FILED
December 7, 2017
Data Center
Missouri Public
Service Commission

Exhibit No.

Issue: MERIC Job Title & Experience Levels Portion of Corporate Allocation, Amortization of Repair Expense, Customer Service, Recovery

of Extending Electrical Service

Witness: Todd Thomas

Type of Exhibit: Rebuttal Testimony

Sponsoring Party: Indian Hills Case No.: WR-2017-0259 Date: October 27, 2017

Missouri Public Service Commission

Rebuttal Testimony

of

Todd Thomas

On Behalf of

Indian Hills Utility Operating Company, Inc.

October 27, 2017

LA Exhibit No. 8

uate No. 2017-0256

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF MISSOURI)
COUNTY OF SLOWIS) ss

I, Todd Thomas, state that the answers to the questions posed in the attached Rebuttal Testimony are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27 day of October, 2017.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

01/31/2021

BRENDA EAVES
Notary Public, Notary Seal
State of Missouri
St Charles County
Commission # 13443468
y Commission Expires 01-31-2021

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REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF TODD THOMAS INDIAN HILLS UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

1		WITNESS INTRODUCTION
2	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
3	A.	My name is Todd Thomas. My business address is 500 Northwest Plaza Drive
4		Suite 500. St. Ann MO, 63074
5	Q.	WHAT IS YOUR POSITION WITH INDIAN HILLS UTILITY OPERATING
6		COMPANY, INC. (INDIAN HILLS OR COMPANY)?
7	A.	I hold the position of Senior Vice President of First Round CSWR, LLC, the
8		ultimate parent company of Indian Hills, which is managed by Central States
9		Water Resources, Inc. We collectively refer to the family of companies ultimately
10		managed by Central States Water Resources, Inc. as Central States Water
11		Resources, CSWR, and Central States.
12	Q.	ARE YOU THE SAME TODD THOMAS THAT PROVIDED DIRECT
13		TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?
14	A.	Yes.
15		<u>PURPOSE</u>
16	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?
17	A.	To respond to certain direct testimony provided by Staff witness Ashley Sarver
18		and Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC") witness Keri Roth with respect to Staff's
19		assessment of MERIC salary levels and position titles, to respond to direct

1		testimony provided by OPC witness John Robinett concerning his treatment of
2		leak repairs, to provide testimony concerning Indian Hills' customer service, and
3		to respond to certain direct testimony provided by OPC witness John Robinett on
4		his treatment of recovery of the expense to extend electric service.
5		MERIC JOB TITLES AND EXPERIENCE LEVELS
6		PORTION OF CORPORATE ALLOCATION
7	Q.	STAFF WITNESS SARVER INDICATES IN HER DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT
8		SHE UTILIZES THE MISSOURI ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND INFORMATION
9		CENTER (MERIC) MEAN LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE FOR THE POSITIONS OF
10		PRESIDENT, CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER, SENIOR ACCOUNTANT
11		AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGER. DO YOU AGREE WITH STAFF'S USE OF
12		THE MEAN LEVEL OF MERIC OCCUPATIONAL STUDY TO ANALYZE
13		CSWR'S PAYROLL?
14	A.	No.
15	Q.	WHY NOT?
16	A.	In researching the origin of the "mean level" I reviewed the Missouri Occupation
17		Projections - Methodology and Definitions. The MERIC definitions can be found
18		on the MERIC website
19		(https://www.missourieconomy.org/occupations/proj_method.stm#Definitionsfor).
20		This Methodology and Definitions section lays out how MERIC occupational
21		studies are created. While Ms. Sarver is correct in her classifications of most job
22		titles, I don't believe Ms. Sarver's experience level classifications accomplishes

1		her goal of establishing correct experience levels for CSWR employees based on
2		how levels in MERIC are formulated.
3	Q.	HOW ARE MERIC OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES FORMULATED?
4	A.	MERIC defines "entry" level wages as the average of the lower one third of
5		wages for any given job classification. "Experience" level wages are the average
6		of the upper two thirds of wages for any given job classifications categories.
7		"Mean" level wages are the average of all wages for a given job classification.
8		These classifications are based on Salaries paid to individuals with a set of
9		responsibilities inside a given field. Thus, if an individual employee is above the
10		33.3 percentile of experience for a given position, then the employee is by
11		definition experienced. CSWR is definitely above the 33.3 percentile experience
12		level for the regulated provision of water and sewer services in the state of
13		Missouri.
14	Q.	BASED ON MERIC'S METHODOLOGY HOW WOULD CSWR'S JOB TITLES
15		BE CATEGORIZED?
16	A.	Based on this methodology, CSWR's actual job responsibilities would be used to
17		determine role classifications.
18	Q.	BASED ON MERIC'S METHODOLOGY HOW WOULD CSWR'S EXPEREINCE
19		LEVELS BE CATEGORIZED?
20	A.	Based on MERIC's methodology, CSWR's employees would be above the 33.3
21		percentile experience level for their given positions and thus should be
22		considered experienced.

- 1 Q. HOW DOES MERIC'S METHODOLGY OF JOB TITLE RELATE TO MS.
- 2 SARVER'S EVALUATION OF CSWR EMPLOYEES?
- 3 A. Ms. Sarver, in her direct testimony, accurately reflects the job responsibilities of
- 4 most CSWR employees and appropriately classifies the jobs according to
- 5 MERIC.
- 6 Q. DOES MS. SARVER INCORRECTLY ASSIGN A JOB CATEGORY?
- 7 A. Yes, Ms. Sarver incorrectly labels my position as Senior Vice President as a
- 8 Construction Manager.
- 9 Q. WHY IS THIS INCORRECT?
- 10 A. My current role revolves mainly around operations and the provision of service to
- customers. In the month of September, CSWR was directly responsible for
- providing service to 1,996 customers. We are providing service to 431 more
- water or sewer customers this month based on closing Elm Hills, and we will be
- 14 adding customers in November and December. I am directly responsible for
- setting up and managing the operations for the provision water and sewer
- service for all of our current customers and every customer we add.
- Furthermore, as I stated previously in my direct testimony, I was at one time
- responsible for the operations and maintenance of water and wastewater utilities
- 19 servicing over 64,000 individual customers.
- 20 Q. WHAT IS THE CORRECT JOB CLASSIFICATION AND EXPEREINCE LEVEL
- 21 FOR YOUR POSITION?

- 1 A. I should be classified as an Operations Manager based on my actual
- responsibilities and current role. I should be classified as experienced based on
- 3 being above the 33.3% for my field.
- 4 Q. HOW DOES MERIC'S METHODOLGY RELATE TO MS. SARVER'S
- 5 **EVALUATION OF EXPEREINCE?**
- 6 A. Ms. Sarver also states in her direct testimony "experience level is at the top end
- of the scale, which are the highest paid employees in each occupation". We
- 8 believe this is simply a mistake in the interpretation MERIC. Experienced refers
- 9 to the top two thirds of individuals inside a given occupation. The skills and
- responsibilities required at CSWR calls for its professionals to be well versed and
- experienced in their fields of expertise garnering an "experience" level from a
- MERIC evaluation.
- 13 Q. DO YOU DISAGREE WITH HOW MS. SARVER APPLIES THE MERIC STUDY
- 14 IN ANY OTHER WAYS?
- 15 A. Yes. Ms. Sarver attempts to utilize previous MERIC study year pay levels for
- 16 existing CSWR employee salary levels.
- 17 Q. WHY IS THIS FLAWED?
- 18 A. MERIC's performs studies every two years to update position salaries based on
- 19 existing market conditions. Utilizing anything other than MERIC salaries
- 20 commensurate with experience levels in the most current study year does not
- 21 accurately apply the MERIC data.
- 22 Q. WHAT WOULD BE MORE PRECISE?

- 1 A. The most precise way to apply MERIC would be to use the most recent study year, 2016, and adjust it for the consumer price index to reflect current trends.
- 3 Q. HOW DOES OPC WITNESS ROTH APPLY MERIC DATA?
- 4 A. Ms. Roth correctly applies the current year to CSWR employees, but tries to
- 5 imply hypothetical job categories, rather than using actual job responsibilities.
- 6 Ms. Roth then attaches hypothetical experience levels to the hypothetical job
- 7 responsibilities.
- 8 Q. DOES OPC WITNESS ROTH IDENTIFIY ANY FACTORS SHE USED TO
- 9 DEVELOP THE HYPOTHETICAL JOB CATEGORIES?
- 10 A. Yes. She states that customer counts and status of financing informed her job role identification.
- 12 Q. DOES MS. ROTH'S RELIANCE ON COMPANY SIZE OR HER PERSPECTIVE
- ON COMPANY PERFORMACE HAVE ANY BASIS IN MERIC JOB
- 14 CLASSIFICATIONS OR EXPERIENCE LEVELS?
- 15 A. No. MERIC uses actual job responsibilities and imputes experience levels. For
- example, Ms. Roth states that if Mr. Cox aggregates more systems or receives
- different financing, then OPC would consider reviewing Mr. Cox's position title.
- 18 MERIC's study design does not include subjective analysis like that found in Ms.
- 19 Roth's testimony and allows for the actual job market to dictate compensation
- 20 levels based on actual job responsibilities. For example, Mr. Cox performs all of
- 21 the duties of a Chief Executive. In fact, in the Hillcrest rate case, the
- 22 Commission concluded as follows in regard to Mr. Cox's title for purposes of
- 23 MERIC: "The appropriate job titles to use in MERIC to determine labor expense

1		for Mr. Cox and Mr. Chalfant are President and Chief Financial Officer,
2		respectively. These are the titles presently used by Hillcrest to describe those
3		two employees, and Staff's comparison of their job duties to MERIC found that
4		these titles should continue to be used for ratemaking purposes."
5	Q.	DO SMALL, DISTRESSED WATER UTILITIES REQUIRE FEWER JOB
6		RESPONSIBILITIES THAN LARGE UTILITIES?
7	A.	No. As I have previously testified, smaller water utilities, especially distressed
8		small water utilities, are particularly difficult to permit, build, and operate. In fact,
9		based on the current state of small regulated utilities in Missouri, I think you could
10		argue that small distressed regulated water utilities require more expertise and
11		executive level skills than larger utilities because every employee needs to have
12		expertise in multiple areas.
13	Q.	WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT OF CSWR SALARIES FOR
14		INDIAN HILLS?
15	A.	The Commission should apply MERIC data and methods to CSWR employees
16		utilizing the job titles/responsibilities used by the Company and Staff, utilize the
17		MERIC designation of "experience" level which designates CSWR employees at
18		above the 33.3 percentile in their respective jobs, and utilize OPC's correct
19		MERIC Study Year methodology.
20		AMORTIZATION OF REPAIR EXPENSE
21	Q.	OPC WITNESS JOHN ROBINETT STATES THAT IT IS NOT APPROPRIATE
22		TO USE THE CURRENT LEAK EXPERIENCE AT INDIAN HILLS AS THE

1 EXPECTED VALUE OF YEARLY LEAK REPAIR MAINTENANCE WORK ON

- 2 AN ONGOING BASIS. DO YOU AGREE?
- 3 A. No.

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- 4 Q. WHY NOT?
- 5 A. At Indian Hills there have been approximately 300 leaks in the past 12 months.
- 6 Despite the repairs over the last year, in the last 3 months, there is still an
- average of 6 repairs each week, which suggests the leaks will continue to occur
- 8 at a rate of approximately 300 per year.

9 Q. WHY DO THESE LEAKS CONTINUE?

The poor integrity of the system itself. The poor integrity of the water mains and service connections is due to the system's age, the substandard materials used, and the improper construction installation when the system was originally built. The past use of water service connection pipe that is low pressure plastic pipe typically utilized in lawn irrigation systems is a prime example. Now that Indian Hills has completed the system upgrades to bring the pressure of the system up to regulatory drinking water safety standards, the connection pipe is further stressed. The extra water pressure is also moving mains without proper bedding, sometimes on bedrock, causing leaks. When Indian Hills began work on water system upgrades to address MDNR regulatory requirements for minimum pressure, water availability, and service stability more repair issues immediately began to arise. These larger ongoing maintenance and repair issues are the direct result of aging infrastructure, made from substandard materials, originally

- installed without basic best practices, lacking rudimentary water hydraulic design uniformity, being forced to convey higher volumes of water at higher pressures.
- 3 Q. HOW LONG DO YOU EXPECT THESE LEAKS TO CONTINUE?
- 4 Α. Given that there are over 700 customers receiving service from the Indian Hills 5 water system, and that over 200 of the approximately 300 repairs have taken 6 place since the new booster station came on line and they are continuing at an 7 average of 6 per week, it is expected that the leaks will continue for many years 8 until all the water service connections are replaced and the water mains begin 9 being replaced. This level of ongoing repair cost is symptomatic of a water 10 system that was poorly constructed and has been neglected for decades. Indian 11 Hills is endeavoring to repair these leaks on a timely basis.

12 CUSTOMER SERVICE

- 13 Q. DID YOU ATTEND THE LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING IN CUBA, MISSOURI, ON OCTOBER 18, 2017?
- 15 A. Yes
- 16 Q. WERE YOU ABLE TO LISTEN TO THE PUBLIC COMMENTS PRESENTED
 17 AT THAT HEARING?
- 18 A. Yes
- 19 Q. SEVERAL OF THE PEOPLE INDICATED THEY ARE "PART-TIME 20 RESIDENTS. IS THAT COMMON WITHIN THE INDIAN HILLS SYSTEM?
- A. Yes. Slightly over 50% of the customers at Indian Hills are "part-time" residents,
 meaning that their home on Indian Hills Lake is a second home that they
 maintain for weekends, recreation, and other purposes.

Q. DO THESE PART-TIME RESIDENTS CREATE ANY CHALLENGES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE SYSTEM?

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Yes. There are several ways in which "part-time" residents create challenges for the operation of the water system. Most water systems are challenged by their need to handle the seasonality of water demand from winter to summer. With a community like Indian Hills that has a high percentage of "part-time" residents, the swing in seasonal demand is compounded by the water demand not only doubling from winter to summer but also doubling again due to having twice the residents in the summer. This affect can also occur from week days to weekends. This type of demand swing stresses the water system and it makes it particularly challenging to maintain pressure, storage, and chlorine residual. The water main and distribution system at Indian Hills is susceptible to leaks due to its age and poor construction, and the fluctuating demand further stresses the system. When leaks occur near a home that is owned by a part-time resident, there is a likelihood that the leak will not be reported until the homeowner returns. This is frustrating to the part-time customer because when they come to their weekend or summer home they must address the leak instead of relaxing or recreating. When leaks go undetected for a period of time, it also creates water loss for the Company. At times, due to the need to perform MOCS locates, the leak cannot be fixed prior to the part-time customer having to return to their main home and at times they must leave prior to meeting a representative from Indian Hills to investigate the leak.

1 Q. ARE THERE OTHER CHALLENGES TO DEALING WITH PART TIME

- 2 RESIDENTS?
- 3 A. Part time residents pose challenges for customer service and billing. One
- 4 example is that depending upon where the part-time customer has their water bill
- 5 sent, customers may not always receive their bill in a timely manner.
- 6 Q. THERE WAS PUBLIC TESTIMONY REGARDING THE SMELL OF CHLORINE
- 7 IN THE WATER AT INDIAN HILLS. DOES THIS SURPRISE YOU?
- 8 A. This does not surprise me.
- 9 Q. WHY NOT?
- 10 A. The water system was operated for many years without having adequate or
- 11 consistent levels of chlorine residual in the water to meet minimum regulatory
- 12 levels for disinfection.
- 13 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF HAVING CHLORINE RESIDUAL?
- 14 A. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) requires that drinking
- water systems that have MDNR-mandated permanent disinfection maintain a
- 16 residual level of chlorine. The residual level must be maintained to ensure that
- 17 chemical disinfection for potential pathogens is taking place.
- 18 Q. WHAT REACTION DO YOU COMMONLY GET WHEN CHLORINE IS ADDED
- 19 TO A SYSTEM FOR THE FIRST TIME?
- 20 A. After many years of not having chlorine, once chlorine is re-introduced into the
- system, the perception from the customers can be that the water has too much
- 22 chlorine.

1 Q. DOES INDIAN HILLS HAVE MECHANISMS IN PLACE TO INSURE THERE IS

NOT TOO MUCH CHLORINE?

- 3 A. The Indian Hills water system is equipped with a consistent chlorine 4 injection system, along with a real-time chlorine analyzer and a monitoring system that provides real time alarms if the chlorine residual is out of tolerance 5 from a minimum or maximum standpoint (less than 1 ppm (part per million) or 6 greater than 3 ppm). These alarm parameters are set to ensure a minimum of .5 7 ppm chlorine residual entering consumer's homes. The maximum allowable 8 9 chlorine residual level acceptable to enter consumer's homes is 4 ppm.
- 10 Q. SEVERAL RESIDENTS DESCRIBED ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE
 11 REPAIR OF SYSTEM LEAKS. HOW MANY LEAKS HAVE OCCURRED AT
 12 INDIAN HILLS?
- A. As previously stated, there have been over 300 leaks in the last 12 months and the system has been averaging 6 leaks per week for the last 3 months. Based on this trend, it does not appear the frequency of leaks is significantly reducing.

16 Q. HOW ARE LEAKS REPAIRED?

- 17 A. The most common methods of repair are to either place a repair saddle on the
 18 leaking portion of the service line or to replace the section of service line that has
 19 the leak. In some instances where the lines have already been repaired multiple
 20 times, a complete replacement of the service line may be made.
- Q. WERE LEAKS PARTICULARLY BAD IN THE DECEMBER 2016/JANUARY
 22 2017 TIME FRAME?
- 23 A. Yes.

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Q. WHY?

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- 2 A. This was the period of time when the new water system was brought on line.
- The booster stations built by Indian Hills to meet MDNR requirements brought
- 4 higher pressure and higher water volumes to bear on the system in November of
- 5 2016. As part of bringing the Indian Hills water system into compliance, the
- 6 system water pressure was raised from less than 20 psi at the lowest areas to
- approximately 34 psi throughout the entire system. Since this occurred, service
- lines from the main to the meters have consistently been "blowing out" and
- 9 leaking due to the increased pressure, combined with the poor integrity of the
- mains and service connections from the main to the meters.

11 Q. HAVE YOU TAKEN ANY STEPS TO IMPROVE THE TIMELINESS OF LEAK

12 **REPAIR?**

- 13 A. Yes. We have chosen 1 main contractor and a backup contractor to complete
- the repairs. Indian Hills has tracked water line repairs since its acquisition of the
- water assets of IH Utilities. However, Indian Hills began in July of 2017, to track
- additional information. This includes each repair call, repair level of severity, and
- the time it takes to complete the repair. Moreover, a uniform method of water
- line repair, road backfill, and asphalt repair has been adopted.

19 Q. WHAT PROCESS IS INDIAN HILLS CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO

20 **FOLLOW?**

- 21 A. If the leak is "major" (meaning it impacts the provision of water service at a
- 22 minimum of 21 psi pressure to an individual customer or the system, presents a

- public safety hazard, or could potentially cause structural damage to roads or property), crews will be dispatched immediately to attempt to repair the leak.
- 3 Q. ARE THERE ANY EXTERNAL FACTORS THAT IMPACT THE TIMING OF
 4 REPAIRS?
- Yes, if the customer is full time or part time resident can impact when a leak is reported. In addition, when a leak occurs, a utility locate must be called in to the Missouri One Call System (MOCS). If the call is a "major" leak then the MOCS emergency protocol is utilized.
- 9 Q. WHAT INVOLVEMENT DOES MOCS HAVE IN THE PROCESS?
- A. Before a leak is repaired a MOCS locate must be called in to prevent Indian Hills from potentially damaging other underground infrastructure. A standard MOCS response time is 3 days. If the leak is "major," then a MOCS response time could be as short as 3 hours. When the locates are completed, the Indian Hills repair contractors can repair the leak.
- 15 Q. THERE WAS A SUGGESTION AT THE LOCAL HEARING THAT YOU CAN
 16 LABEL ANY MOCS SITUATION AN "EMERGENCY" AND GET A QUICKER
 17 RESPONSE IN TERM OF LINE MARKING. IS THAT CORRECT?
- A. Indian Hills has attempted to make the repairs quicker by utilizing "emergency" locates. However, the volume of leaks has been so great that the Company has been reprimanded by the local electric provider for Indian Hills' use of this designation. Attached as <u>Schedule TT-1R</u> is a copy of an e-mail the Company received from Crawford County Electric Cooperative threatening to report Indian

- Hills to the Missouri Attorney General's office for overuse of the emergency designation.
- 3 Q. ARE ALL LEAKS ALWAYS A CRITICAL ISSUE TO THE SYSTEM?
- 4 A. No.

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- 5 **Q. WHY NOT?**
- A. While the goal is certainly to have no leaks in the system, not all of the leaks
 affect water pressure or service to the customer.
- 8 Q. HOW DOES INDIAN HILLS PRIORITIZE LEAK REPAIR?
- 9 A. Indian Hills attempts to stick with a practice of "first reported, first repaired", but
 10 there are situations where a leak with high flow that is affecting service, causing
 11 harm to the road, causing harm to customer's property, or creating a safety
 12 hazard may be prioritized higher than a lower flow leak. Thus, when we have
 13 multiple leaks, we will sometimes change the order of repair based on service
 14 disruption, safety, or potential property damage.

RECOVERY OF EXTENDING ELECTRICAL SERVICE

- 16 Q. OPC WITNESS ROBINETT ADDRESSES THE RATEMAKING TREATMENT
 17 OF THE COST OF EXTENDING ELECTRICAL SERVICE. PLEASE EXPLAIN
 18 THE NATURE AND REASON FOR THIS ELECTRICAL EXTENSION.
- 19 A. This concerns the installation of equipment to provide a three-phase power 20 connection that was required for the industrial electrical and pumping equipment 21 used in the Indian Hills system.
- Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MR. ROBINETT'S TREATMENT OF THE RECOVERY

 OF THE CAPITAL EXPENSE FOR EXTENDING ELECTRICAL SERVICE?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 **Q.** WHY NOT?
- 3 Α. In his direct testimony, Mr. Robinett recommends the recovery of expense be 4 amortized over 5 years because he alleges that would be consistent with the 5 Crawford Electric Cooperative Agreement for Purchase of Power. Mr. Robinett 6 mistakenly characterizes this document as a payment agreement when in fact it 7 is (as stated in the title of the document) an agreement for purchase of power. 8 More specifically, Paragraph 2 of the Agreement states: "The Consumer shall 9 remit to the Seller a non-fundable payment in the sum of \$23,000 on account of 10 the cost of facilities required to make service available to the Consumer on or 11 before commencement of construction of such facilities."
- 12 Q. HAS INDIAN HILLS MADE THAT PAYMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE COST
 13 OF FACILITIES?
- 14 A. Yes. Payment to Crawford Electric Cooperative was made on May 17, 2016.
- 15 Q. IS THE ELECTRICAL SERVICE EQUIPMENT THAT HAS BEEN BUILT A

 16 BENEFIT TO INDIAN HILLS CUSTOMERS?
- 17 A. Yes. Without this electrical improvement, a phase-a-matic converter would have
 18 been required at Indian Hills. A phase-a-matic converter would be an additional
 19 cost, is unreliable, susceptible to power surges, lowers equipment life spans, and
 20 would increases operations and maintenance costs at Indian Hill resulting in
 21 higher customer rates.
- Q. WHAT TO YOU BELIEVE SHOULD BE THE TREATMENT TO RECOVER THE
 EXPENSE TO EXTEND ELECTRICAL SERVICE?

TODD THOMAS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

- 1 A. I agree with Staff witness Jennifer Grisham that the nonrefundable cost to build
- three phase electrical service for the Indian Hills MDNR mandated drinking water
- 3 system should be booked under Account 325.
- 4 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?
- 5 A. Yes, it does.



Schedule TT-1R Todd Thomas <tthomas@cswrgroup.com>

RE: Indian Hills Water Main Repairs

Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 10:58 AM

From: Colleen Funke [mailto:c.funke@crawfordelec.com]

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 10:20 AM To: Brenda Eaves <beaves@cswrgroup.com> Cc: Brett Palmer <b.palmer@crawfordelec.com> Subject: Indian Hills Water Main Repairs

Brenda.

The contractor that is replacing the water mains at Indian Hills, Midwest Water Resources, are they working for you guys? I'm trying to find out who I need to talk to about all the emergency locates we are getting from them for this work. I don't know if you know the process but a locate to Missouri One Call has to be called in each time any digging is done, but the problem I'm having is instead of planning ahead and calling in regular locates they are calling in several emergency locates every day. By law we are required to respond to emergency locates within 2 hours or we can be fined. Using emergency locates in this manner is a violation of the law and is costing us additional money to run out there each day. I'm trying to get ahold of someone to discuss stopping this behavior otherwise my only recourse is to send a violation letter and copy the Attorney General's office to seek restitution in the way of fines. Please let me know who I need to talk to about this.

Thanks,

Colleen Funke

Dispatch & System Coordinator Crawford Electric Cooperative Inc. 10301 N Service Road Bourbon, MO 65441 573-732-4415 ext. 199