is necessary in order to
3 properly perform the depreciation calculation previously noted. A longer ASL normally
4 results in a longer remaining life and therefore in a lower annual depreciation expense.
5 Alternatively, a shorter ASL will normally reduce the remaining life and increase annual
6 depreciation expense. The dispersion pattern, as established by an Iowa Survivor curve, is
7 also important, as it is critical in the overall selection process of the best fitting results.
8 The same ASL with different Iowa Survivor curves also results in different remaining
9 lives. Gannett Fleming has already provided information relating to Iowa Survivor curves
10 that are used in the life analysis process; as such I do not repeat that information.

11

12 **Q. WHAT ARE THE MAIN TOOLS UTILIZED IN PERFORMING LIFE**
13 **ANALYSES?**

14 A. Life analyses are normally performed either through the use of actuarial or semi-actuarial
15 analyses. Actuarial analyses rely on aged data. In other words, when an item of property
16 is retired the age at retirement is known. This is identical to the type of analysis
17 performed by insurance companies in obtaining life tables in order to establish premiums.
18 Semi-actuarial analyses are performed in instances when the age of plant retired is not
19 known.

20 **Q. WHAT METHOD DID THE COMPANY USE?**

21 A. The Company employed a semi-actuarial analysis. The semi-actuarial analysis relied
22 upon is the Simulated Plant Record Balance method ("SPR"). This approach relies on
23 simulated generic Iowa Survivor curves with a corresponding ASL. The simulation
24 matches the best statistical interrelationship of additions, retirements and balances on an
25 annual basis. The lowest sum of least squared differences between actual balances and
26 simulated balances, based on an assumed curve and life combination, produces a
27 potential range of results from which to estimate the future pattern of retirements for the
28 current investment.

29

1 **Q. IN PERFORMING SPR ANALYSES, ARE THERE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES**
2 **AVAILABLE?**

3 A. Yes. Some of the key alternatives or assumptions are the number of experience bands or
4 which bands to rely upon, the length of experience bands to rely upon, as well as what
5 criteria should be employed to rank and determine the best fitting results of each SPR
6 analysis.

7
8 **Q. WHAT ARE EXPERIENCE BANDS?**

9 A. Experience bands are simply the time period for which historical retirement activity is
10 reviewed. For example, plant placed in service from 1910 through 2009 would form a
11 placement band (i.e., the historical database). A full experience band would simulate the
12 retirement activity over the full time frame 1910 through 2009. Alternatively, a 10 -year
13 experience band might still rely on the full placement band but only review the annual
14 retirement activity for the period 2001 through 2009. By reviewing varying lengths of
15 experience bands, one can identify potential trends and changing patterns in life
16 characteristics.

17
18 **Q. WHAT EXPERIENCE BANDS DID THE COMPANY SELECT?**

19 A. Gannett Fleming generally selected four experience bands. The four experience bands
20 generally employed are the full band, a 1982-2009, a 1987-2009, and a 1992-2009
21 band.¹¹⁵

22 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE SPR METHOD.**

23 A. In the SPR method, an Iowa Survivor curve and ASL are selected as a starting point of
24 the analysis and its survivor factors applied to the actual annual additions to produce a
25 sequence of annual balance totals. These simulated balances are compared with the actual
26 balances by statistical analysis. Through multiple comparisons, the mortality
27 characteristics (as defined by an ASL and Iowa Survivor curve) that are the best match to
28 the property in the account can be determined.

29

¹¹⁵ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachments 1, 2, and 3.

1 The Conformance Index (“CI”) is one measure used to evaluate various SPR analyses.
 2 CIs are also used to evaluate the “goodness of fit” between the actual data and the Iowa
 3 Survivor curve being referenced. The sum of squares difference (“SSD”) is a summation
 4 of the difference between the calculated balances and the actual balances for the band or
 5 test year being analyzed. The difference is squared and then summed to arrive at the SSD.
 6 The SSD is employed to calculate a CI.

7
 8 The retirement experience index (“REI”) gives an indication of the maturity of the
 9 account and is the percent of the property retired from the oldest vintage in the band at
 10 the end of the test year. REIs range from 0 to 100%. An REI of 100% indicates that a
 11 complete curve was employed in the simulation process. An REI less than 100%
 12 indicates that only a portion of the survivor curve was employed for calculating the CI
 13 value. The originator of the SPR method provided ranking ranges of values for CI and
 14 REI. The ranking relationship for CI proposed is shown below¹¹⁶:

CI Ratios	Value
Over 75	Excellent
50 to 75	Good
25 to 50	Fair
Under 25	Poor

15
 16 The ranking relationship for REI proposed is shown below:

REI %	Value
Over 75	Excellent
50 to 75	Good
33 to 50	Fair
17 to 33	Poor
Under 17	Valueless

17
 18 Depreciation analysts have used these measures in analyzing SPR results for nearly 60
 19 years, since the SPR method was developed. Each of these statistics provides the analyst
 20 with a different perspective of the comparison between a band of simulated or calculated

¹¹⁶ Methods of Estimating Utility Plant Life, Publication No. 51 -23 by Edison Electric Institute at page 62.

1 balances and the observed or actual balances in the account being studied. One statistic is
2 not necessarily superior over the other. REIs should be carefully considered to ensure that
3 a mature curve is being used to estimate life, otherwise the results should not be accepted,
4 even if the CIs are “excellent.”
5

6 **Q. DOES GANNETT FLEMING AGREE WITH AND FOLLOW THE RANKING**
7 **CRITERIA FOR SPR RESULTS?**

8 A. Yes and no. Gannett Fleming states it generally agrees with the above noted ranking
9 criteria normally utilized throughout the industry. However, Gannett Fleming further
10 claims it relied on informed judgment in addition to such criteria.¹¹⁷ Many of the
11 recommended life-curve combinations are different from the combination that ranks
12 highest for a particular account.
13

14 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH GANNETT FLEMING’S CHARACTERIZATION OF**
15 **ITS APPROACH TO SPR RESULTS?**

16 A. Yes and no. While I agree with the concept that informed judgment must always be
17 employed, quite often I cannot agree with many decisions made by Gannett Fleming to
18 select something other than the superior fitting life-curve combinations based on CIs and
19 REI values, due to inadequately-supported claims of informed judgment. In nearly all
20 instances, Gannett Fleming’s reliance on the phrase “informed judgment” to opt for a
21 life-curve combination that is not the highest-ranked occurs as an attempt to justify a
22 lower increase in ASL than is indicated by the CIs and REI values. Claims of “informed
23 judgment” must be sufficiently explained and supported. Absent such explanation and
24 support, the claims should be discounted and the recommended curve-life combination
25 rejected in favor of more appropriate levels of ASL.
26

27 **Q. BASED ON YOUR REVIEW OF THE COMPANY’S LIFE ANALYSES, ARE**
28 **YOU RECOMMENDING ADJUSTMENTS?**

29 A. Yes. I am recommending adjustments for 10 accounts. My recommendations, the existing
30 parameter, the Company’s proposals, and dollar impact of my recommendation for each

¹¹⁷ Response to TURN 63 -9(a).

of the accounts where a change is being made are summarized in the table below and totals a reduction of \$174,334,762 based on plant as of December 31, 2011 , as compared to the requested ASLs in the Gannett Fleming depreciation study.

Mass Property Life

<u>Account</u>	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Company Proposed</u>	<u>TURN Recommended</u>	<u>Impact</u>
362 – Electric Distribution Station Equipment	40R2.5	42R2	46S0	\$10,620,685
364 – Electric Distribution Poles, Towers, and Fixtures	40R2	42R1.5	46R1	\$24,452,346
365 – Electric Distribution Overhead Conductors and Devices	40R2.5	42R2	46R1.5	\$37,454,434
367 – Electric Distribution Underground Conductors and Devices	39R4	42R3	52R2.5	\$29,362,895
368.01 – Electric Line Transformers – Overhead	32R2.5	32R2.5	36R0.5	\$16,584,260
368.02 – Electric Distribution Line Transformers – Underground	29S2.5	29R3	31S1.5	\$1,864,723
369.01 – Electric Distribution Services – Overhead	47R3	49R3	56R2	\$7,006,282
376 – Gas Distribution Mains	53S3	57R3	63R2.5	\$9,459,696
380 – Gas Distribution Services	53R4	54R4	57S2.5	\$11,333,643
390 – Common Plant Structures and Improvements	40R3	40R3	55R1.5	\$12,553,020
391.01 – Common Plant Office Machines and Computer Equipment	5SQ	5SQ	6SQ	\$13,642,778

Q. DO YOU HAVE OTHER CONCERNS THAT YOU WISH TO RAISE?

A. Yes. As discussed earlier in this testimony, Gannett Fleming applies the concept of gradualism very differently for purposes of ASL selection than it did for developing net salvage values.

Q. WHAT IS THE CONCERN YOU HAVE REGARDING THE COMPANY’S APPROACH TO GRADUALISM?

1 A. There is nothing wrong with the concept of gradualism. However, it must be applied
2 reasonably and wisely. Unfortunately, Gannett Fleming has used the concept
3 inconsistently between its life and salvage analyses, resulting in higher depreciation
4 expense.

5
6 While statistical results from SPR analyses might indicate five - to 10 -year increases in
7 ASL are appropriate, Gannett Fleming relies heavily on the concept of gradualism to
8 limit the increase in ASL often to two years.¹¹⁸ Relying on Gannett Fleming's concept of
9 gradualism could result in appropriate life characteristics not being allowed to reach their
10 appropriate level for potentially many decades. For example, as discussed later, the life
11 characteristics for wood poles are increasing not only for the Company but for the
12 industry as a whole. The increase in life expectancy is due in part to better chemical
13 treatments and inspection programs. If one assumes that a 50 -year ASL could reasonably
14 be established for the investment currently, yet Gannett Fleming restricts the increase in
15 ASL to two years, resulting in a 42 -year proposal, that could mean that customers would
16 have to wait more than a decade before Gannett Fleming would ultimately reach the
17 current expectation of 50 years. Moreover, it is anticipated that with continued better
18 maintenance practices, inspection programs, and chemical treatments, poles will continue
19 to experience lengthening in the overall ASL, especially giving the dramatic increase in
20 the cost of replacing a pole. Thus, assuming that something akin to Gannett Fleming's
21 concept of gradualism is maintained for the next four depreciation studies, by the time the
22 authorized ASL catches up with the 50 -year life indicated here, it is very likely that the
23 future expected ASL will by then be something greater than 50 years.

24
25 **B. Electric – Account Specific**

26
27 **Account 362 – Distribution Station Equipment**

28

¹¹⁸ For example, Gannett Fleming limited a larger warranted increase in ASL for Electric Accounts 362, 364, and 365 to two years based on the concept of gradualism.

1 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 362 –**
2 **DISTRIBUTION STATION EQUIPMENT?**

3 A. The Company proposes a 42R2 life -curve combination.¹¹⁹ This proposal represents an
4 increase in ASL from the existing 40R2.5 life-curve combination.¹²⁰

6 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

7 A. Gannett Fleming notes that PG&E personnel “anticipate” that indoor substations will
8 have lives of 20 to 25 years. Gannett Fleming further notes that SPR analysis “indicates
9 an ASL of around 40 years.”¹²¹ Nothing in the study further addresses the disparity
10 between the PG&E “anticipated” figure and the product of the SPR analysis. But
11 Gannett Fleming concludes that a 42R2 life -curve combination is “reflective of the life
12 analysis.” In response to discovery, it appears that Gannett Fleming placed some
13 significance on expectations from Company personnel that transformers will have a life
14 around 40 years, and the concept of gradualism.¹²²

16 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

17 A. No. The Company’s proposal is too short. I recommend a 46S0 life-curve combination.

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

20 A. My proposal is based, in part, on a more accurate review of the results of SPR analyses.
21 In addition, I rely on information from Company personnel and recognize a life
22 expectancy more in line with the mix of investment in the account.

23 First, it is necessary to correct the statement presented by Gannett Fleming that represents
24 a portion of the basis for PG&E’s proposal. When Gannett Fleming states that SPR
25 analyses “indicates” an ASL of around 40 years, that statement is not correct. The only
26 way to arrive at such statement would be to not consider superior fitting curves based on
27 both CIs and REIs resulting from the SPR analyses. The best -fitting curves with the

¹¹⁹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -456.

¹²⁰ *Id.* at workpaper WP 11 -457.

¹²¹ *Id.* at workpaper WP 11 -456.

¹²² Response to TURN 63 -21.

1 highest CIs and excellent REIs do not decline to a 40 -year ASL, but actually reach the
2 50- to 55-year range of results.¹²³ Thus, the statistical indications from the SPR analyses
3 are more representative of a value around the upper 40 -year to 50-year level rather than
4 “around 40 years” as presented by Gannett Fleming in its depreciation study.

5
6 From a purely statistical standpoint, the best -fitting curve would be a 51L0.5 life -curve
7 combination relying on the highest CI value with an REI of 90% or greater for the 1982 -
8 2009 band analyses.¹²⁴ However, reviewing the various results from different bands of
9 SPR analyses, my recommended 46S0 life -curve combination represents a conservative
10 analysis of historical data.¹²⁵ While Gannett Fleming limited the increase in ASL to two
11 years or 5% of the currently authorized life (2/40), such concept of gradualism is
12 inconsistent with much greater movements in the recommended negative net salvage
13 proposals.

14
15 Another factor to be taken into account is the claim by the Company that its indoor
16 substations are anticipated to have lives of 20 to 25 years. Through discovery, it was
17 determined that only about 10% of the distribution substations are indoors.¹²⁶ Over a
18 decade ago Gannett Fleming relied on this same concern in order to propose a reduction
19 from the then -authorized 43 -year ASL to a 39 -year ASL.¹²⁷ Now, in spite of empirical
20 data to the contrary, Gannett Fleming again relies upon the same information in order to
21 unduly limit the necessary and appropriate increase in ASL. Furthermore, when the
22 Company was requested to provide support for its claim that indoor substations only last
23 for 20 to 25 years, it admitted that such claim was “incorrect.”¹²⁸ Thus, Gannett Fleming
24 did not have the benefit of knowing that the claimed life range for indoor substations is
25 actually “30 to 50 years.”¹²⁹

¹²³ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

¹²⁴ *Id.*

¹²⁵ *Id.*

¹²⁶ Response to TURN 6 -22 Attachment 3.

¹²⁷ CPUC Application A.02 -11-017 Exhibit (PG&E -6) Chapter 10, workpaper 10 -74.

¹²⁸ Response to TURN 63 -18.

¹²⁹ *Id.*

1 From an industry comparative standpoint, Gannett Fleming's experience averages around
2 47 to 48 years for investment in this account.¹³⁰ Indeed, approximately 40% of Gannett
3 Fleming's recommendations are for ASLs of 50 years or longer, with many values of 60
4 year or longer range.¹³¹ In other words, absent unusual circumstances, life expectancy for
5 the investment in this account can easily be expected to reach the mid - to upper-50-year
6 range, or possibly longer. Even if one assumes only a 50 -year ASL for all but indoor
7 substations, as reflected in Gannett Fleming's overall industry experience, and a
8 corresponding 25-year ASL for indoor substations, the weighted average for PG&E
9 would be about 46 years, or equivalent to the conservative estimate I recommend. The
10 industry information reflecting longer lives, even over 60 years, should have called i nto
11 question the impression attributed to Company personnel that they "expect" an ASL for
12 transformers "around 40 years."¹³² And given Gannett Fleming's experience with other
13 utilities, the Commission could reasonably expect the firm to identify the fact th at the
14 ASL recommended for PG&E for this account is below the usual level the firm
15 recommends in its depreciation studies, and explain the basis for this difference.

16
17 In summary, while the Company recognizes that an increase in ASL is warranted, it has
18 unduly limited the increase without a sufficient basis. Next, from a statistical standpoint,
19 based on the best -fitting results of SPR analyses, an ASL in excess of 50 years is
20 warranted, not the "around 40 years" claimed in Gannett Fleming's study. Further, from
21 an industry comparative standpoint, again a longer ASL than that PG&E recommends is
22 warranted. Therefore, my recommendation of an increase to 46 years with a
23 corresponding S0 Iowa Survivor curve is conservative.

24 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

25 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
26 results in a \$10,620,685 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
27 December 31, 2011.

28

¹³⁰ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1.

¹³¹ *Id.*

¹³² Response to TURN 63 -21.

1 **Account 364 – Distribution Poles, Towers and Fixtures**

2
3 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 364 –**
4 **DISTRIBUTION POLES, TOWERS, AND FIXTURES?**

5 A. The Company proposes a 42R1.5 life -curve combination.¹³³ This represents a two -year
6 increase above the existing 40R2 life-curve combination.¹³⁴

7
8 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

9 A. Gannett Fleming identifies causes of retirements as being deterioration, storms, road
10 widening, inadequacy, car accidents, and beautification. Gannett Fleming further notes
11 that PG&E is planning on completing a backlog of pole replacements in 2012 and 2013.
12 Gannett Fleming’s SPR analysis “suggests an ASL around 40 years with a low mode type
13 curves.” Gannett Fleming further finds the 42R1.5 life -curve combination is “reflective
14 of the best fit of the life analy sis.”¹³⁵ In response to discovery, it appears that Gannett
15 Fleming placed some significance on expectations from Company personnel that
16 transformers will have a life around 40 years, and the concept of gradualism.¹³⁶

17
18 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

19 A. No. The Company’s proposal is unduly short. I recommend a minimum increase to a
20 46R1 life-curve combination.

21
22 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

23 A. My recommendation is based on the review of SPR results and available information
24 applicable to the investment in this account.

25
26 From an SPR standpoint, Gannett Fleming’s statement that its SPR analysis “suggests”
27 an ASL of 40 years is simply inaccurate. There are numerous better fitting life -curve
28 combinations compared to Gannett Fleming’s pro posal, all of which result in mid -40 to

¹³³ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -474.

¹³⁴ *Id.*

¹³⁵ *Id.*

¹³⁶ Response to TURN 63 -21.

1 low-50-year ASL indications, or significantly longer than suggested in Gannett Fleming’s
2 depreciation study.¹³⁷ While a strong argument can be made for a 49 - or 50 -year ASL
3 based on actual SPR results, a conservative statistical selection of a 46R1 life -curve
4 combination is still superior to the Company’s proposal. While Gannett Fleming limited
5 the increases in ASL to two years or 5% (2/40), such concept of gradualism is
6 inconsistent with much greater movements in the recommended negative net salvage
7 proposals.

8
9 In addition to the statistical analysis, it must be noted that all of the Company’s wood
10 poles are chemically treated.¹³⁸ Indeed, SCE believes that poles treated with the
11 “Through-Boring” process can have life expectancies up to 70 years.¹³⁹ In addition, the
12 Western Wood Preservative Institute states that wood poles can last up to 75 years with
13 proper inspection and maintenance.¹⁴⁰ PG&E also recognizes “that poles can and do last
14 beyond 75 years of age.”¹⁴¹ However, no matter what the Company’s treatment practices
15 are, it should exhibit longer life expectancies for its poles than the industry average since
16 many utilities in the industry do not chemically treat all their poles. In addition, the
17 Company has a pole inspection program in place where it inspects every pole every 10
18 years. While inspection programs result in an initial wave of early retirements, once past
19 that wave of initial retirements, pole inspection programs should result in longer life
20 expectancies for the remaining poles on the system (since the weaker or damaged poles
21 have already been culled due to the inspection program) . In particular, poles that the
22 inspection program identifies as having limited levels of deterioration can be reinforced
23 or chemically re-treated in order to lengthen the expected remaining life. The result of
24 such inspection programs again should result in a longer life expectancy than reflected in
25 historical data, and in industry averages where not all companies have had pole
26 inspection programs that are as mature as PG&E’s.

137 Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

138 Response to TURN 6 -22 Attachment 2.

139 CPUC Application 10 -11-015 SCE 2010 -2012 GRC at Exhibit No. SC E-10, Volume 3 workpaper page 351.

140 Response to TURN 63 -24.

141 *Id.*

1 Another consideration for a longer ASL is the fact that the Company now employs
2 additional efforts to extend the life of poles. In addition to the initial chemical treatment
3 of poles, PG&E also performs “mechanical restoration to the upper portion of its poles in
4 the form of applying epoxy filler for wood pecker repair, and installing pole top splices
5 and split bolt kits to repair upper portion pole splits.”¹⁴² In addition, PG&E now employs
6 “a practice of fully excavating and treating all Cellon-treated poles with a wood
7 preservative below ground.” PG&E now confirms that such actions have resulted in
8 Cellon-treated poles having “a similar live expectancy to that of other poles.”¹⁴³ In other
9 words, current Company practices are resulting in longer ASLs than are reflected in the
10 historical SPR analyses.

11
12 Turning to industry information as compiled by Gannett Fleming, one finds an industry
13 ASL average of approximately 43 years.¹⁴⁴ However, Gannett Fleming reports numerous
14 utilities for which it recommended ASLs of 50 years or longer. The better-supported
15 trend in the industry due to better maintenance programs, chemical treatment, and
16 inspection programs is for longer ASLs. The Company’s proposed 42 -year ASL is lower
17 than the industry average, which includes unusually low outlier values.

18
19 In summary, whether viewed from a correct statistical interpretation of SPR results,
20 recognition of chemical treatments applied to all poles, the benefits of inspection
21 programs, or from an industry comparative standpoint, a longer ASL than proposed by
22 the Company is warranted. While an upper 40 - to 50-year ASL may be more appropriate,
23 I conservatively recommend a limited increase to a 46-year ASL.

24
25 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

26 A. As compared to the utility’s requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
27 results in a \$24,452,346 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
28 December 31, 2011.

¹⁴² Response to TURN 63 -24.

¹⁴³ *Id.*

¹⁴⁴ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1, where the industry average is reduced to the inclusion of a few utilities that claim to have ASLs in the 23 - to 29-year range, which is more indicative of outliers or special circumstances.

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Account 365 – Distribution Overhead Conductors and Devices

Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 365 – DISTRIBUTION OVERHEAD CONDUCTORS AND DEVICES?

A. The Company proposes a 42R2 life -curve combination.¹⁴⁵ This represents an increase of two years in ASL from the existing 40R2.5 life-curve combination.¹⁴⁶

Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?

A. Gannett Fleming notes that overhead conductors retired due to deterioration, inadequate capacity or clearance, road widening, and storms , and that deterioration is the most significant in coastal portions of the service territory due to corrosion. However, Gannett Fleming based its proposal on the “indication” of a 40- to 45-year life obtained from SPR analysis where it claims “good” CIs were achieved and the best fit is the 42R2 combination.¹⁴⁷ In response to discovery, it appears that Gannett Fleming placed significance on the concept of gradualism.¹⁴⁸

Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?

A. No. The Company’s proposal, while a step in the right direction, again is unduly short. I conservatively recommend a minimum increase to a 46R1.5 life-curve combination.

Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?

A. My recommendation also relies on SPR results, but reflects a more correct identification of the actual results. In addition, I rely on other items of available information.

From a statistical standpoint, Gannett Fleming’s claim that SPR results indicate a 40 - to 45-year ASL is incorrect. The best-fitting curves reflect ASLs in the 45- to 55-year range,

¹⁴⁵ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -484.

¹⁴⁶ *Id.*

¹⁴⁷ *Id.*

¹⁴⁸ Response to TURN 63 -35.

1 rather than the 40- to 45-year range.¹⁴⁹ Indeed, the best-fitting curves would give
2 indications of mid - to upper -50-year life expectancies for investment in this account. A
3 more realistic yet still conservative reading of the SPR results would yield nothing less
4 than a 46-year ASL. Moreover, it must be noted that Gannett Fleming's prior reading of
5 SPR indications have resulted in ASLs subsequently demonstrated to be too short . For
6 example, in the 2003 depreciation study Gannett Fleming believed that SPR based ASL
7 indications were 28- to 38-years, or extremely short in comparison to what it now claims
8 as current indications.¹⁵⁰ While Gannett Fleming limited the recommended increase in
9 ASL to two years or 5% (2/40), such concept of gradualism is inconsistent with much
10 greater movements in negative net salvage proposals.

11
12 The pole inspection program also helps to identify potential problems with conductor.
13 Early detection of potential problems often can be corrected, resulting in longer life
14 expectancy for such investment absent the inspection programs. Therefore, longer life
15 expectancies for the current investment should result in comparison to review of
16 historical events (i.e., SPR results).

17
18 Another consideration is review of industry information. Yet again, the Company's
19 proposal not only is short in comparison to other California utilities but also compared to
20 industry averages. Gannett Fleming's database reflects an approximate 45 -year ASL for
21 the industry, but more importantly reflects numerous recommendations for 55 - to 60-year
22 ASLs.¹⁵¹

23 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

24 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
25 results in a \$37,454,434 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
26 December 31, 2011.

27

¹⁴⁹ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

¹⁵⁰ CPUC Application A.02 -11-017 Exhibit (PG& E-6) Chapter 10 workpaper page 10 -91.

¹⁵¹ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1.

1 **Account 367 – Distribution Underground Conductors and Devices**

2

3 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 367 –**
4 **DISTRIBUTION UNDERGROUND CONDUCTORS AND DEVICES?**

5 A. The Company proposes a 42R3 life -curve combination.¹⁵² This represents a three -year
6 increase above the existing 39R4 life-curve combination.¹⁵³

7

8 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

9 A. PG&E’s underground conductor includes both direct buried cable and cable in conduit.
10 Gannett Fleming further notes that PG&E ceased installation of direct buried cable in the
11 early 1990s with all subsequent installations being cable in conduit.¹⁵⁴ Gannett Fleming
12 then relies on SPR results that “ indicate a slight increase in service life,” and notes that
13 the CIs are greatest for the medium mode curves.¹⁵⁵ From these items of information,
14 Gannett Fleming concludes that very high CIs are obtained from SPR analyses for ASLs
15 “around 40 years,” and claims that the 42R2 life -curve combination produces “the best-
16 fitting” results.¹⁵⁶ In discovery, Gannett Fleming indicated that gradualism is a significant
17 basis for its proposal.¹⁵⁷

18

19 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

20 A. No. The Company’s proposal significantly understates the appropriate ASL for the
21 investment in this account. Therefore, I recommend a 52R2.5 life-curve combination.

22 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

23 A. My recommendation is also based on the results of the SPR analysis, information from
24 Company personnel, and industry information. First, from an SPR standpoint, Gannett
25 Fleming’s statements in its depreciation study are inaccurate. Asserting that the CIs are
26 the greatest for the medium mode curves is not accurate for any of the band analyses

¹⁵² Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -504.

¹⁵³ *Id.*

¹⁵⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵⁵ *Id.*

¹⁵⁶ *Id.*

¹⁵⁷ Response to TURN 63 -41.

1 performed. Indeed, the CI increases as the mode in each family of curves decreases.¹⁵⁸ In
2 addition, the claim that SPR analysis shows very high CIs for ASLs around 40 years
3 ignores the fact that even higher CIs correspond to ASLs much greater than 40 years.¹⁵⁹
4 Indeed, the CI for my recommendation is 26% to 38% higher than the 40R4 life -curve
5 combination associated with Gannett Fleming’s claim.¹⁶⁰ In particular, Gannett Fleming’s
6 conclusion that the 42R3 life-curve produces the “best-fitting” results is completely
7 inaccurate. Indeed, the result for each of the R3 curves is either 45 or 46 years – not the
8 claimed 42 years, depending on the band.¹⁶¹ Better fitting life -curve combinations, even
9 with 100% REIs, exist in every single band analysis, and all such better fit ting curves
10 indicate longer ASLs.¹⁶² In all instances, much longer ASL life indications are identified
11 in the SPR analyses for all bands.

12
13 Another consideration is that further evaluation and explanation beyond reliance on the
14 SPR analysis is appropriate here. This account contains numerous different types of
15 conductor material and insulation.¹⁶³ The Company has previously acknowledged that the
16 High Molecular Weight Polyethylene (“HMWPE”) type underground conductor will not
17 last as long as initially projected. There have been unacceptable cable failure rates
18 associated with water creep or water intrusion throughout the industry. Utilities,
19 including PG&E, have changed the type of underground cable over time as
20 improvements have reached the market. The expected life for Cross -Link PE (“XLPE”) type of underground cable is noticeably longer than that for its predecessor HMWPE. In
21 addition, the newer Ethylene -Propylene Rubber (“EPR”) is projected to have a much
22 longer life expectancy than the XLPE conductor does.¹⁶⁴ Given that the HMWPE
23 conductor makes up a small percent on a dollar basis of the investment in this account but
24

¹⁵⁸ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1 for all bands.

¹⁵⁹ *Id.*

¹⁶⁰ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1 for bands beginning in 1982, 1987, and 1992.

¹⁶¹ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

¹⁶² *Id.*

¹⁶³ Response to TURN 13 -8(f), Attachment 1 in CPUC Application A.02 -11-017.

¹⁶⁴ Application 97 -12-020, Exhibit 367, page 128, Interview of Company personnel on May 21, 2003, at page 31, and email from Ed Kurz on May 23, 2003. While this information was provided a decade ago, I know of no reason why it would have changed since then.

1 likely a relatively higher percent of the retirements in recent years, its impact on ASL of
2 the remaining investment has been overstated in the SPR process.

3
4 The SPR analysis also captures the impact of short ASLs due to the problems with direct
5 buried cable. The new cable in conduit also “provides additional physical protection for
6 the cable, thus reducing deterioration and the possibility of damage from dig-ins.”¹⁶⁵ As
7 previously noted, PG&E stopped direct burial in the early 1990s. It is worth noting that
8 the plant balance for this account has more than doubled since the early 1990s;¹⁶⁶ very
9 little if any of that increase reflects direct burial. The SPR analysis very likely reflects, on
10 a disproportionate basis, the retirement activity of HMWPE conductor and direct buried
11 cable due to the higher failure rates associated with each type of conductor. Therefore,
12 the SPR results would indicate a shorter ASL than would be indicative for the balance of
13 the investment in the account. Gannett Fleming’s depreciation study does not indicate
14 that these factors were considered in arriving at its recommended life -curve combination
15 for this account.

16
17 Further confirmation for the need to increase ASLs can be obtained from industry data.
18 Gannett Fleming’s database yields an average for all companies, without consideration of
19 the mix of investment in the account, at a value greater than that proposed.¹⁶⁷ Moreover,
20 Gannett Fleming’s database reflects many utilities for which it recommended ASLs
21 between 55 and 65 years. Those utilities very likely reflect greater percentage levels of
22 investment in newer generations of underground cable and potentially higher levels of
23 investment in cable in conduit.

24 In summary, Company-specific SPR results indicate an ASL in the upper -40- to low -50-
25 year range. Even Gannett Fleming’s proposed R3 dispersion pattern yields 45 - to 46-year
26 lives, not the 42-year “best fit” incorrectly claimed in the depreciation study. The fact that
27 the majority of the investment in this account has been added in the last two decades
28 implies that a much greater proportion of the Company’s investment in this account is

¹⁶⁵ Response to TURN 63 -42.

¹⁶⁶ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11, workpaper WP 11 -508.

¹⁶⁷ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1.

1 cable in conduit and newer generation cable that are expected to have much longer life
2 expectancy than older underground direct buried cable. Therefore, the best future
3 indication for life expectancy for the current investment in this account would be a value
4 in excess of 50 years and most likely approaching 60 years. Therefore, my
5 recommendation for a 52R2.5 life-curve combination is conservative.

6
7 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

8 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
9 results in a \$29,362,895 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
10 December 31, 2011.

11
12 **Account 368.01 – Line Transformers Overhead**

13
14 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 368.01 – LINE**
15 **TRANSFORMERS - OVERHEAD?**

16 A. The Company proposes to retain the current 32R2.5 life-curve combination.¹⁶⁸

17
18 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

19 A. Gannett Fleming notes that line transformers were retired due to overload conditions that
20 result in replacement, as well as inadequacy, deterioration, and lightning. Gannett
21 Fleming further states that SPR analysis "suggests an ASL from 29 to 34 years with low
22 to medium modes producing the higher CIs." From these observations, Gannett Fleming
23 concludes that a 32-year ASL results in the highest CI and is consistent with the current ly
24 authorized ASL.¹⁶⁹ In response to discovery, Gannett Fleming also appears to place
25 significant credence in the currently approved estimate and seems to be unaware of any
26 "information external to the statistical analysis that supported a change in service life."¹⁷⁰

27
28 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL?**

29 A. No. The Company's proposal results in an unduly short ASL. I recommend a 36R0.5.

¹⁶⁸ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -513.

¹⁶⁹ *Id.*

¹⁷⁰ Response to TURN 63 -48.

1
2 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

3 A. My recommendation is also based substantially on the results of SPR analysis. However,
4 the results noted by Gannett Fleming for SPR analysis are incorrect when compared to
5 the actual SPR results.
6

7 First, Gannett Fleming’s statement that the SPR analysis “suggests” an ASL from 29 to
8 34 years is factually incorrect. Only one of the band analyses reflects an SPR result as
9 low as 29 years, and in that particular band analysis the life -curve combinations with a
10 29-year ASL exhibit the poorest CI values. Therefore, giving any consideration to a 29 -
11 year value as a suggested result from SPR is unsupported.¹⁷¹ Gannett Fleming’s claim
12 that the high end of the range suggested by SPR is only 34 years is again erroneous. A
13 review of the SPR results clearly establish that values in the 37 - to 39-year range often
14 correspond with the highest CIs and excellent REIs. In other words, the SPR results
15 suggest a more realistic range from a low of approximately 31 years to a high of
16 approximately 40 years, with values near the higher end of the range normally exhibiting
17 superior CI values. Gannett Fleming’s claimed range is understated both on the low and
18 high end by approximately three to four years, based on its own SPR results.
19

20 Consideration must be given to the retirement pattern as well. In a few instances, lower
21 ASLs are identified but they normally correspond with the highest mode curves (i.e., R5,
22 S6, and L5). Reliance on any of the highest mode curves would be counterintuitive
23 compared to the retirement patterns experienced by the Company as well as in Gannett
24 Fleming’s database of curves it has recommended for other utilities. In other words, the
25 highest mode curves are not representative of life expectancy for this type of investment,
26 and reliance on lower modal curves not only generally corresponds with the highest CIs
27 and excellent REIs but also corresponds to industry experience and expectations. While a
28 39- to 40 -year ASL is warranted based on SPR results and industry expectations, a
29 conservative result corresponding to superior CIs than those relied upon by Gannett
30 Fleming would result in a 36-year ASL with a corresponding R0.5 dispersion pattern.

¹⁷¹ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

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Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?

A. As compared to the utility’s requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation results in a \$16,584,260 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of December 31, 2011.

Account 368.02 – Distribution Line Transformers - Underground

Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 368.02 – DISTRIBUTION LINE TRANSFORMERS - UNDERGROUND?

A. The Company proposes to retain the existing 29 -year ASL but change the existing S2.5 curve to an R3.¹⁷²

Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?

A. The Company notes that its subsurface transformers are housed in concrete, fiberglass, and wood enclosures and that a 20-year life is expected for wood enclosures installed from the 1970s to the mid -1990s.¹⁷³ Gannett Fleming further notes that transformers are often replaced when enclosures are replaced. Gannett Fleming continues by stating that line transformers retire due to overload conditions and are replaced either on a preventative basis or at failure, inadequacy, and deterioration. Finally, Gannett Fleming notes that PG&E operating and engineering personnel state that lives for underground transformers should be slightly shorter than that for overhead transformers. In addition, Gannett Fleming relies on SPR results, which it claims “suggests an ASL range from 25 to 30 years with medium to high modes producing the higher CIs.” From these items of information, Gannett Fleming concludes that its proposed 29R3 life -curve combination has “slightly better conformance with the actual book balances.”¹⁷⁴

Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?

¹⁷² Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -523.
¹⁷³ *Id.*
¹⁷⁴ *Id.*

1 A. No. The Company’s proposal results in an unduly short ASL. I recommend a 31S1.5 life-
2 curve combination.

3

4 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

5 A. My recommendation is based on a review of SPR results.

6

7 From an SPR standpoint, Gannett Fleming’s claim that SPR analysis “suggests” an ASL
8 between 25 and 30 years is inaccurate. A review of the actual SPR results show that not a
9 single resulting value, no matter what the CI or REI values, is as low as 25 years. Indeed,
10 SPR results for life -curve combinations with superior CIs and REIs would realistically
11 yields life values between 29 and 34 years.¹⁷⁵ In addition, Gannett Fleming’s claim that
12 SPR analysis “suggests” that medium to high mode curves produce the highest CIs is also
13 inaccurate. Review of the actual SPR results demonstrates that many low mode
14 dispersion patterns yield high or superior CIs with excellent REIs.

15

16 This review of SPR results leads to the conclusion that a more appropriate life -curve
17 combination for this account would be between 30 and 33 years with a low - to mid-mode
18 dispersion pattern.¹⁷⁶ While a 32L2.5 life-curve combination consistently provides
19 superior CI values, a conservative recommendation would be a 31S1.5 life-curve
20 combination, which also produces superior CI values compared to Gannett Fleming’s
21 proposal.

22 Another consideration is the fact that the Company notes that underground transformers
23 often are retired when the related enclosure is replaced.¹⁷⁷ Given that the Company
24 further notes that a 20-year life is expected for wood enclosures, but that such wood
25 enclosures were only installed between the 1970s and the mid -1990s, indicates that an
26 overall longer life expectancy than reflected in SPR analysis should be selected. The
27 longer life expectation would be due to the fact that most, if not all, wood enclosures that
28 experience shorter than expected ASLs are either fully retired or represent a very small

¹⁷⁵ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

¹⁷⁶ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

¹⁷⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -523.

1 portion of the remaining investment in this account. Such consideration indicates that the
2 32- or even the 33-year ASL would be warranted at this time. However, my
3 recommendation reflects a conservative approach to life estimation.
4

5 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

6 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
7 results in a \$1,864,723 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
8 December 31, 2011.
9

10 **Account 369.01 – Distribution Services - Overhead**
11

12 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 369.01 –**
13 **DISTRIBUTION SERVICES - OVERHEAD?**

14 A. The Company proposes a 49R3 life -curve combination.¹⁷⁸ This proposal represents a
15 two-year increase from the existing 47R3 life-curve combination.¹⁷⁹
16

17 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

18 A. Gannett Fleming notes that overhead services are retired as a result of failures , often due
19 to cracking in insulation. Retirements also result due to increases in pole heights at
20 existing locations, from a change of customers at a particular location, and from rerouting
21 situations due to customer complaints.¹⁸⁰ Gannett Fleming then states that SPR analyses
22 “indicates a 40- to 50-year ASL with medium mode curves slightly favored,” and
23 concludes that the “best-fitting ASL and curve from the statistical analysis is the
24 49R3.”¹⁸¹ In response to discovery, Gannett Fleming appears to be giving significant
25 weight to the previously approved estimate in making its current proposal , with many of
26 the potential curves rejected in part because the resulting increase in ASL was deemed
27 “significant.”¹⁸²
28

¹⁷⁸ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -533.

¹⁷⁹ *Id.*

¹⁸⁰ *Id.*

¹⁸¹ *Id.*

¹⁸² Response to TURN 65 -1.

1 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

2 A. No. The Company’s proposal understates the reasonable life expectancy for the
3 investment in this account. I recommend a 56R2 life-curve combination.

4
5 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

6 A. My recommendation is based on a more realistic review of SPR results and information
7 from Company personnel.

8
9 First, Gannett Fleming’s statement that SPR analyses “indicates” a 40 - to 50-year ASL is
10 incorrect. A review of the SPR results does not yield a single result as low as 40 years
11 while yielding numerous results in the 50 - to even mid -60-year range with superior CIs
12 and excellent REIs.¹⁸³ In addition, Gannett Fleming’s reference to medium mode curves
13 being slightly favored also is not indicative of the actual SPR results ; lower mode curves
14 yield superior CIs with excellent REIs. Finally, Gannett Fleming’s statement that the
15 “best-fitting” curve from a statistical analysis is a 49R3 life-curve combination is
16 incorrect. Only one out of four SPR band analyses yielded a 49R3, and such value was
17 not in the top five best -fitting curves. Indeed, numerous curves other than the R3 yield
18 superior statistical results.

19
20 Based on actual SPR results, a mid -50- to low -60-year ASL with low - to mid -mode
21 curves are the superior life -curve combinations.¹⁸⁴ While R1.5 and R2 mode curves with
22 59- to 64-year ASLs have the highest CIs with excellent REIs (90% or higher), mid-50-
23 year values with an R2 dispersion pattern are also good indications of life expectancy.
24 Indeed, the mid-50 ASL values with an R2 dispersion pattern correspond to superior CIs
25 and excellent REIs as compared to Gannett Fleming’s proposal, and represent a
26 conservative reading of the SPR results. The only identified concern Gannett Fleming
27 raises with a mid 50 -year ASL corresponding to an R2 dispersion pattern is that it
28 represents a significant increase from the prior approved estimate.¹⁸⁵ The utility has failed
29 to explain why the degree of increase produced by a life -curve combination that is more

¹⁸³ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 1.

¹⁸⁴ *Id.*

¹⁸⁵ Response to TURN 65 -1.

1 reasonable in light of current data should be a factor in its rejection in favor of a less
2 reasonable combination.

3
4 In addition, information obtained from Company personnel that retirements often result
5 due to failures and increases in pole heights indicates that lower -mode curves would be
6 more indicative of the expected retirement pattern for the investment in the account
7 because they correspond to more frequent retirement events. Moreover, review of
8 Gannett Fleming's industry database reinforces the concept that a low to mid mode
9 dispersion pattern is by far more indicative than the Company's proposed R3 dispersion
10 pattern.¹⁸⁶

11
12 In summary, whether viewed from a correct identification of SPR results or from industry
13 expectations, including those by Gannett Fleming, a longer ASL is warranted for the
14 investment in this account than that proposed. While an upper -50- to mid -60-year ASL
15 corresponds to the best statistical fitting results, a conservative and realistic estimate is a
16 56R2 life-curve combination.

17
18 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

19 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
20 results in a \$7,006,282 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
21 December 31, 2011.

22 **C. Gas – Account Specific**

23
24 **Account 376 – Gas Distribution Mains**

25
26 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 376 – GAS**
27 **DISTRIBUTION MAINS?**

28 A. The Company proposes a 57R3 life-curve combination.¹⁸⁷ This represents a four -year
29 increase from the existing 53S3 life-curve combination.¹⁸⁸

¹⁸⁶ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 2.

¹⁸⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -670.

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Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?

A. Gannett Fleming states that the SPR “suggests an ASL of 50 to 60 years with mid -mode curves,” noting that the resulting CI was in the “excellent” range. Gannett Fleming further identifies that it believes the 57R3 is the “best fitting” life -curve combination. Gannett Fleming also notes that PG&E has operated a pipe replacement program for nearly 30 years, targeting 2,550 miles of mains , and that the high level of retirements in recent years should now be complete. Gannett Fleming concludes that mid -mode type curves (i.e., S3, R3, and L3) are “more typical” of this account and produce excellent CI values. Gannett Fleming states that 57R3 life -curve combination has one for the highest CIs of the “anticipated” modes and reflects an ASL consistent with management’s plans.¹⁸⁹

Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?

A. No. The Company’s proposal, while a step in the right direction, is inadequate based on the available information. I recommend a further increase to a 63R2.5 life-curve combination.

Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?

A. My recommendation also relies in part on SPR results. However, my analysis identifies more correct SPR results. The statement by Gannett Fleming that the SPR results “suggests” an ASL in the 50 - to 60 -year range is incorrect. Depending on which SPR based analysis is relied upon, the suggested range is more indicative of 50 to 74 years.¹⁹⁰ Indeed, best-fitting curves with excellent CIs and REIs suggest the adoption of an approximate 70-year ASL.¹⁹¹

Given that the Company is at the end of its long running pipe replacement program and specifically notes that the high levels of retirements in recent years should now be

¹⁸⁸ *Id.*
¹⁸⁹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11workpaper WP 11 -670.
¹⁹⁰ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 2 for the SPR analyses beginning in 1909, 1980 and 1990 and ending in 2009.
¹⁹¹ *Id.*

1 complete, the historical data will produce shorter ASLs than what can be expected in the
2 future absent another significant pipe replacement program. In other words, the high level
3 of retirement activity that resulted in life indications in the 50 - to 70 -year range is no
4 longer indicative of the future operation of the system as it applies to the new
5 replacement pipe.

6
7 Another consideration is the change in technology reflected in current investment. The
8 Company has been in a long -run replacement program due to prior installation of cast -
9 iron, bare steel, wrought-iron pipe, and problematic first generation plastic pipe. Reduced
10 levels of such pipe are still on the system, while the majority of the pipe investment now
11 in service should be newer generation plastic pipe and wrapped steel. The newer
12 generations of plastic pipe no longer have the chemical resin problems previously
13 experienced or the early installation problems that resulted in an unexpectedly short life
14 for first generation plastic mains. Current manufactured steel pipes have superior coatings
15 that should result in a longer service life. Therefore, even if one were to accept the
16 Company's proposal that the best-fitting SPR results is 57 years, that indication is
17 indicative of older vintage additions of pipe that did not have the same technological and
18 installation benefits that current pipe in service possess. Therefore, a minimum of 5 to 10
19 years increase in ASL would be appropriate, solely from the standpoint of current
20 technology and installation practices.¹⁹²

21 Yet another consideration for a longer ASL is industry comparative data. Gannett
22 Fleming has recommended ASLs for gas distribution mains up to 85 years, with many
23 values in the 70-year range.¹⁹³ This longer level of life expectancy is becoming common
24 for utilities throughout the country that are now recognizing the same advancements in
25 technology and installation practices that are occurring on PG&E's system.

26
27 In summary, an upper -60 to 70-year ASL may be more appropriate for the investment in
28 this account. The 63R2.5 life -curve combination I recommend is conservative, reflects

¹⁹² By analogy, study of older cars that were retired due to the rusting of the body might yield an ASL of nine years. However, with the introduction of underbody anti -rusting applications, the ASL for cars increased to 13 years. Therefore, life analysis of historical retirement activity before the life characteristics of the newer rust resistant cars have had the opportunity to be properly reflected in retirement databases would understate future life expectations.

¹⁹³ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 2.

1 both an excellent CI and REI obtained from SPR analyses , and begins to recognize and
2 incorporate the recent trends in the data.

3
4 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

5 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
6 results in a \$ 9,459,696 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
7 December 31, 2011.

8
9 **Account 380 – Gas Distribution Services**

10
11 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 380 – GAS
12 DISTRIBUTION SERVICES?**

13 A. The Company proposes a 54R4 life-curve combination.¹⁹⁴ This represents a slight
14 increase from the existing 53R4 life-curve combination.¹⁹⁵

15
16 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

17 A. Gannett Fleming recognized that PG&E has been replacing services in conjunction with
18 its pipeline replacement program, as well as based on leak surveys and customer
19 requirements. With these items of information, Gannett Fleming further identifies that the
20 SPR analysis produces “indications of a 50 - to 55 -year life [and] mid to high mode
21 curves provide the highest CIs. ” From these items of information, Gannett Fleming
22 concludes that a 54R4 life-curve is a slight increase in life but provides a good
23 conformance with book balances.¹⁹⁶ In response to discovery, it becomes clear that
24 Gannett Fleming gave significant weight to the previously approved estimate in making
25 its current proposal.¹⁹⁷

26
27 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL?**

¹⁹⁴ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -702.

¹⁹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁹⁶ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -701.

¹⁹⁷ Response to TURN 65 -22.

1 A. No. While the Company’s proposal is a small step in the right direction, a further increase
2 is warranted based on the available information. I recommend a 57S2.5 life-curve
3 combination.
4

5 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

6 A. There are several reasons for increasing the ASL from that proposed by Gannett Fleming.
7 First, the “indications” from SPR analyses are for much higher ASLs than the 50 - to 55-
8 year range set forth in Gannett Fleming’s depreciation study. ¹⁹⁸ Indeed, the S2.5 curve
9 pattern provides a superior CI value compared to Gannett Fleming’s proposal for all
10 bands and reflects an excellent REI in each instance , and produces a 57 -year life . In
11 response to discovery, Gannett Fleming attempted to explain away its incorrect statement
12 by focusing only on the “same curve type”¹⁹⁹ (R curves) as the currently approved curve.
13

14 In addition to the pure ly statistical analyses, other factors must also be considered. As
15 previously discussed for mains, the Company has completed a long -running pipeline
16 replacement program. As part of the program, it retired many services at the same time
17 that mains were retire d. Thus, the historical database relied upon for SPR purposes
18 reflects a higher level of retirement activity than would have been the case absent the
19 pipeline replacement program, which is basically completed. Therefore, the statistical
20 results from SPR an alysis must be tempered with the fact that a longer ASL can be
21 expected for the replacement plant as it provides service going forward. Even if Gannett
22 Fleming believed the 54-year ASL was the most representative value based on a
23 statistical review of SPR results, it still should have increased the life expectancy taking
24 into account the change in Company practices.
25

26 From an industry comparative standpoint, Gannett Fleming’s recommendation for a high -
27 modal curve (i.e., R4) is not typical based on Gannett Fleming’s industry database. Mid-
28 to lower-mode curves are much more prevalent (1.5, 2, 2.5, and even 3 modal curves). ²⁰⁰
29 This is significant given that the SPR analyses identify superior CIs for mid-modal curves

¹⁹⁸ Response to TURN 26-19 Attachment 2.

¹⁹⁹ Response to TURN 65 -22.

²⁰⁰ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 2.

1 in each of the band analyses. ²⁰¹ Gannett Flemin g claims that there are a “number of
2 reasons” why an R4 represents a better estimate than the R2.5 or R3 .²⁰²But the reasons
3 cited are actually industry estimates and its own unsupported “expectation.” But the R4
4 curve is a very poor selection as it assumes it would take approximately 23 years of
5 service before retirement of even 1% of each year’s plant addition. This type of
6 expectation is not realistic for this type of plant.

7
8 Another consideration is that current services should reflect a greater proporti on of newer
9 technology, materials, and installation practices, as was the case for distribution mains.
10 Therefore, the current investment from a material, manufacturing, and installation
11 standpoint should be superior to many of the retirements reflected in the Company’s
12 historical database. Again, these factors warrant a longer life expectancy than reflected in
13 the SPR results.

14
15 In summary, whether viewed from a pure ly statistical SPR standpoint, from changes in
16 operation practices, or from the standpoint of industry experience for the type of curve
17 patterns, a longer ASL than that proposed by Gannett Fleming is warranted. A
18 conservative incremental increase at this point in time is a reliance on a 57S2.5 life -curve
19 combination.

20 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

21 A. As compared to the utility’s requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
22 results in an \$11,333,643 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
23 December 31, 2011.

24

²⁰¹ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 2.

²⁰² Response to TURN 65 -22.

1 **D. Common Plant – Account Specific**

2
3 **Account 390 – Common Plant Structures and Improvements**

4
5 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 390 – COMMON**
6 **PLANT STRUCTURES AND IMPROVEMENTS?**

7 A. The Company proposes to retain the existing 40R3 life-curve combination.²⁰³

8
9 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY’S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

10 A. Gannett Fleming notes that the account primarily consists of service centers, offices,
11 garages, and warehouses, and bases its proposal on SPR analysis indications. Gannett
12 Fleming states that a service life “around 40 years with a low to medium mode type
13 curves” is indicated by SPR analysis and that the best -fitting ASL and curve is a 40R3
14 life-curve combination.²⁰⁴ Gannett Fleming conceded that some curves had higher CIs
15 than the 40R3 life -curve combination it claimed is “best-fitting”.²⁰⁵ Gannett Fleming
16 noted in response to discovery that its proposal is based on the claim that “the statistical
17 analysis did not provide sufficient justification to change from the approved 40-R3
18 survivor curve.”²⁰⁶

19
20 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

21 A. No. The Company’s proposal is significantly understated given the type of assets at issue.
22 I recommend a 55R1.5 life-curve combination.

23 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

24 A. My recommendation appropriately recognizes the asset mix in this account. The account
25 contains approximately \$1.1 billion of assets as of December 31, 2011. ²⁰⁷ Investment in
26 this account can be broken down into two major categories: the structures themselves and
27 the improvements within the structures such as carpeting, air conditioning, lighting, etc.

²⁰³ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -775.

²⁰⁴ *Id.*

²⁰⁵ Response to TURN 65 -29 and 65-30.

²⁰⁶ Response to TURN 65 -29.

²⁰⁷ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 page 11 -9.

1 For PG&E, the majority of the investment in this account is associated with the structures
2 themselves in just the 10 largest structures owned by the Company.²⁰⁸ Moreover, on a
3 dollar weighted basis, the 10 largest structures have a weighted average installation date
4 of 1960 with no plans for retirement.²⁰⁹ In addition, several of the structures are already
5 more than 80 years old and still providing service. This situation is not unusual but rather
6 more representative of buildings in large metropolitan areas.

7
8 Turning to SPR results, while Gannett Fleming stated that SPR analysis indicated a life
9 around 40 years, the best -fitting life -curve combinations in fact yielded values more
10 representative of the upper -40-year to 60 year range.²¹⁰ Indeed, many of the best -fitting
11 curves from a CI standpoint with excellent REIs would result in mid -50-year ASLs.
12 However, the SPR analyses are more reflective of the limited retirement of buildings and,
13 even more so, the retirement activity associated with improvements such as the
14 replacement of roofs, carpeting, air conditioning systems, etc. While the improvements
15 most likely represent the majority of the retirement activity historically, they do not
16 represent the majority of the investment in the account. Therefore, the SPR analysis will
17 understate overall life expectancy for the entire investment in the account.

18
19 Another consideration for a longer ASL than proposed by Gannett Fleming is the fact that
20 the maximum life for any investment associated with the proposed 40R3 life-curve
21 combination is 68 years. That means that in theory there can be no remaining level of
22 investment still in service that was first placed into service before 1944 (2012-68).
23 However, Gannett Fleming's depreciation study specifically identifies plant in service for
24 this account dating back to 1919.²¹¹ Therefore, both in theory and in practice a longer
25 ASL is called for.

26
27 In summary, the proper determination of a life -curve combination for the investment in
28 this account cannot rely solely on the results of SPR analysis. Actual Company

²⁰⁸ Response to TURN 28 -14 Attachment 1.

²⁰⁹ Response to TURN 28 -14 Attachment 1.

²¹⁰ Response to TURN 28 -19 Attachment 3.

²¹¹ Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -783.

1 experience with the majority of the investment in this account (i.e., structures of
2 buildings) indicates exceptionally long life expectancy. Indeed, the third-largest
3 investment in this account corresponds to the Fresno service center, which was placed in
4 service in 1923. That places the current life for that building at approximately 90 years
5 with no plans for retirement of the facility. The account-specific factual information is
6 long life expectancy for the majority of the investment in the account, coupled with much
7 shorter life expectancy (approximately 15 to 25 years) for the improvement portion of the
8 investment in the account. Based on these considerations, the Company's 40 -year life
9 proposal is substantially understated, as clearly demonstrated by actual experience of the
10 Company for many of its larger buildings. Based on the available information, even my
11 recommended 55R1.5 life-curve combination most likely understates the realistic overall
12 life expectancy for the investment in this account.

13
14 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

15 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
16 results in a \$12,553,020 reduction in annual depreciation expense based on plant as of
17 December 31, 2011.

18
19 **Account 391.01 – Common Plant Office Machines and Computer Equipment**

20
21 **Q. WHAT DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE FOR ACCOUNT 391.01 – COMMON
22 PLANT OFFICE MACHINES AND COMPUTER EQUIPMENT?**

23 A. The Company proposes retaining the 5SQ life -curve combination for the investment in
24 this account.

25 **Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S BASIS FOR ITS PROPOSAL?**

26 A. Gannett Fleming simply identifies the contents of the account : automatic meter reading
27 equipment, servers, and other computer equipment. Gannett Fleming then states that
28 Company personnel informed it that equipment like meter reading equipment and servers
29 should have a life of five years. Gannett Fleming did not perform any statistical analyses

1 for this account, but does claim that experience of the industry shows that a five -year life
2 is typical for this equipment.²¹²

3
4 **Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY’S PROPOSAL?**

5 A. No. A minimum of a one-year increase to a 6SQ life-curve combination is required.
6

7 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

8 A. My recommendation is based not only on the type of equipment in the account, but also
9 the actual experience for this type of investment for PG&E as well as others in the
10 industry.
11

12 While Gannett Fleming failed to perform any statistical analysis for the investment in this
13 account, statistical information does exist. That statistical information clearly
14 demonstrates that the Company is utilizing the investment in this account for periods
15 much greater than five years.²¹³ The Company provided its IT life cycle planning analysis
16 for investment in this account. Contained in the life cycle analysis are servers, storage
17 equipment, and imaging equipment. Within the life cycle analysis, the Company
18 identifies that 3% up to 100% of the assets that has already exceeded the life cycle target
19 for every single category of Account 391.01 plant included in that analysis. Indeed, for
20 mainframe servers, 100% of the investment in the account has exceeded not only the
21 five-year life cycle, but have already exceeded eight years of service.²¹⁴ Therefore, from a
22 Company specific standpoint, there can be no question that equipment in this account is
23 utilized by the Company for periods greater than five years, and thus requires a longer
24 life expectancy for depreciation purposes.

25 In discovery, the only analysis that the Company could provide to support a five -year life
26 cycle for the investment in this account is a confidential document that basically
27 represents a marketing tool by equipment vendors. The reference document attempts to
28 encourage more rapid replacement of equipment such as servers rather than the practice
29 employed by many entities, that of utilizing servers and other such equipment for periods

²¹² Exhibit (PG&E-2) Chapter 11 workpaper WP 11 -788.

²¹³ Response to TURN 65 -35 Attachment 1.

²¹⁴ Response to TURN 65 -35 Attachment 1.

1 greater than five years. ²¹⁵ However, contained in that confidential document is clear
2 recognition that others in the industry are utilizing such equipment for periods greater
3 than five years, which further supports a lengthening of the life utilized for depreciation
4 purposes in this proceeding.

5
6 From an industry comparative standpoint, it appears that Gannett Fleming's reference
7 that a five-year value is typical for the industry is not reflected in its own industry
8 database. In fact, Gannett Fleming reports 10- and even 15-year life expectancies for data
9 storage and other types of computer-related equipment. ²¹⁶ Therefore, even expectations
10 by Gannett Fleming are often in excess of five years for this account.

11
12 In summary, whether viewed from Company actual operational practices, industry review
13 by outside equipment vendors, or Gannett Fleming's own industry database, a life
14 expectancy greater than five years is appropriate. While a strong argument could be made
15 for a seven-year or longer life expectancy, a conservative estimate is to increase the 5SQ
16 proposed life-curve combination by only one year to a 6SQ life-curve combination.

17
18 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?**

19 A. As compared to the utility's requested level of depreciation expense, my recommendation
20 results in a 16.67% annual depreciation rate versus the Company's proposed 20% annual
21 depreciation rate, which produces a \$13,642,778 reduction in annual depreciation
22 expense based on plant as of December 31, 2011.

23 **SECTION V: HYDROELECTRIC PLANT**

24
25 **Q. WHAT IS THE ISSUE IN THIS PORTION OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

26 A. This portion of my testimony will briefly identify and recognize further reductions in
27 depreciation expense based on Company filed errata.

²¹⁵ Response to TURN 65 -37 Attachment 1 CONFIDENTIAL.

²¹⁶ Response to TURN 28 -3 Attachment 1.

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Q. HAS THE COMPANY SERVED AN UPDATED ERRATA TO ITS NOVEMBER 15, 2012 GENERAL RATE CASE MATERIAL?

A. Yes. The Company submitted Exhibit (PG&E -14) identified as the estimated effect on 2014 revenue requirement inputs.

Q. DID ONE OF THE IDENTIFIED CORRECTIONS RELATE TO DEPRECIATION EXPENSE?

A. Yes. The Company identified corrections to depreciation rates for hydroelectric classes. In particular, the Company corrects the ASL for Hydroelectric Account 333 and Helms Hydroelectric Account 333 – Waterworks, Turbines, and Generators. For hydroelectric plant, the Company admits that the 50 -year ASL reflected in its original filing should have been 70 years. In addition, for Hydroelectric Account 335 – Miscellaneous Power Plant Equipment, the Company’s depreciation study relied on a 40 -year ASL which should have actually been 42 years.²¹⁷

Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF CORRECTING FOR THESE IDENTIFIED ERRORS?

A. The Company states that the depreciation expense in its request should be reduced by \$2,902,000.²¹⁸

Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. Yes. However, to the extent I have not addressed a specific issue, methodology, approach, etc. should not be taken with my concurrence with the Company’s methodology, approach, calculation, etc.

²¹⁷ Response to DRA 089 -04.
²¹⁸ PG&E Errata at Exhibit (PG& E-14) page iv.

**TURN'S Recommended Depreciation - Electric
For Pacific Gas and Electric Company**

	<u>Net Salvage</u>					<u>Annual Accrual</u>			
	Original Cost	Pct.	Amount	Book Reserve	Future Accruals	Composite	Amount	Rate	
	12/31/2011					Remaining			
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (a) x (b)	(d)	(e) = (a) - (c) - (d)	Life	(i) = (e) / (h)	(j) = (i) / (a)	
PRODUCTION:									
Intangible Plant									
302.01	Franchises and Consents		\$ 106,919,908	\$ -	\$ 42,819,922	\$ 64,099,986	27.62	\$ 2,320,782	2.17%
303.01	USBR - Limited Term Electric		\$ 999,605	\$ -	\$ 999,605	\$ -	-		
303.03	Computer Software		\$ 14,547,093	\$ -	\$ 8,655,768	\$ 5,891,325	4.50	\$ 1,309,183	9.00%
Total Intangible			\$ 122,466,606	\$ -	\$ 52,475,295	\$ 69,991,311		\$ 3,629,965	2.96%
Steam Production Plant									
311.03	Structures and Improvements		\$ 106,052,199	\$ -	\$ 7,146,953	\$ 98,905,246	25.70	\$ 3,848,723	3.63%
312.03	Boiler Plant Equipment		\$ 262,691,573	\$ -	\$ 14,547,419	\$ 248,144,154	25.50	\$ 9,731,391	3.70%
312.05	Boiler Plant Equipment		\$ 1,468,570	\$ -	\$ 147,373	\$ 1,321,197	24.88	\$ 53,103	3.62%
314.03	Turbogenerator Units		\$ 229,469,478	\$ -	\$ 14,726,072	\$ 214,743,406	26.17	\$ 8,206,023	3.58%
315.03	Accessory Electric Equipment		\$ 44,707,300	\$ -	\$ 2,993,279	\$ 41,714,021	26.59	\$ 1,568,547	3.51%
316.03	Miscellaneous Power Plant Equip		\$ 24,390,861	\$ -	\$ 1,454,382	\$ 22,936,479	24.99	\$ 917,970	3.76%
Total Steam Production Plant			\$ 668,779,981	\$ -	\$ 41,015,478	\$ 627,764,503		\$ 24,325,756	3.64%
Nuclear Production Plant									
Diablo Canyon - 2001 & Prior									
321.00	Structures and Improvements	-1.0%	\$ 938,816,326	\$ (9,388,163)	\$ 944,379,863	\$ 3,824,626	10.03	\$ 381,227	0.04%
322.00	Reactor Plant Equipment	-1.0%	\$ 2,321,845,547	\$ (23,218,455)	\$ 2,290,083,716	\$ 54,980,286	12.64	\$ 4,350,945	0.19%
323.00	Turbogenerator Units	-1.0%	\$ 956,793,118	\$ (9,567,931)	\$ 960,121,725	\$ 6,239,324	11.44	\$ 545,519	0.06%
324.00	Accessory Electric Equipment	-1.0%	\$ 714,190,458	\$ (7,141,905)	\$ 717,534,900	\$ 3,797,463	11.22	\$ 338,404	0.05%
325.00	Miscellaneous Power Plant Equip	-2.0%	\$ 492,143,612	\$ (9,842,872)	\$ 493,211,686	\$ 8,774,798	11.67	\$ 751,804	0.15%
Total Diablo Canyon 2001 & Prior			\$ 5,423,789,061	\$ (59,159,327)	\$ 5,405,331,890	\$ 77,616,498		\$ 6,367,900	0.12%
Diablo Canyon - 2002 & Subsequent									
321.02	Structures and Improvements	-1.0%	\$ 41,304,620	\$ (413,046)	\$ 552,887	\$ 41,164,779	13.32	\$ 3,089,679	7.48%
322.02	Reactor Plant Equipment	-1.0%	\$ 1,015,174,156	\$ (10,151,742)	\$ 130,427,922	\$ 894,897,976	12.86	\$ 69,575,382	6.85%
323.02	Turbogenerator Units	-1.0%	\$ 171,410,965	\$ (1,714,110)	\$ 10,920,920	\$ 162,204,155	13.02	\$ 12,457,321	7.27%
324.02	Accessory Electric Equipment	-1.0%	\$ 54,483,472	\$ (544,835)	\$ 809,401	\$ 54,218,906	13.13	\$ 4,129,674	7.58%
325.02	Miscellaneous Power Plant Equip	-2.0%	\$ 137,604,046	\$ (2,752,081)	\$ 1,608,277	\$ 138,747,850	13.45	\$ 10,313,686	7.50%
Total Diablo Canyon 2002 & Subsq.			\$ 1,419,977,259	\$ (15,575,813)	\$ 144,319,407	\$ 1,291,233,665		\$ 99,565,741	7.01%
TOTAL NUCLEAR PRODUCTION PLANT			\$ 6,843,766,320	\$ (74,735,140)	\$ 5,549,651,297	\$ 1,368,850,163		\$ 105,933,642	1.55%

TURN'S Recommended Depreciation - Electric
For Pacific Gas and Electric Company

	Net Salvage					Annual Accrual			
	Original Cost	Pct.	Amount	Book Reserve	Future Accruals	Composite	Amount	Rate	
	12/31/2011					Remaining			
(a)	(b)	(c) = (a) x (b)	(d)	(e) = (a) - (c) - (d)	(h)	(i) = (e) / (h)	(j) = (i) / (a)		
Hydro Production Plant									
Hydro Production									
331.00	Structures and Improvements	\$ 153,558,664	-1.0%	\$ (1,535,587)	\$ 110,617,586	\$ 44,476,665	19.53	\$ 2,277,860	1.48%
332.00	Reservoirs, Dams and Waterways	\$ 1,185,104,474	-2.0%	\$ (23,702,089)	\$ 792,352,223	\$ 416,454,340	21.89	\$ 19,025,119	1.61%
333.00	Waterwheels, Turbines and Gen	\$ 364,745,018	-6.0%	\$ (21,884,701)	\$ 175,252,168	\$ 211,377,551	20.03	\$ 10,555,346	2.89%
334.00	Accessory Electric Equipment	\$ 131,632,495	-9.0%	\$ (11,846,925)	\$ 56,285,372	\$ 87,194,048	18.47	\$ 4,720,586	3.59%
335.00	Misc. Power Plant Equipment	\$ 46,502,447	-14.0%	\$ (6,510,343)	\$ 12,945,587	\$ 40,067,203	18.26	\$ 2,193,744	4.72%
336.00	Roads, Railroads and Bridges	\$ 42,354,695	-3.0%	\$ (1,270,641)	\$ 24,827,612	\$ 18,797,724	15.29	\$ 1,229,132	2.90%
	Total Hydro Production	\$ 1,923,897,793		\$ (66,750,285)	\$ 1,172,280,548	\$ 818,367,530		\$ 40,001,787	2.08%
Helms Pumped Storage									
331.00	Structures and Improvements	\$ 165,107,918	-1.0%	\$ (1,651,079)	\$ 162,789,384	\$ 3,969,613	14.42	\$ 275,285	0.17%
332.00	Reservoirs, Dams and Waterways	\$ 412,946,342	-2.0%	\$ (8,258,927)	\$ 415,186,684	\$ 6,018,585	14.41	\$ 417,667	0.10%
333.00	Waterwheels, Turbines and Gen	\$ 184,765,683	-6.0%	\$ (11,085,941)	\$ 151,933,663	\$ 43,917,961	13.46	\$ 3,262,850	1.77%
334.00	Accessory Electric Equipment	\$ 48,542,158	-9.0%	\$ (4,368,794)	\$ 41,717,226	\$ 11,193,726	13.42	\$ 834,108	1.72%
335.00	Misc. Power Plant Equipment	\$ 15,143,723	-14.0%	\$ (2,120,121)	\$ 14,593,883	\$ 2,669,961	12.20	\$ 218,849	1.45%
336.00	Roads, Railroads and Bridges	\$ 8,723,723	-3.0%	\$ (261,712)	\$ 8,451,049	\$ 534,386	13.74	\$ 38,893	0.45%
	Total Helms Pumped Storage	\$ 835,229,547		\$ (27,746,574)	\$ 794,671,889	\$ 68,304,232		\$ 5,047,652	0.60%
TOTAL HYDRO		\$ 2,759,127,340		\$ (94,496,859)	\$ 1,966,952,437	\$ 886,671,762		\$ 45,049,439	1.63%
Other Production:									
341.01	Structures and Improvements	\$ 139,721,663	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 6,543,718	\$ 133,177,945	26.55	\$ 5,016,015	3.59%
342.01	Fuel Holders, Producers and Acces	\$ 10,554,182	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 525,026	\$ 10,029,156	25.60	\$ 391,749	3.71%
343.01	Prime Movers	\$ 219,620,516	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 12,181,386	\$ 207,439,130	26.34	\$ 7,874,930	3.59%
344.01	Generators	\$ 24,874,603	0.0%	\$ -	\$ (2,140,961)	\$ 27,015,564	26.79	\$ 1,008,608	4.05%
345.01	Accessory Electric Equipment	\$ 103,717,181	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 6,034,119	\$ 97,683,062	26.70	\$ 3,658,003	3.53%
346.01	Misc. Power Plan Equipment	\$ 57,122,112	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 3,264,105	\$ 53,858,007	25.06	\$ 2,149,132	3.76%
	Total Other Production	\$ 555,610,257		\$ -	\$ 26,407,393	\$ 529,202,864		\$ 20,098,437	3.62%
Other Production Plant - Fuel Cell									
344.04	Generators - Fuel Cell	\$ 20,726,718	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 914,286	\$ 19,812,432	9.50	\$ 2,085,519	10.06%
	Total Other Prod Plant - Fuel Cell	\$ 20,726,718		\$ -	\$ 914,286	\$ 19,812,432		\$ 2,085,519	10.06%
	TOTAL OTHER PRODUCTION	\$ 576,336,975		\$ -	\$ 27,321,679	\$ 549,015,296		\$ 22,183,956	3.85%
TOTAL PRODUCTION PLANT		\$ 10,848,010,616		\$ (169,231,999)	\$ 7,584,940,891	\$ 3,432,301,724		\$ 197,492,793	1.82%

TURN'S Recommended Depreciation - Electric
For Pacific Gas and Electric Company

		Net Salvage					Composite Remaining Life (h)	Annual Accrual	
		Original Cost	Pct.	Amount	Book Reserve	Future Accruals		Amount	Rate
		12/31/2011 (a)	(b)	(c) = (a) x (b)	(d)	(e) = (a) - (c) - (d)		(i) = (e) / (h)	(j) = (i) / (a)
TRANSMISSION:									
Transmission Plant									
352.01	Structures and Improvements	\$ 532,903	-20.0%	\$ (106,581)	\$ 141,923	\$ 497,561	48.11	\$ 10,342	1.94%
353.01	Station Equip	\$ 21,262,268	-60.0%	\$ (12,757,361)	\$ 5,050,588	\$ 28,969,041	35.14	\$ 824,389	3.88%
353.02	Station Equip - Step Up Transf	\$ 106,144,824	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 75,831,858	\$ 30,312,966	22.72	\$ 1,334,197	1.26%
353.03	Station Equip- Step Up Transf. CC	\$ 61,509,379	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 3,966,557	\$ 57,542,822	28.43	\$ 2,024,018	3.29%
354.00	Towers and Fixtures	\$ 43,733,809	-110.0%	\$ (48,107,190)	\$ 28,948,806	\$ 62,892,193	45.13	\$ 1,393,578	3.19%
354.01	Towers and Fixtures - CC	\$ 15,731,541	-110.0%	\$ (17,304,695)	\$ 1,220,869	\$ 31,815,367	28.44	\$ 1,118,684	7.11%
355.00	Poles and Fixtures	\$ 20,070,372	-75.0%	\$ (15,052,779)	\$ 10,047,554	\$ 25,075,597	38.39	\$ 653,180	3.25%
356.00	Overhead Conductors and Devices	\$ 55,916,302	-80.0%	\$ (44,733,042)	\$ 36,652,895	\$ 63,996,449	39.13	\$ 1,635,483	2.92%
356.01	OH Conductors and Devices (CC)	\$ 2,744,177	-80.0%	\$ (2,195,342)	\$ 276,719	\$ 4,662,800	27.87	\$ 167,305	6.10%
357.00	Underground Conduit	\$ 1,658,749	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 671,401	\$ 987,348	51.65	\$ 19,116	1.15%
358.00	Underground Conductors and Dev	\$ 2,698,412	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 1,340,880	\$ 1,357,532	50.03	\$ 27,134	1.01%
359.00	Roads and Trails	\$ 671,846	-10.0%	\$ (67,185)	\$ 3,995	\$ 735,036	49.78	\$ 14,766	2.20%
	Total Transmission Plant	\$ 332,674,582		\$ (140,324,173)	\$ 164,154,045	\$ 308,844,710		\$ 9,222,194	2.77%
Nuclear Transmission Plant									
352.01	Structures and Improvements	\$ 4,567,076	-20.0%	\$ (913,415)	\$ 4,624,958	\$ 855,533	13.63	\$ 62,768	1.37%
352.02	Structures and Improvements - Equip	\$ 285,487	-20.0%	\$ (57,097)	\$ 289,197	\$ 53,387	13.65	\$ 3,911	1.37%
353.01	Station Equipment	\$ 5,931,741	-60.0%	\$ (3,559,045)	\$ 6,144,116	\$ 3,346,670	12.77	\$ 262,073	4.42%
353.02	Step Up Transformers	\$ 77,478,382	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 47,384,010	\$ 30,094,372	13.48	\$ 2,232,520	2.88%
	Total Nuclear Transmission	\$ 88,262,686		\$ (4,529,557)	\$ 58,442,281	\$ 34,349,962		\$ 2,561,273	2.90%
	TOTAL TRANSMISSION PLANT	\$ 420,937,268		\$ (144,853,730)	\$ 222,596,326	\$ 343,194,672		\$ 11,783,466	2.80%
DISTRIBUTION PLANT:									
361.01	Structures and Improvements	\$ 228,645,956	-20.0%	\$ (45,729,191)	\$ 65,155,380	\$ 209,219,767	40.92	\$ 5,112,898	2.24%
361.02	Structures and Improvements - Equip	\$ 35,514,476	-20.0%	\$ (7,102,895)	\$ 6,176,231	\$ 36,441,140	44.69	\$ 815,420	2.30%
362.00	Station Equipment	\$ 2,187,181,201	-15.0%	\$ (328,077,180)	\$ 636,554,867	\$ 1,878,703,514	36.54	\$ 51,414,984	2.35%
363.00	Storage Battery Equipment	\$ 334,866	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 238,274	\$ 96,592	5.31	\$ 18,191	5.43%
364.00	Poles, Towers and Fixtures	\$ 2,797,335,952	-100.0%	\$ (2,797,335,952)	\$ 1,359,752,820	\$ 4,234,919,084	35.98	\$ 117,702,031	4.21%
365.00	OH Conductors and Devices	\$ 3,380,645,441	-110.0%	\$ (3,718,709,985)	\$ 1,648,860,257	\$ 5,450,495,169	35.28	\$ 154,492,493	4.57%
366.00	Underground Conduit	\$ 2,261,437,411	-20.0%	\$ (452,287,482)	\$ 613,122,474	\$ 2,100,602,419	38.73	\$ 54,237,088	2.40%
367.00	Underground Conductors and Device	\$ 3,265,648,609	-35.0%	\$ (1,142,977,013)	\$ 1,821,917,841	\$ 2,586,707,781	38.51	\$ 67,169,768	2.06%
368.01	Line Transformers - Overhead	\$ 1,600,854,898	-15.0%	\$ (240,128,235)	\$ 505,425,310	\$ 1,335,557,823	28.68	\$ 46,567,567	2.91%
368.02	Line Transformers - Underground	\$ 443,551,909	5.0%	\$ 22,177,595	\$ 163,131,466	\$ 258,242,848	20.32	\$ 12,708,802	2.87%
369.01	Services - Overhead	\$ 691,227,692	-75.0%	\$ (518,420,769)	\$ 500,083,844	\$ 709,564,617	40.99	\$ 17,310,676	2.50%
369.02	Services - Underground	\$ 1,975,794,879	-45.0%	\$ (889,107,696)	\$ 1,015,801,387	\$ 1,849,101,188	28.34	\$ 65,247,043	3.30%
370.01	Meters	\$ 916,875,431	-20.0%	\$ (183,375,086)	\$ 23,014,324	\$ 1,077,236,193	18.48	\$ 58,292,002	6.36%
371.00	Installations on Customers Prem	\$ 27,313,911	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 31,965,922	\$ (4,652,011)	18.79		0.00%
372.00	Leased Property on Customers Prem	\$ 895,448	0.0%	\$ -	\$ 970,063	\$ (74,615)	3.66		0.00%
373.01	St.Lighting & Signal Sys - OH Cond	\$ 11,650,158	-50.0%	\$ (5,825,079)	\$ 9,120,914	\$ 8,354,323	20.06	\$ 416,467	3.57%
373.02	St.Lighting & Signal Sys-Conduit & Cbl	\$ 27,639,866	-20.0%	\$ (5,527,973)	\$ 13,087,937	\$ 20,079,902	12.94	\$ 1,551,770	5.61%
373.03	St.Lighting & Signal Sys - Lamps & Equ	\$ 94,706,670	-61.79%	\$ (58,521,968)	\$ 70,821,864	\$ 82,406,774	13.67	\$ 6,026,460	6.36%
373.04	St.Lighting & Signal Sys - Electroliers	\$ 33,058,009	-25.0%	\$ (8,264,502)	\$ 24,171,898	\$ 17,150,613	12.46	\$ 1,376,454	4.16%
	Total Distribution Plant	\$ 19,980,312,783		\$ (10,379,213,411)	\$ 8,509,373,073	\$ 21,850,153,121		\$ 660,460,113	3.31%

**TURN'S Recommended Depreciation - Electric
For Pacific Gas and Electric Company**

	<u>Net Salvage</u>					<u>Annual Accrual</u>			
	Original Cost	Pct.	Amount	Book Reserve	Future Accruals	Composite Remaining Life	Amount	Rate	
	12/31/2011								(a)
GENERAL:									
General Plant									
390.00	Structures and Improvements	\$ 7,815,629	-10.0%	\$ (781,563)	\$ 5,119,455	\$ 3,477,737	21.43	\$ 162,284	2.08%
391.00	Office Furniture & Equipment	\$ 13,847,350		\$ -	\$ 2,558,459	\$ 11,288,891	11.33	\$ 996,372	7.20%
394.00	Tools, Shop & Work Equipment	\$ 59,861,302		\$ -	\$ 20,617,465	\$ 39,243,837	17.91	\$ 2,191,169	3.66%
395.00	Laboratory Equipment	\$ 5,507,868		\$ -	\$ 1,105,394	\$ 4,402,474	8.42	\$ 522,859	9.49%
396.00	Power Operated Equipment	\$ 312,669		\$ -	\$ 195,310	\$ 117,359	5.92	\$ 19,824	6.34%
397.00	Communication Equipment	\$ 8,922,561		\$ -	\$ 5,168,911	\$ 3,753,650	8.37	\$ 448,465	5.03%
397.08	AMI Communication Network	\$ 10		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10	18.75	\$ 1	5.33%
398.00	Miscellaneous Equipment	\$ 10,440,534		\$ -	\$ (1,499,734)	\$ 11,940,268	8.32	\$ 1,435,128	13.75%
	Total General Plant	\$ 106,707,923		\$ (781,563)	\$ 33,265,260	\$ 74,224,226		\$ 5,776,101	5.41%
Nuclear General Plant									
391.00	Office Furniture & Equipment	\$ 179,413		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 179,413	19.50	\$ 9,201	5.13%
398.00	Miscellaneous Equipment	\$ 1,878,924		\$ -	\$ 1,083	\$ 1,877,841	19.49	\$ 96,349	5.13%
	Total Nuclear General Plant	\$ 2,058,337		\$ -	\$ 1,083	\$ 2,057,254		\$ 105,550	5.13%
	TOTAL GENERAL PLANT	\$ 108,766,260		\$ (781,563)	\$ 33,266,343	\$ 76,281,480		\$ 5,881,651	5.41%
	TOTAL TURN'S ELECTRIC PLANT	\$ 31,480,493,533		\$ (10,694,080,703)	\$ 16,402,651,928	\$ 25,771,922,308		\$ 879,247,987	2.79%
	COMPANY PROPOSED - ELECTRIC PLANT							\$ 1,221,803,975	
	DIFFERENCE							\$ (342,555,988)	

**TURN'S Recommended Depreciation - Gas
For Pacific Gas and Electric Company**

		Original Cost 12/31/2011	Net Salvage		Book Reserve	Future Accruals	Composite Remaining Life (g)	Annual Accrual	
			Pct.	Amount				Amount	Rate
			(b)	(c) = (a) x (b)				(h) = (e) / (g)	(i) = (h) / (a)
GAS PLANT:									
Intangible Plant									
302.02	Franchises and Consents	\$ 674,445	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 257,357	\$ 417,088	7.98	\$ 52,267	7.75%
303.02	Software	\$ 2,351,025	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 1,566,214	\$ 784,811	4.50	\$ 174,402	7.42%
	Intangible Plant	\$ 3,025,470		\$ -	\$ 1,823,571	\$ 1,201,899		\$ 226,669	7.49%
Local Storage Plant									
361.01	Structures and Improvements	\$ 1,520,010	-5.00%	\$ (76,001)	\$ 1,077,761	\$ 518,250	12.29	\$ 42,168	2.77%
362.00	Gas Holders	\$ 5,704,253	-15.00%	\$ (855,638)	\$ 2,792,903	\$ 3,766,988	17.87	\$ 210,800	3.70%
363.00	Purification Equipment	\$ 1,900		\$ -	\$ 1,385	\$ 515	8.67	\$ 59	3.13%
363.30	Compressor Equipment	\$ 607,899		\$ -	\$ 505,204	\$ 102,695	9.57	\$ 10,731	1.77%
363.40	Measuring and Regulating Equip	\$ 227,054		\$ -	\$ 69,786	\$ 157,268	22.16	\$ 7,097	3.13%
363.50	Other Equipment	\$ 3,075,476		\$ -	\$ 2,011,001	\$ 1,064,475	15.87	\$ 67,075	2.18%
	Total Local Storage Plant	\$ 11,136,592		\$ (931,638)	\$ 6,458,040	\$ 5,610,190		\$ 337,930	3.03%
Distribution Plant									
375.00	Structures and Improvements	\$ 2,548,729	-5.00%	\$ (127,436)	\$ 707,410	\$ 1,968,755	44.42	\$ 44,321	1.74%
376.00	Mains	\$ 2,513,182,424	-50.00%	\$ (1,256,591,212)	\$ 1,316,238,420	\$ 2,453,535,216	47.51	\$ 51,642,501	2.05%
377.00	Compressor Station Equipment	\$ 2,284,540		\$ -	\$ 543,727	\$ 1,740,813	25.20	\$ 69,080	3.02%
378.00	Measuring and Regul Station Equip	\$ 157,168,770	-35.00%	\$ (55,009,070)	\$ 79,331,508	\$ 132,846,332	39.69	\$ 3,347,098	2.13%
380.00	Services	\$ 2,625,153,784	-105.00%	\$ (2,756,411,473)	\$ 2,120,491,605	\$ 3,261,073,652	40.45	\$ 80,619,868	3.07%
381.00	Meters	\$ 733,765,548	-25.00%	\$ (183,441,387)	\$ 206,761,048	\$ 710,445,887	15.47	\$ 45,924,104	6.26%
383.00	House Regulators	\$ 164,816,115	-5.00%	\$ (8,240,806)	\$ 98,294,746	\$ 74,762,175	12.28	\$ 6,088,125	3.69%
385.00	Ind. Measuring and Regulating Equip	\$ 34,457,408	-10.00%	\$ (3,445,741)	\$ 22,154,251	\$ 15,748,898	21.47	\$ 733,530	2.13%
386.00	Other Property on Cust Prem	\$ 165,632	0.00%	\$ -	\$ 79,704	\$ 85,928	20.88	\$ 4,115	2.48%
387.00	Other Equipment	\$ 19,495,581	5.00%	\$ 974,779	\$ 11,933,427	\$ 6,587,375	15.68	\$ 420,113	2.15%
	Total Distribution Plant	\$ 6,253,038,531		\$ (4,262,292,346)	\$ 3,856,535,846	\$ 6,658,795,031		\$ 188,892,856	3.02%
General Plant									
390.00	Structures and Improvements	\$ 11,774,184	-10.00%	\$ (1,177,418)	\$ 7,425,032	\$ 5,526,570	19.25	\$ 287,095	2.44%
391.00	Office Furniture and Equipment	\$ 5,006,174		\$ -	\$ 1,884,357	\$ 3,121,817	5.52	\$ 565,547	11.30%
394.00	Tools, Shop and Work Equip	\$ 14,227,432		\$ -	\$ 2,757,095	\$ 11,470,337	18.61	\$ 616,353	4.33%
395.00	Laboratory Equip	\$ 426,160		\$ -	\$ 63,358	\$ 362,802	6.29	\$ 57,679	13.53%
396.00	Power Operated Equip	\$ 41,638		\$ -	\$ 6,793	\$ 34,845	2.05	\$ 16,998	40.82%
397.08	Communication Equip - AMI	\$ 25,576,245		\$ -	\$ 459,832	\$ 25,116,413	19.50	\$ 1,288,021	5.04%
398.00	Miscellaneous Equip	\$ 5,255,837		\$ -	\$ 936,021	\$ 4,319,816	10.72	\$ 402,968	7.67%
399.00	Other Tangible Property	\$ 123,706		\$ -	\$ 53,844	\$ 69,862	1.00	\$ 69,862	56.47%
	Total General Plant	\$ 62,431,376		\$ (1,177,418)	\$ 13,586,332	\$ 50,022,462		\$ 3,304,522	5.29%
TOTAL TURN'S GAS PLANT		<u>\$ 6,329,631,969</u>		<u>\$ (4,264,401,403)</u>	<u>\$ 3,878,403,789</u>	<u>\$ 6,715,629,583</u>		<u>\$ 192,761,977</u>	3.05%
COMPANY PROPOSED - GAS PLANT								<u>\$ 270,164,061</u>	
DIFFERENCE								<u>\$ (77,402,084)</u>	

TURN'S Recommended Depreciation - Common
For Pacific Gas and Electric Company

		Net Salvage				Annual Accrual			
		Original Cost				Composite			
		12/31/2011	Pct.	Amount	Book Reserve	Future Accruals	Remaining	Amount	Rate
		(a)	(b)	(c) = (a) x (b)	(d)	(e) = (a) - (c) - (d)	(g)	(h) = (e) / (g)	(i) = (h) / (a)
Common Plant									
303.02	Software	\$ 581,867,909		\$ -	\$ 222,293,164	\$ 359,574,745	2.51	\$ 143,256,871	24.62%
303.04	Software CIS	\$ 603,631,064		\$ -	\$ 247,356,958	\$ 356,274,106	8.97	\$ 39,718,406	6.58%
390.00	Structures and Improvements	\$ 1,125,307,091	25.00%	\$ 281,326,773	\$ 477,014,724	\$ 366,965,594	41.69	\$ 8,802,245	0.78%
391.01	Ofc Machines and Computer Equip	\$ 207,386,092		\$ -	\$ 139,252,694	\$ 68,133,398	2.79	\$ 24,420,573	11.78%
391.02	PC Hardware	\$ 80,428,501		\$ -	\$ 11,071,953	\$ 69,356,548	2.91	\$ 23,833,865	29.63%
391.03	Office Furniture and Equipment	\$ 120,264,242		\$ -	\$ 17,353,533	\$ 102,910,709	8.86	\$ 11,615,204	9.66%
391.04	Ofc Machine and Comp Equip-CIS	\$ 155,602,516		\$ -	\$ 43,338,108	\$ 112,264,408	11.11	\$ 10,104,807	6.49%
392.01	Transportation Equip - Air	\$ 25,705,836	50.00%	\$ 12,852,918	\$ 9,672,864	\$ 3,180,054	8.50	\$ 374,124	1.46%
392.02	Transportation Equip - Class P	\$ 6,143,694	10.00%	\$ 614,369	\$ 4,237,974	\$ 1,291,351	2.95	\$ 437,746	7.13%
392.03	Transportation Equip - Class C2	\$ 19,323,847	10.00%	\$ 1,932,385	\$ 13,281,613	\$ 4,109,849	3.42	\$ 1,201,710	6.22%
392.04	Transportation Equip - Class C4	\$ 12,134,511	10.00%	\$ 1,213,451	\$ 6,863,781	\$ 4,057,279	4.34	\$ 934,857	7.70%
392.05	Transportation Equip - Class T1	\$ 73,745,572	10.00%	\$ 7,374,557	\$ 26,624,561	\$ 39,746,454	5.50	\$ 7,226,628	9.80%
392.06	Transportation Equip - Class T2	\$ 235,651,496	10.00%	\$ 23,565,150	\$ 90,266,288	\$ 121,820,058	6.41	\$ 19,004,689	8.06%
392.07	Transportation Equip - Class T4	\$ 244,524,548	10.00%	\$ 24,452,455	\$ 99,427,497	\$ 120,644,596	8.97	\$ 13,449,788	5.50%
392.08	Transportation Equip - Vessels	\$ 651,338	10.00%	\$ 65,134	\$ 690,144	\$ (103,940)	9.32	\$ -	0.00%
392.09	Transportation Equip - Trailers	\$ 26,688,671	10.00%	\$ 2,668,867	\$ 18,835,357	\$ 5,184,447	14.31	\$ 362,295	1.36%
393.00	Stores Equipment	\$ 6,389,163		\$ -	\$ 292,354	\$ 6,096,809	10.99	\$ 554,760	8.68%
394.00	Tools, Shop and Garage Equip	\$ 56,955,390		\$ -	\$ 31,491,114	\$ 25,464,276	15.13	\$ 1,683,032	2.96%
395.00	Laboratory Equip	\$ 11,144,134		\$ -	\$ 955,831	\$ 10,188,303	11.96	\$ 851,865	7.64%
396.00	Power Operated Equipment	\$ 97,030,639	20.00%	\$ 19,406,128	\$ 16,081,864	\$ 61,542,647	9.57	\$ 6,430,789	6.63%
397.01	Commun Equip -Non Comp	\$ 31,067,775		\$ -	\$ 10,828,697	\$ 20,239,078	4.00	\$ 5,059,770	16.29%
397.02	Commun Equip -Computer	\$ 73,724,571		\$ -	\$ 31,012,387	\$ 42,712,184	2.85	\$ 14,986,731	20.33%
397.03	Commun Equip -Radio Syst	\$ 27,938,398		\$ -	\$ 11,986,722	\$ 15,951,676	3.94	\$ 4,048,649	14.49%
397.04	Commun Equip -Voice Syst	\$ 31,840,421		\$ -	\$ 14,114,128	\$ 17,726,293	3.98	\$ 4,453,842	13.99%
397.05	Commun Equip -Trans Syst	\$ 289,701,233		\$ -	\$ 81,732,627	\$ 207,968,606	15.27	\$ 13,619,424	4.70%
397.06	Commun Equip -Trans Gas AMI	\$ 341,218,692		\$ -	\$ 39,247,172	\$ 301,971,520	17.68	\$ 17,079,837	5.01%
397.08	AMI Communications Network	\$ 115,977,860		\$ -	\$ 12,809,443	\$ 103,168,417	17.78	\$ 5,802,498	5.00%
398.00	Miscellaneous Equipment	\$ 15,214,910		\$ -	\$ 4,256,042	\$ 10,958,868	9.82	\$ 1,115,974	7.33%
399.00	Other Tangible Property	\$ 14,191		\$ -	\$ 5,587	\$ 8,604	1.00	\$ 8,604	60.63%
	Total Common Plant	\$ 4,617,274,305		\$ 375,472,186	\$ 1,682,395,181	\$ 2,559,406,938		\$ 380,439,584	8.24%

TURN'S Recommended Depreciation - Common
For Pacific Gas and Electric Company

		Net Salvage				Annual Accrual			
		Original Cost	Pct.	Amount	Book Reserve	Future Accruals	Composite Remaining Life	Amount	Rate
		12/31/2011		(c) = (a) x (b)	(d)	(e) = (a) - (c) - (d)	(g)	(h) = (e) / (g)	(i) = (h) / (a)
		(a)	(b)	(c) = (a) x (b)	(d)	(e) = (a) - (c) - (d)	(g)	(h) = (e) / (g)	(i) = (h) / (a)
COMMON NUCLEAR PLANT									
303.02	DCPP Software	\$ 73,526,271		\$ -	\$ 7,119,239	\$ 66,407,032	6.54	\$ 10,153,980	13.81%
390.00	Structures and Improvements	\$ 43,596,283	-10.00%	\$ (4,359,628)	\$ 39,396,865	\$ 8,559,046	11.74	\$ 729,050	1.67%
391.01	Office Machines and Comp Equip	\$ 150,048		\$ -	\$ (14,462)	\$ 164,510	2.50	\$ 65,804	43.86%
391.02	PC Hardware	\$ 612,324		\$ -	\$ (266,872)	\$ 879,196	1.00	\$ 879,196	143.58%
391.03	Office Furn and Equipment	\$ 6,274,354		\$ -	\$ 5,027,795	\$ 1,246,559	7.04	\$ 177,068	2.82%
392.02	Transportation Equip - Class P	\$ 40,947	10.00%	\$ 4,095	\$ 40,947	\$ (4,095)	1.63	\$ -	
392.03	Transportation Equip - Class C2	\$ 788,600	10.00%	\$ 78,860	\$ 585,283	\$ 124,457	2.87	\$ 43,365	5.50%
392.04	Transportation Equip - Class C4	\$ 238,434	10.00%	\$ 23,843	\$ 163,301	\$ 51,290	2.86	\$ 17,933	7.52%
392.05	Transportation Equip - Class T1	\$ 679,742	10.00%	\$ 67,974	\$ 435,085	\$ 176,683	4.07	\$ 43,411	6.39%
392.06	Transportation Equip - Class T2	\$ 545,756	10.00%	\$ 54,576	\$ 316,392	\$ 174,788	4.76	\$ 36,720	6.73%
392.07	Transportation Equip - Class T4	\$ 770,827	10.00%	\$ 77,083	\$ 294,254	\$ 399,490	9.50	\$ 42,052	5.46%
392.08	Transportation Equip - Vessels	\$ 115,493	10.00%	\$ 11,549	\$ 115,493	\$ (11,549)	5.08		
392.09	Transportation Equip - Trailers	\$ 760,045	10.00%	\$ 76,005	\$ 682,127	\$ 1,914	10.76	\$ 178	0.02%
393.00	Stores Equipment	\$ 90,173		\$ -	\$ 13,242	\$ 76,931	13.50	\$ 5,699	6.32%
394.00	Tools, Shop and Garage Equip	\$ 388,500		\$ -	\$ 389,701	\$ (1,201)	9.50		
395.00	Laboratory Equip	\$ 2,361,834		\$ -	\$ 1,005,288	\$ 1,356,546	11.48	\$ 118,166	5.00%
396.00	Power Operated Equipment	\$ 5,953,779	20.00%	\$ 1,190,756	\$ 1,568,148	\$ 3,194,875	9.48	\$ 337,012	5.66%
397.01	Commun Equip -Non Comp	\$ 1,667,891		\$ -	\$ 628,935	\$ 1,038,956	3.43	\$ 302,903	18.16%
397.02	Commun Equip -Computer	\$ 39,344		\$ -	\$ (222,197)	\$ 261,541	1.00	\$ 261,541	664.75%
397.03	Commun Equip -Radio Syst	\$ 351,140		\$ -	\$ 186,261	\$ 164,879	1.97	\$ 83,695	23.84%
397.04	Commun Equip -Voice Syst	\$ 5,809,244		\$ -	\$ 4,548,030	\$ 1,261,214	1.47	\$ 857,969	14.77%
397.05	Commun Equip -Trans Syst	\$ 10,108,117		\$ -	\$ 9,366,969	\$ 741,148	8.32	\$ 89,080	0.88%
398.00	Miscellaneous Equipment	\$ 5,394,863		\$ -	\$ 1,547,517	\$ 3,847,346	14.67	\$ 262,259	4.86%
	Total Common Nuclear Plant	\$ 160,264,009		\$ (2,774,888)	\$ 72,927,341	\$ 90,111,556		\$ 14,507,081	9.05%
TOTAL TURN'S COMMON PLANT		\$ 4,777,538,314		\$ 372,697,298	\$ 1,755,322,522	\$ 2,649,518,494		\$ 394,946,665	8.27%
COMPANY PROPOSED - COMMON PLANT							\$ 430,589,751		
DIFFERENCE							<u>\$ (35,643,086)</u>		
TOTAL TURN RECOMMENDED DEPRECIATION EXPENSE							\$ 1,466,956,630		
TOTAL COMPANY PROPOSED DEPRECIATION EXPENSE							<u>\$ 1,922,557,787</u>		
DIFFERENCE							<u>\$ (455,601,157)</u>		

JACOB POUS, P.E.

PRESIDENT, DIVERSIFIED UTILITY CONSULTANTS, INC.

B.S. INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING, M.S. MANAGEMENT

I graduated from the University of Missouri in 1972, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering, and I graduated with a Master of Science in Management from Rollins College in 1980. I have also completed a series of depreciation programs sponsored by Western Michigan University, and have attended numerous other utility related seminars.

Since my graduation from college, I have been continuously employed in various aspects of the utility business. I started with Kansas City Power & Light Company, working in the Rate Department, Corporate Planning and Economic Controls Department, and for a short time in a power plant. My responsibilities included preparation of testimony and exhibits for retail and wholesale rate cases. I participated in cost of service studies, a loss of load probability study, fixed charge analysis, and economic comparison studies. I was also a principal member of project teams that wrote, installed, maintained, and operated both a computerized series of depreciation programs and a computerized financial corporate model.

I joined the firm of R. W. Beck and Associates, an international consulting engineering firm with over 500 employees performing predominantly utility related work, in 1976 as an Engineer in the Rate Department of its Southeastern Regional Office. While employed with that firm, I prepared and presented rate studies for various electric, gas, water, and sewer systems, prepared and assisted in the preparation of cost of service studies, prepared depreciation and decommissioning analyses for wholesale and retail rate proceedings, and assisted in the development of power supply studies for electric systems. I resigned from that firm in November 1986 in order to co-found Diversified Utility Consultants, Inc. At the time of my resignation, I held the titles of Executive Engineer, Associate and Supervisor of Rates in the Austin office of R. W. Beck and Associates.

As a principal of the firm of Diversified Utility Consultants, Inc., I have presented and prepared numerous electric, gas, and water analyses in both retail and wholesale proceedings. These analyses have been performed on behalf of clients, including public utility commissions, throughout the United States and Canada.

I have been involved in over 400 different utility rate proceedings, many of which have resulted in settlements prior to the presentation of testimony before regulatory bodies. I am registered to practice as a Professional Engineer in many states.

**UTILITY RATE PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH
TESTIMONY HAS BEEN PRESENTED BY JACOB POUS**

ALASKA		
ALASKA REGULATORY COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Beluga Pipe Line Company	P-04-81	Refundable Rates
Beluga Pipe Line Company	U-07-141	Depreciation
Kenai Nikiski Pipeline	U-04-81	Rate Base
ARIZONA		
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Citizens Utilities Company	E-1032-93-111	Depreciation
ARKANSAS		
ARKANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Reliant Energy ARKLA	01-0243-U	Depreciation
CALIFORNIA		
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Pacific Gas & Electric Company	App. No. 97-12-020	Depreciation, Net Salvage, and Amortization of True-Up
Pacific Gas & Electric Company	App. No. 02-11-017	Mass Property Salvage, Net Salvage, Mass Property Life, Life Analysis, Remaining Life, Depreciation
San Diego Gas & Electric Company		Value of Power Plants
Southern California Edison Company	App 02-05-004	Depreciation, Net Salvage
Southern California Edison Company	App 10-11-015	Mass Property Life and Net Salvage
Southern California Gas & San Diego Gas & Electric Company	Apps 10-12-005 & 10-12-006	Mass Property Life, Mass Property Net Salvage
CANADA		
ALBERTA ENERGY AND UTILITIES BOARD		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
AltaLink Management/ Transalta Utilities Corporation	App. Nos. 1279345 and 1279347	Depreciation
Epcor Distribution, Inc.	App. No. 1306821	Depreciation
Enmax Corporation	App. No. 1306818	Depreciation
Transalta Utilities Corporation	TFO Tariff App. 1287507	Depreciation
UtiliCorp Networks Canada (Alberta) Ltd.	App. No. 1250392	Depreciation
Atco Electric	App. No. 1275494	Depreciation

ALBERTA PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Alberta Power Limited	E 91095	Depreciation
Alberta Power Limited	E 97065	Depreciation
Canadian Western Natural Gas Company, Ltd.		Depreciation
Centra Gas Alberta, Inc.		Depreciation
Edmonton Power Company	E 97065	Depreciation
Edmonton Power Generation, Inc.	1999/2000	GUR Compliance, Depreciation
Northwestern Utilities, Lt d	E 91044	Depreciation
NOVA Gas Transmission , Ltd.	RE95006	Depreciation
TransAlta Utilities Corporation	E 91093	Depreciation
TransAlta Utilities Corporation	E 97065	Depreciation
TransAlta Utilities Corporation	App. No. 200051	Gain on Sale
ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
AltaGas Utilities	1606694	Life Analysis, Net Salvage
AltaLink Management, Ltd.	1606895	Life Analysis, Net Salvage
AltaLink Management, Ltd.	1608711	Life Analysis, Net Salvage
ATCO Gas	1606822	Life Analysis, Net Salvage
FortisAlberta	1607159	Life Analysis, Net Salvage
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES		
Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro		Depreciation, Life Analysis
Newfoundland Power, Inc.	2013/2014 GRA	Depreciation, Life Analysis, Net Salvage, ELG vs. ALG
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Northwest Territories Power Corporation	1995/96 and 1996-97	Depreciation
Northwest Territories Power Corporation	2001	Depreciation
NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Nova Scotia Power, Inc.	M03665	Production Plant Life and Net Salvage (Inflation), Interim Retirements, Mass Property Life and Net Salvage, ELG vs. ALG, Remaining Life, Fully Accrued
COURTS		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
7 th Judicial Circuit Court of Florida	2008-30441-CICI	Depreciation Valuation
112 th Judicial District Court of Texas	5093	Ratemaking Principles, Calculation of damages
253 rd Judicial District Court of Texas	45,615	Ratemaking Principles, Level of Bond
126 th Judicial District Court of Texas	91-1519	Ratemaking Principles, Level of Bond

172 Judicial District Court of Texas		Franchise Fees
United States Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of Texas	93-10408S	Level of Harm, Ratemaking, Equity for Creditors
3 rd Judicial District Court of Texas		Adequacy of Notice
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Washington Gas Light Company	768	Depreciation
FLORIDA		
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Progress Energy Florida, Inc.	090079-EI	Depreciation, Excess Reserve
Progress Energy Florida, Inc.	050078-EL	Depreciation, Excess Reserve
Florida Power & Light Company	790380-EU	Territorial Dispute
Florida Power & Light Company	080677-EI 090130-EI	Depreciation, Excess Reserve
Florida Power & Light Company	120015-EI	Excess Reserve
Florida Power & Light Company	120015-EI	Settlement Analysis
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Alabama Power Company	ER83-369	Depreciation
Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative v. Connecticut Light & Power Company	EL83-14	Decommissioning
Florida Power & Light Company	ER84-379	Depreciation, Decommissioning
Florida Power & Light Company	ER93-327-000	Transmission Access
Georgia Power Company	ER76-587	Rate Base
Georgia Power Company	ER79-88	Depreciation
Georgia Power Company	ER81-730	Coal Fuel Stock Inventory, Depreciation
ISO New England, Inc.	ER07-166-000	Depreciation
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company	ER84-344-001	Depreciation, Decommissioning
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company	ER88-202	Decommissioning
Pacific Gas & Electric	ER80-214	Depreciation
Public Service of Indiana	ER95-625-000, ER95-626-000 & ER95-039-000	Depreciation, Dismantlement
Southern California Edison Company	ER81-177	Depreciation
Southern California Edison Company	ER82-427	Depreciation, Decommissioning
Southern California Edison Company	ER84-75	Depreciation, Decommissioning
Southwestern Public Service Company	EL 89-50	Depreciation, Decommissioning
System Energy Resource, Inc.	ER95-1042-000	Depreciation, Decommissioning

Vermont Electric Power Company	ER83 342000 & 343000	Decommissioning
Virginia Electric and Power Company	ER78-522	Depreciation, Rate Base
INDIANA		
INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET No.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Indianapolis Water Company	39128	Depreciation
Indiana Michigan Power Company	39314	Depreciation, Decommissioning
KANSAS		
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET No.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company	181,200-U	Depreciation
United Cities Gas Company	181,940-U	Depreciation
LOUISIANA		
LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET No.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Louisiana Power & Light Company	U-16945	Nuclear Prudence, Depreciation
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET No.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Entergy New Orleans, Inc.	UD-00-2	Rate Base, Depreciation
MASSACHUSETTS		
MASSACHUSETTS TELECOMMUNICATION AND ENERGY		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET No.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Bay State Gas	D.T.E.-0527	Depreciation
National Grid/KeySpan	07-30	Quality of Service
MISSISSIPPI		
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET No.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Mississippi Power Company	U-3739	Cost of Service, Rate Base, Depreciation
MONTANA		
MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET No.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Montana Power Company (Gas)	90.6.39	Depreciation
Montana Power Company (Electric)	90.3.17	Depreciation, Decommissioning
Montana Power Company (Electric and Gas)	95.9.128	Depreciation
Montana-Dakota Utilities	D2007.7.79	Depreciation
Montana-Dakota Utilities	D2010.8.82	Depreciation, Interim Retirements, Production Plant Life and Net Salvage
Montana-Dakota Utilities	D2012.9.100	Depreciation
NEVADA		

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA		
JURISDICTION / COMPANY	DOCKET NO.	TESTIMONY TOPIC
Nevada Power Company	81-602, 81-685 Cons.	Depreciation
Nevada Power Company	83-667, Consolidated	Depreciation
Nevada Power Company	91-5032	Depreciation, Decommissioning
Nevada Power Company	03-10002	Depreciation
Nevada Power Company	08-12002	Depreciation, CWC
Nevada Power Company	06-06051	Depreciation, Life Spans, Decommissioning Costs, Deferred Accounting
Nevada Power Company	06-11022	General Rate Case
Nevada Power Company	10-02009	Production Life Spans
Nevada Power Company	11-06007	Early Retirement, Production Plant Net Salvage, Mass Property Life, Mass Property Net Salvage, Excess APFD
Sierra Pacific Gas Company	06-07010	Depreciation, Generating Plant Life Spans, Decommissioning Costs, Carrying Costs
Sierra Pacific Power Company	83-955	Depreciation (Electric, Gas, Water, Common)
Sierra Pacific Power Company	86-557	Depreciation, Decommissioning
Sierra Pacific Power Company	89-516, 517, 518	Depreciation, Decommissioning (Electric, Gas, Water, Common)
Sierra Pacific Power Company	91-7079, 80, 81	Depreciation, Decommissioning (Electric, Gas, Water, Common)
Sierra Pacific Power Company	03-12002	Allowable Level of Plant in Service
Sierra Pacific Power Company	05-10004	Depreciation
Sierra Pacific Power Company	05-10006	Depreciation
Sierra Pacific Power Company	07-12001	Depreciation, CWC
Sierra Pacific Power Company	10-06003	Depreciation, Excess Reserve, Life Spans, Net Salvage
Sierra Pacific Power Company	10-06004	Depreciation, Net Salvage
Sierra Pacific Power Company	12-08009	IRP-Coal Plant Service Life
Southwest Gas Corporation	93-3025 & 93- 3005	Depreciation
Southwest Gas Corporation	04-3011	Depreciation
Southwest Gas Corporation	07-09030	Depreciation
Southwest Gas Corporation	12-04005	Depreciation

NORTH CAROLINA		
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
North Carolina Natural Gas	G-21, Sub 177	Cost of Service, Rate Design, Depreciation
OKLAHOMA		
OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corporation	PUD 200300088	CWC, Legal Expenses, Factoring, Cost Allocation, Depreciation
Oklahoma Natural Gas Company	PUD 980000683	Depreciation, Calculation Procedure, Depreciation on CWIP
Reliant Energy ARKLA	PUD 200200166	Depreciation, Net Salvage, Software Amortization
Public Service Company of Oklahoma	PUD 960000214	Depreciation, Interim Activity, Net Salvage, Mass Property, Rate Calculation Technique
Public Service Company of Oklahoma	PUD 200600285	Depreciation
Public Service Company of Oklahoma	PUD 200800144	Depreciation
Public Service Company of Oklahoma	PUD 201000050	Depreciation, Evaluation vs. Measurement, Interim and Terminal Net Salvage, Economies of Scale
Oklahoma Gas & Electric	PUD 201100087	Depreciation
TEXAS		
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC	29526	Stranded Costs
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC	36918	Hurricane Cost Recovery
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC	38339	Depreciation, Net Salvage, Excess Reserve, Gain on Sale
Central Power & Light Company	6375	Depreciation, Rate Base, Cost of Service
Central Power & Light Company	8439	Fuel Factor
Central Power & Light Company	8646	Rate Base, Excess Capacity, Depreciation, Rate Design, Rate Case Expense
Central Power & Light Company	9561	Depreciation, Excess Capacity, Cost of Service, Rate Base, Taxes
Central Power & Light Company	11371	Economic Development Rate
Central Power & Light Company	12820	Nuclear Fuel and Process, OPEB, Pension, Factoring, Depreciation
Central Power & Light Company	14965	Depreciation, Cash Working Capital, Pension, OPEB, Factoring, Demonstration and Selling Expense, Non -Nuclear Decommissioning

Central Power & Light Company	22352	Depreciation
Central Telephone & United Telephone Company of Texas d/b/a Sprint	17809	Rate Case Expenses
City of Fredericksburg	7661	Territorial Dispute
El Paso Electric Company	9165	Depreciation
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	16705	Depreciation, Prepayments, Payroll Expense, Pension Expense, OPEB, CWC, Transfer of T&D Depreciation
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	21111	Reconcilable Fuel Costs
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	21384	Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	23000	Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	22356	Unbundling, Competition, Cost of Service
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	23550	Reconcilable Fuel Costs
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	24336	Price to Beat
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	24460	Implement PUC Subst.R.25.41(f)(3)(D)
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	24469	Delay of Deregulation
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	24953	Interim Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	26612	Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	28504	Interim Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	28818	Cert. for Independent Organization
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	29408	Fuel Reconciliation
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	30163	Interim Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	31315	Incremental Purchase Capacity Rider
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	31544	Transition to Competition Cost
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	32465	Interim Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	32710	River Bend 30%, Explicit Capacity, Imputed Capacity, IPCR, SGSF Operating Costs and Depreciation Recovery, Option Costs
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	33687	Transition to Competition
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	33966	Interim Fuel Surcharge
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	32907	Hurricane Reconstruction
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	34724	IPCR
Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	34800	JSP, Depreciation, Decommissioning, Amortization, CWC, Franchise Fees, Rate Case Exp.
Entergy Texas Inc.	37744	Depreciation, Property Insurance Reserve, Cash Working Capital, Decommissioning Funding, Gas Storage
Entergy Texas Inc.	39896	Depreciation, Amortization, Property Insurance Reserve, Cash Working Capital
Gulf States Utilities Company	5560	Depreciation, Fuel Cost Factor

Gulf States Utilities Company	5820	Fuel Cost, Capacity Factors, Heat Rates
Gulf States Utilities Company	6525	Depreciation, Rate Case Expenses
Gulf States Utilities Company	7195 & 6755	Depreciation, Interim Cash Study, Excess Capacity, Rate Case Expense
Gulf States Utilities Company	8702	Rate Case Expenses, Depreciation
Gulf States Utilities Company	10,894	Fuel Reconciliation, Rate Case Expenses
Gulf States Utilities Company & Entergy Corporation	11292	Acquisition Adjustment Regulatory Plan, Base Rate, Rate Case Expenses
Gulf States Utilities Company & Entergy Corporation	12423	North Star Steel Agreement
Gulf States Utilities Company & Entergy Corporation	12852	Depreciation, OPEB, Pensions, Cash Working Capital, Other Cost of Service, and Rate Base Items
Houston Light & Power Company	6765	Depreciation, Production Plant, Early Retirement
Lower Colorado River Authority	8400	Rate Design
Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.	10820	Cost of Service, Financial Integrity, Rate Case Expenses
Oncor Electric Delivery, LLC	35717	Depreciation, Self-Insurance, Payroll, Automated Meters, Regulatory Assets, PHFU
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	18513	Rate Case Expenses
Southwestern Electric Power Company	3716	Depreciation
Southwestern Electric Power Company	4628	Depreciation
Southwestern Electric Power Company	5301	Depreciation, Fuel Charges, Franchise Fees
Southwestern Electric Power Company	24449	Fuel Factor Component of Price to Beat Rates
Southwestern Electric Power Company	24468	Delay of Deregulation
Southwestern Public Service Company	11520	Depreciation, Cash Working Capital, Rate Case Expenses
Southwestern Public Service Company	32766	Depreciation Expense Revenue Requirements
Southwestern Public Service Company	35763	Depreciation
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	9491	Avoided Cost, Rate Case Expenses
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	10200	Jurisdictional Separation, Cost Allocation, Rate Case Expenses
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	17751	Rate Case Expenses
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	36025	Depreciation
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	38480	Depreciation, Mass Property Life, Net Salvage
Texas Utilities Electric Company	5640	Franchise Fees

Texas Utilities Electric Company	9300	Depreciation, Rate Base, Cost of Service, Fuel Charges, Rate Case Expenses
Texas Utilities Electric Company	11735	Cost Allocation, Rate Design, Rate Case Expenses
Texas Utilities Electric Company	18490	Depreciation Reclassification
West Texas Utilities Company	7510	Depreciation, Decommissioning, Rate Base, Cost of Service, Rate Design, Rate Case Expenses
West Texas Utilities Company	10035	Fuel Reconciliation, Rate Case Expenses
West Texas Utilities Co mpany	13369	Depreciation, Payroll, Pension, OPEB, Cash Working Capital, Fuel Inventory, Cost Allocation
West Texas Utilities Company	22354	Depreciation
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS		
JURISDICTION / COMPANY	DOCKET NO.	TESTIMONY TOPIC
Atmos Energy Corporation	9530	Gas Cost, Gas Purchases, Price Mitigation, Rate Case Expense
Atmos Energy Corporation	9670	CWC, Depreciation, Expenses, Shared Services, Taxes Other Than FIT, Excess Return
Atmos Energy Corporation	9695	Rate Case Expense
Atmos Energy Corporation	9762	Depreciation, O&M Expense
Atmos Energy Corporation	9732	Rate Case Expense
Atmos Energy Corporation	9869	Revenue Requirements
Atmos Energy Corporation	10041	Mass Property Life, Net Salvage
Atmos Energy Corporation	10170	Depreciation, Mass Property Life, Net Salvage
Atmos Pipeline-Texas	10000	Rate Base, Depreciation Life and Net Salvage, Incentive Compensation, Merit Increase, Outside Director Retirement Costs, SEBP
CenterPoint Energy Entex – City of Tyler	9364	Capital Investment, Affiliates
CenterPoint Energy Entex – Gulf Coast Division	9791	Rate Base, Cost Allocation, Affiliate Expenses, Depreciation Net Salvage, Call Center, Litigation, Uncollectibles, Post Test Year Adjustments
CenterPoint Energy Entex – City of Houston	9902	CWC, Plant Adjustments, Depreciation, Payroll, Pensions, Cost Allocation
CenterPoint Energy Entex – South Texas Division	10038	CWC, Incentive Compensation, Payroll, Depreciation

CenterPoint Energy – Beaumont/East Texas	10182	Rate Base, Expense, Incentive Compensation, Pension, Payroll, Injuries & Damages
CenterPoint Energy – Texas Coast Division	10007	Cost of Service Adjustment, CWC, ADIT, Incentive Compensation, Pension, Meter Reading, Customer Records and Collection, Investor Relations/Investor Services
CenterPoint Energy – Texas Coast Division	10097	Pension, Severance Expense
Energas Company	5793	Depreciation
Energas Company v. Westar Transmissions Company	5168 & 4892 Cons.	Cost of Service, Refunds, Contracts, Depreciation
Energas Company	8205	Cost of Service, Rate Base, Depreciation, Affiliate Transactions, Sale/Leaseback, Losses, Income Taxes
Energas Company	9002-9135	Depreciation, Pension, Cash Working Capital, OPEB, Rate Design
Lone Star Gas Company	8664	Cash Working Capital, Depreciation Expense, Gain on Sale of Plant, OPEB, Rate Case Expenses
Rio Grande Valley Gas Company	7604	Depreciation
Southern Union Gas Company	2738, 2958, 3002, 3018, 3019 Cons.	Cost of Service, Rate Design, Depreciation
Southern Union Gas Company	6968 Interim & Cons.	Affiliate Transactions, Rate Base, Income Taxes, Revenues, Cost of Service, Conservation, Depreciation
Southern Union Gas Company	8033 Consolidated	Acquisition Adjustment, Depreciation, Excess Reserve, Distribution Plant, Cost of Gas Clause, Rate Case Expenses
Southern Union Gas Company	8878	Depreciation, Cash Working Capital, Gain on Sale of Building, Rate Case Expenses, Rate Design
Texas Gas Service Company	9988 & 9992 Cons.	Cash Working Capital, Post Test Year Plant, ADFIT, Excess Reserve, Depreciation Expense, Amortization of General Plant, Corporate and Division Expenses, Incentive Compensation, Hotel and Meals Expense, Pipeline Integrity Costs

TXU Gas Distribution	9145-9147	Depreciation, Cash Working Capital, Revenues, Gain on Sale of Assets, Clearing Accounts, Over-Recovery of Clearing Accounts, SFAS 106, Wages and Salaries, Merger Costs, Intra System Allocation, Zero Intercept, Customer Weighting Factor, Rate Design
TXU Gas Distribution	9400	Depreciation, Net Salvage, Cash Working Capital, Affiliate Transactions, Software Amortization, Securitization, O&M Expenses, Safety Compliance
TXU Lone Star Pipeline	8976	Depreciation, Net Salvage, Cash Working Capital, ALG vs. ELG
Westar Transmissions Company	5787	Depreciation, Rate Base, Cost of Service, Rate Design, Contract Issues, Revenues, Losses, Income Taxes
TEXAS WATER COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
City of Harlingen -Certificate for Convenience & Necessity	8480C/8485C/851 2C	Rate Impact for CCN
City of Round Rock	8599/8600M	Rate Discrimination, Cost of Service
Devers Canal System	8388-M	Affiliate Transactions, O&M Expense, Return, Allocation, Acquisition Adjustment, Retroactive Ratemaking, Rate Case Expenses, Depreciation
Devers Canal System	30102-M	Cost of Service, Rate Base, Ratemaking Principles, Affiliate Transactions
Southern Utilities Company	7371-R	Affiliate Transactions, Cost of Service
Scenic Oaks Water Supply Corporation	8097-G	Affiliate Transactions, Cost of Service, Rate base, Cost of Capital, Rate Design, Depreciation
Sharyland Water Supply vs. United Irrigation District	8293-M	Rate Discrimination, Cost of Service, Rate Case Expenses
Southern Water Corporation	2008-1811-UCR	Cost of Service
Travis County Water Control & Improv. District No. 20		Cost of Service
EL PASO PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATION BOARD		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
Southern Union Gas Company	1991	Depreciation, Calculation Procedure
Southern Union Gas Company	1997	Depreciation, Calculation Procedure
Southern Union Gas Company	GUD 8878 – 1998	Depreciation, Cash Working Capital, Rate Design, Rate Case Expenses
Texas Gas Services Company	2007	Revenue Requirements
Texas Gas Services Company	2011	Revenue Requirements

UTAH		
UTAH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
PacifiCorp	98-2035-03	Production Plant Net Salvage, Production Life Span, Interim Additions, Mass Property, Depreciation
Questar	05-057-T01	Conservation Enabling Tariff Adjustment Option and Accounting Orders
Rocky Mountain Power	07-035-13	Depreciation
WYOMING		
WYOMING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
<u>JURISDICTION / COMPANY</u>	<u>DOCKET NO.</u>	<u>TESTIMONY TOPIC</u>
PacifiCorp	20000-ER-00-162	Rate Parity