

LOL-HECO-IR-26

Ref: "Securing the reliability of the existing transmission lines requires regular maintenance."
(Exhibit 5, page 43)

Question(s):

- a. Why isn't maintenance done in the early morning hours?
- b. Why isn't maintenance done at night?
- c. Why would the hours of maintaining a transmission system be different than the hours of maintaining roads?

HECO Response:

- a. There are several reasons why preventive maintenance isn't performed during the early morning hours:
 1. Noise concerns to the community and safety issues for our employees are the primary reasons why preventive maintenance isn't performed during early morning hours.
 2. The State of Hawaii's Department of Transportation ("DOT") and Honolulu City & County ("C&C") road permits are difficult to acquire in the residential areas during the early morning hours.
 3. Operationally, it is difficult to see the lines to the adjacent structures while working on a structure during early morning hours.
 4. Labor costs are higher during the NON-daylight hours and additional support equipment would be required.
 5. HECO's helicopter contractor does NOT perform HECO work before sunrise and after sunset for our transmission circuits in the mountains.

Please note that, to the extent possible, HECO will perform emergency repairs during early morning hours in order to restore service to customers affected by an outage. See also the

response to LOL-HECO-IR-51, subpart c.

- b. The reasons why preventive maintenance isn't performed during the early evening would also apply to why preventive maintenance isn't performed at night. See the response to subpart a above. In addition, see the response to LOL-HECO-IR-51, subpart d.
- c. The primary difference between road work and transmission maintenance is that our crews work on poles or structures which could be located in difficult to access locations such as in the mountains, while road maintenance is performed in locations that are more easily accessible. As noted, the following issues apply to transmission maintenance:
 - 1. Noise concerns to the community and safety issues for our employees for early morning or night work.
 - 2. DOT and C&C road permits are difficult to acquire in the residential areas at night.
 - 3. Operationally, it is difficult to see the lines to the adjacent structures while working on a structure at night.
 - 4. Labor costs are higher during the NON-daylight hours and additional support equipment would be required.
 - 5. HECO's helicopter contractor does NOT perform HECO work before sunrise and after sunset for our transmission circuits in the mountains.