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Missouri Public Service Commission MAWC 23

Exhibit No.:

Issues:

Payroll, Incentive Compensation,

Business Transformation

Witness:

Donald J. Petry

Exhibit Type:

Surrebuttal

Sponsoring Party: Missouri-American Water Company

Case No.:

WR-2015-0301

SR-2015-0302

Date:

March 4, 2016

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO. WR-2015-0301 CASE NO. SR-2015-0302

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

DONALD J. PETRY

ON BEHALF OF

MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

MAWL Exhibit No. 23

Date 3-21-14 Reporter 10
File No. WR-2015-0301

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

IN THE MATTER OF MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY FOR AUTHORITY TO FILE TARIFFS REFLECTING INCREASED RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER **SERVICE**

CASE NO. WR-2015-0301 CASE NO. SR-2015-0302

AFFIDAVIT OF DONALD J. PETRY

Donald J. Petry, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the witness who sponsors the accompanying testimony entitled "Surrebuttal Testimony of Donald J. Petry"; that said testimony and schedules were prepared by him and/or under his direction and supervision; that if inquiries were made as to the facts in said testimony and schedules, he would respond as therein set forth; and that the aforesaid testimony and schedules are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

State of Missouri County of St. Louis

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to Before me this 4th day of March

My commission expires: July 17, 2014

DONNA S. SINGLER Notary Public, Notary Seal State of Missouri St. Louis County

Commission # 12368409 My Commission Expires July 17, 2016

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY DONALD J. PETRY MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY CASE NO. WR-2015-0301 CASE NO. SR-2015-0302

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SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY DONALD J. PETRY

1		I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>							
2	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.							
3	A.	My name is Donald J. Petry, and my business address is 727 Craig Road, St.							
4		Louis, MO 63141.							
5									
6	Q.	HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TESTIMONY IN THIS							
7		PROCEEDING?							
8	A.	Yes, I provided Rebuttal Testimony in this proceeding.							
9									
10	Q.	BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?							
11	A.	I am employed by American Water Works Service Company, Inc. ("Service							
12		Company" or "AWWSC") as the Manager of Rates & Regulatory Support. The							
13		Service Company is a subsidiary of American Water Works Company, Inc.							
14		("American Water") that provides support services to American Water's							
15		subsidiaries, including Missouri American Water Company ("MAWC" or							
16		"Company").							
17									
18	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?							
19	A.	I will respond to Office of Public Counsel witness Hyneman's recommended							
20		adjustment to the Company's payroll expense. I will also respond to Staff							

I		witness Kunst's Rebuttal testimony on Incentive Compensation and Staff						
2		witness Bolin's Rebuttal testimony on Business Transformation.						
3	•							
4	Q.	HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC						
5		SERVICE COMMISSION ("COMMISSION")?						
6	À.	Yes, I have.						
7		II. PAYROLL						
8								
9	Q.	DID OPC WITNESS HYNEMAN PROPOSE AN ADJUSTMENT TO						
10		PAYROLL IN HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY IN THIS CASE?						
11	A.	Yes he did.						
12								
13	Q.	WHAT WAS OPC'S PROPOSAL FOR PAYROLL?						
14	A.	Public Counsel now supports the Staff's recommended level of payroll in						
15		Staff's direct filing. The Public Counsel recognizes that the Staff adjustment						
16		did not annualize payroll costs past the test year or true-up date in this case as						
17		proposed by MAWC in its direct testimony. The Public Counsel does not						
18		support any adjustment to payroll expense past the test year or true-up date in						
19		this rate case.						
20								
21	Q.	WHAT ADJUSTMENT DID STAFF MAKE TO SUPPORT SERVICES						
22		LABOR?						
23	A.	Staff began with the Service Company employee count at September 30,						
24		2015, and multiplied the employees' annual salary by the current average						

percentage of time the employee charged to MAWC to arrive at the labor amount. They then deducted \$26,633, for lobbying labor and related expense. The lobbying adjustment is addressed in MAWC witness Tinsley's rebuttal testimony. Staff then applied an O & M percentage to the total payroll to arrive at the expensed amount of payroll. The O & M percentage was also applied to their calculated payroll tax, 401K, ESPP, and group insurance expense.

Α.

Q. DOES THE COMPANY AGREE WITH THIS METHODOLOGY FOR CALCULATING SERVICE COMPANY LABOR?

No, we do not. While this bottom up approach is effective for calculating labor for MAWC where employees' time is 100% MAWC, it is not appropriate for Service Company labor where employees' time is being direct charged or allocated and overheads applied. Staff's September 30,2015 pro forma wages for Missouri American Water compared to total service company wages is 11.39%. The following shows the actual Missouri American Water allocated wages compared to total Service Company wages for the prior three years and true-up period. Also shown is the average of employees.

20		12/31/13	12/31/14	12/31/15	01/31/16
21	Wage Percentage	12.32%	12.37%	12.55%	12.56%
22	Average # Employees	1,541.0	1,443.6	1,265.5	1,259.5

This shows that staffs methodology's resulting 11.39% understates the wages. Historically the allocation has ranged from 12.32% to 12.56% even as the average number of employees has been decreasing. The above calculation is on wages only. Related payroll taxes, 401K, ESPP, and group insurance would also be understated.

III. INCENTIVE COMPENSATION

Q. HAS STAFF MADE ANY CHANGES TO ITS DIRECT FILED POSITION IN PREGARDS TO INCENTIVE COMPENSATION?

9 REGARDS TO INCENTIVE COMPENSATION?
 10 A. Yes. Staff reconsidered its adjustment proposing

Yes. Staff reconsidered its adjustment proposing to disallow the portion of the incentive compensation associated with the surveys and stated that it will adjust its cost of service calculation to include \$310,068 of expense and \$146,026 of capital cost that it had previously excluded.

Α.

Q. DOES THE COMPANY AGREE WITH STAFF'S RECONSIDERED ADJUSTMENT?

The Company appreciates Staff's reconsidered adjustment but maintains that Staff has not gone far enough. As MAWC witness Mustich explains, American Water targets total employee compensation (base plus incentive pay) levels at the market median. Moreover, as Mr. Baryenbruch confirms, the Service Company charges are demonstrably reasonable. Accordingly, it is inappropriate to reduce them, whether directly or through the artifice of a reduction for incentive compensation.

IV. BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION

- Q. STAFF WITNESS BOLIN EXPRESSES CONCERN THAT LITTLE OR
 NONE OF THE BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION COSTS WERE
 ALLOCATED TO NON-REGULATED AFFILIATES OF AMERICAN WATER.
 PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY BT COSTS ARE NOT ALLOCATED TO THE
 "NON-REGULATED" (OR "MARKET-BASED") AFFILIATE OF MAWC.
 - A. BT program costs are, for the most part, not properly allocable to the market-based business because the BT systems are designed for AW regulated utilities, and the BT program scope does not include the technology or business process needs of American Water's market-based business.

 Moreover, MAWC's market-based affiliate American Water Enterprises ("AWE") owns and operates separate finance, accounting, management of asset lifecycle, customer service, customer billing and strategic planning systems, which in large part satisfy the market-based operations needs in these areas. None of the costs incurred by AWE have been included in the BT program costs that are being allocated among the American Water regulated utility affiliates, including MAWC.

19 Q. IS IT YOUR POSITION, THEN, THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE IN
20 THIS CASE TO ALLOCATE ANY OF THE BT PROGRAM COSTS THAT
21 ARE BEING ALLOCATED AMONG THE AMERICAN WATER REGULATED
22 UTILITY AFFILIATES, INCLUDING MAWC TO THE MARKET-BASED
23 AFFILIATE OF MAWC?

1 A. Yes. It would be highly inappropriate to allocate any of the BT program costs
2 to the market-based business or to disallow any portion of the requested BT
3 costs based on a belief that some portion of those costs should be allocated
4 to the market based companies. Any costs properly allocable to the market5 based companies have already been removed from the BT costs before they
6 were allocated to MAWC.

Q. ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE MARKET-BASED AFFILIATES WILL NOT USE THE BT SYSTEMS?

A. No. I am saying that the BT systems were designed for the regulated utility companies. As explained more fully in the Company's updated response to OPC 5012 (attached as DJP-1SR), the Company's market-based affiliates access only two aspects of the BT systems: (1) Success Factors (branded internally as myCareer Solutions) and (2) a portion of the SAP CIS module.

Α.

Q. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE COMMISSION TO ALLOCATE BT PROGRAM COSTS TO MAWC'S MARKET-BASED AFFILIATE?

No, it is not. As I explained above, all costs that should be charged to MAWC's market-based affiliate for its use of the BT systems have been isolated based on the market-based company's limited use of the systems. Those costs have been removed from the BT program costs and directly charged to the market-based company. Given that there is no other use of

- the BT systems by the market-based company, there is no basis upon which
- 2 BT program costs should be allocated to them.

3

- 4 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?
- 5 A. Yes, it does.

OPC 5012 Update

DATA INFORMATION REQUEST Missouri-American Water Company WR-2015-0301 / WR-2015-0302

Requested From:

Tim Luft

Date Requested:

10/14/15

Information Requested:

Do any AWWC non-regulated operations or subsidiary companies have any licenses for any of the software that is included in the AWWC BT program?

a. If not, explain fully why not.

b. If so, identify each license related to the BT program that is held by each AWWC non-regulated operation or subsidiary.

Requested By:

Jere Buckman - Office of Public Counsel - jere.buckman@ded.mo.gov

Information Provided:

American Water Works Service Company, Inc. is licensed to use all of the BT related software applications. The BT systems are designed for American Water's regulated utilities, and American Water Company's "non-regulated" or market-based affiliates. American Water Enterprises ("AWE") owns and operates separate finance, accounting, management of asset lifecycle, customer service, customer billing and strategic planning systems, which satisfy the market-based operational needs.

Updated Information Provided:

American Water Works Service Company, Inc. is the only non-regulated affiliate licensed to use all of the BT related software applications.. The BT systems are designed for American Water's regulated utilities, and the project scope did not include the technology or process needs of American Water's non-regulated (or market-based) business conducted through American Water Enterprises. American Water Enterprises ("AWE") owns and operates separate finance, accounting, management of asset lifecycle, customer service, customer billing and strategic planning systems, which satisfy the market-based operational needs.

The Company's market-based affiliates access two aspects of the new BT systems: (1) Success Factors (branded internally as *myCareer* Solutions) and (2) a portion of the SAP CIS (Customer Information System) module. As explained more fully below, certain BT implementation costs have been directly charged to the Company's market-based affiliates and, in other circumstances, will be credited to the Company and its regulated utility affiliates through a reduction in BT implementation costs. As also explained below, certain ongoing subscription and maintenance costs will be charged to market-based affiliates, with a corresponding reduction in Service Company fees.

Success Factors (branded within American Water as myCareer Solutions)

The Company's market-based affiliates are users of *myCareer* Solutions, and a portion of this application has been assigned to the Company's market based affiliates based on the proportionate share of the market-based companies' employee count (~12%) to the regulated utility companies' employee count (~88%). The cost of developing *myCareer* Solutions totaled approximately \$2 million dollars and went into service in August 2012. Approximately 12% of the development costs to the Company and its regulated utility company affiliates *myCareer* Solutions were directly charged to the Company's market-based affiliates.

Finally, this same assignment methodology (proportionate share of the market-based companies' employee count to the regulated utility companies' employee count) is used to charge a percentage of the ongoing subscription fees and maintenance cost for *myCareer* Solutions to the Company's market-based affiliates.

SAP CIS (Customer Information System)

One of the Company's market-based affiliates has been directly billed approximately \$1,116,783 by an outside vendor (Accenture) to modify SAP CIS to enable the Company's market-based affiliate to continue the placement of its protection plan services charge on four (4) of the regulated utility companies' billing statements (where approved by the state commission). A portion of the ongoing maintenance costs for SAP's Customer Relationship and Billing (CR&B) system are allocated to the Company's market-based affiliates based on the proportionate share of the market-based companies' customer count included on the SAP CR&B system (approximately 10%) to regulated utility companies' customer count (approximately 90%).