WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES BY CONNÉTABLE OF ST JOHN ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 26th JUNE 2012

Question

Would the Minister, as the representative of the shareholder, provide a detailed breakdown of the numbers of power cuts which have occurred in the Island over the last 10 years, indicating the dates and whether they affected the whole Island, specific Parishes, districts or areas; the duration of each power cut, and the cause of each one?

Answer

Jersey Electricity, as a plc listed on London Stock Exchange, reports on security of supply performance in an audited Annual Report each year. The simplest, and main industry recognised, method of comparing electricity supply reliability is by monitoring Customer Minutes Lost (CML's). This measures the average number of minutes in each year that a customer's supply has been interrupted and is seen as the most meaningful Industry measure. The table below shows the comparative performance of Jersey Electricity over the last 10 years, against the UK and similar island jurisdictions. As can be seen, the performance in Jersey is favourable compared to other regions and supply security is, on average, among the best in Europe.

CML's	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Average
Jersey Electricity	10	27	12	11	39	58	5	9	10	45	23
Gurnsey Electricity	34	68	53	15	12	34	37	19	23	10	31
Manx Electricity	29	87	87	21	21	21	17	10	24	12	33
UK											80

In response to the Connétable's question, information on the number of systems faults is also monitored by JEC. However this is not held at the level of detail asked for. A summary of the System faults over the last 10 years are as follows:-

System Faults (Jersey)										
Financial Year	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	
High Voltage	14	5	8	8	12	2	5	2	6	
Low Voltage	121	114	89	91	90	74	70	77	81	
Totals	135	119	97	99	102	76	75	79	87	

The following table shows that a fair proportion are outside of JEC's control, caused by third party damage faults (e.g. a developer cutting through a power line).

Third Party Damage Faults (Jersey)										
Financial Year	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	
High Voltage	5	3	3	2	3	0	1	0	1	
Low Voltage	27	34	31	41	35	25	27	28	26	
Totals	32	37	34	43	38	25	28	28	27	

It is not possible to provide a breakdown by Parish, District or area.