

MAWC 27

Exhibit No.:
Issues: Test Year Water Sales Volumes
and Revenues
Declining Usage Impact on
Revenue
Weather impact on Usage and
Revenue
Economic and Price Impact on
Usage and Revenue
Witness: Gregory P. Roach
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

Gregory P. Roach

ON BEHALF OF

MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

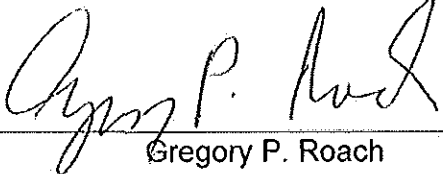
MAWC Exhibit No. 27
Date 3-4-16 Reporter TR
File No. WR-2015-0301

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)	CASE NO. WR-2015-0301
RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER)	CASE NO. SR-2015-0302
SERVICE)	

AFFIDAVIT OF GREGORY P. ROACH

Gregory P. Roach, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the witness who sponsors the accompanying testimony entitled "Surrebuttal Testimony of Gregory P. Roach"; 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.



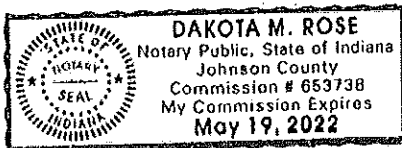
Gregory P. Roach

State of Indiana
County of Johnson
SUBSCRIBED and sworn to
Before me this 18th day of February 2016.



Notary Public

My commission expires: May 19, 2022



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SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY
Gregory P. Roach
MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
CASE NO. WR-2015-0301
CASE NO. SR-2015-0302

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SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

Gregory P. Roach

I. INTRODUCTION

1

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

3 A. My name is Gregory P. Roach, and my business address is 555 E. County
4 Line Road, Suite 201, Greenwood, IN 46143.

5

6 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TESTIMONY IN THIS
7 PROCEEDING?**

8 A. Yes, I have submitted direct, supplemental direct and rebuttal testimony in
9 this proceeding on behalf of Missouri-American Water Company ("MAWC" or
10 "Company").

11

12 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

13 A. My surrebuttal testimony will respond to the rebuttal testimony of James A.
14 Busch on behalf of the Commission Staff ("Staff"), the rebuttal testimony of
15 Lena M. Mantel on behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"), the
16 rebuttal testimony of Charles R. Hyneman on behalf of the OPC and the
17 rebuttal testimony of Geoff Marke on behalf of the OPC.

18

19

II. OVERVIEW

20 **Q. WHAT SUBJECTS WILL YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY ADDRESS?**

21 A. My surrebuttal testimony will respond to assertions by Witnesses Busch,
22 Mantel, Hyneman and Marke related to the MAWC developed Test Year
23 water sales volumes and current rate revenues. Specifically, I will address
24 assertions by these witnesses in their rebuttal testimony related to setting
25 Test Year water sales volumes and revenues, climatic conditions during the
26 60 month period used by Staff and OPC to set Test Year water sales volumes

1 and revenues, residential usage per customer in August 2012 as compared to
2 40 year averages of climatic conditions for June through August, the accuracy
3 of MAWC usage data, the application of non-representative weather data set
4 by the OPC, the cause of changes in revenue from 2010 to 2015, the choice
5 of winter months in modeling non-discretionary residential usage, the process
6 by which the MAWC approach normalizes for 10 years of weather, the role of
7 federal water use regulations in appliance and fixture saturation, and the
8 impact of employment, income and price on MAWC residential customers
9 decisions to consume water.

10

11 **III. RESPONSE TO EBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF JAMES A BUSCH - STAFF**

12

13 **Q. MR. BUSCH CLAIMS THAT USING THE MOST RECENT 60 MONTHS OF**
14 **DATA IS THE BEST METHOD OF SETTING TEST YEAR SALES**
15 **VOLUMES STATING “STAFF’S METHOD IS THE MOST REASONABLE**
16 **BECAUSE IT USES THE MOST RECENT DATA TO DETERMINE**
17 **NORMALIZED USAGE”. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY STAFF’S APPROACH**
18 **IS NOT “THE BEST METHOD”?**

19 **A.** As detailed in my rebuttal testimony, Staff and OPC used similar methods,
20 albeit measured over slightly different time periods, to calculate Test Year
21 sales volumes and resulting Test Year revenue. In setting Test Year sales
22 volumes and revenues, the Commission Staff and OPC used a simple 60
23 month averaging technique that was not normalized for varying weather
24 conditions, a declining use trend or any other factor. It is a simple, discreet
25 average by month of the 5 years defined by the period October 2010 through
26 September 2015 (Staff) and January 2010 through December 2014 (OPC).
27 As clearly demonstrated by the analysis reported in my rebuttal testimony, the
28 60 month period used by Staff and OPC was significantly warmer than the 40
29 year period of 1976 to 2015 that I compared it to. Hence the period of time
30 that Staff and OPC used to set Test Year water sales volumes and revenues
31 in their testimony resulted in significantly higher water sales volumes and

1 revenues driven primarily by warmer than 40 year average weather as
2 compared to other approaches that would normalize for weather conditions.

3

4 **Q. IN HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. BUSCH STATES THAT “IT IS**
5 **IMPORTANT TO FOCUS ON RECENT USAGE PATTERNS BECAUSE**
6 **RATES FOR MAWC ARE SET FOR A PERIOD OF TWO TO FOUR**
7 **YEARS”. WHAT ARE THE MAJOR FALLACIES WITH THE APPROACH**
8 **EMPLOYED BY STAFF AND OPC TO SET TEST YEAR WATER SALES**
9 **VOLUMES AND CURRENT REVENUES?**

10 A. There are two primary deficiencies of employing the simple averaging
11 technique for any period of time, recent or not. First, the simple 60 month
12 averaging technique employed the Commission Staff and OPC to set Test
13 Year sales volumes and revenues is subject to weather sensitive usage
14 overstatement linked to the period over which the usage was averaged. As
15 stated prior, if the period averaged was warmer than normal then
16 sales/revenues would be overestimated for the Test Year and set at a higher
17 than weather normalized level. Conversely, if the period averaged was cooler
18 than normal then sales/revenues would be underestimated for the Test Year
19 and set at a lower than weather normalized level. Second and as importantly,
20 by taking a simple average and failing to bifurcate (or identify) usage that is
21 non-weather sensitive (base) as compared to usage that is weather sensitive,
22 the simple averaging technique employed by the Commission Staff and OPC
23 fails to identify the inherent declining usage trend of residential and
24 commercial non weather sensitive usage (base). Hence by employing a
25 simple 60 month average, the use of “recent data” notwithstanding, will
26 produce results that are dominated by fluctuations in usage related to weather
27 conditions and is incapable of capturing the effect of longer term usage trends
28 which will continue through the Test Year and beyond.

29

30 **Q. WHAT WERE THE STATISTICAL RESULTS OF YOUR ANALYSIS OF**
31 **WEATHER EXPERIENCED DURING THE 2010-2015 PERIOD AVERAGED**
32 **BY COMMISSION STAFF AND OPC TO ARRIVE AT PRO FORMA TEST**

1 **YEAR CURRENT WATER VOLUME SALES AND REVENUES AS**
 2 **COMPARED TO A 40 YEAR AVERAGE?**

3 A. The results of my analysis were detailed in my rebuttal Schedule GPR-1R
 4 and attached here as Schedule GPR-1SR. That schedule is summarized in
 5 table GPR-1SR below. Table GPR-1SR below reports the percentage
 6 difference between the 40 year temperature data for the summer subset as
 7 compared to the 60 month summer subset temperature data which was
 8 experienced during the period used by Commission Staff and OPC to set Test
 9 Year water sales volumes and revenue. The table illustrates that the 60
 10 month summer subset period used by Commission Staff and OPC was 13.1%
 11 warmer than the 40 year average as compared by Cooling Degree Days.
 12 Further this warmer-than-the-40-year-average experienced during the 60
 13 month summer subset period used by Staff and OPC is reflected in higher: 1)
 14 Maximum Monthly temperature, 2) Minimum Monthly temperature, 3) Mean
 15 Maximum Daily Temperature, 4) Mean Minimum Daily Temperature and 5)
 16 Mean Average Daily Temperature. In every significant temperature
 17 measurement series, the 60 month summer subset period employed by Staff
 18 and OPC was warmer than the 40 year mean for the same summer months.

Table GPR-1SR
Missouri American Water Company
Comparison of 40 Year Weather to 2010-2015
Summer Season (May - Sept)

Time Period Measured	Cooling Degree Days	Maximum Monthly Temperature	Minimum Monthly Temperature	Mean Maximum Daily Temperature	Mean Minimum Daily Temperature	Mean Average Daily Temperature
Mean % Change Staff to 40 Years	13.1%	2.7%	2.9%	1.6%	2.3%	1.9%
S. Dev % Change Staff to 40 Years	-1.3%	2.6%	1.6%	-0.5%	-5.0%	-2.7%

19
 20

21 **Q. WHAT DOES THE CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA DEMONSTRATE RELATED TO**
 22 **SOLE RELIANCE ON “RECENT” DATA?**

23 A. The climatological data indicates that reliance on any particular period of time,
 24 without adjustment for climatological conditions, results in setting Test Year
 25 sales volumes and revenues based on customer usage patterns heavily

1 influenced by the climatological conditions of the period averaged. In the
2 case of the 60 "recent" months averaged by the Staff and OPC, it implies that
3 the water usage of a historically warm period (as compared to the past 40
4 years) will be used as the basis of setting new rates. Such a process will
5 continue the chronic under recovery of revenue by MAWC and send an
6 unrealistic price signal to MAWC residential customers. In the end, the
7 "recent" nature of the data used to set sales volumes and current revenues is
8 immaterial without making any normalization of the data for climatic
9 conditions.

10
11 **IV. RESPONSE TO REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF LENA M. MANTLE - OPC**

12
13 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF MS. LENA M.
14 MANTLE OF THE OPC?**

15 **A.** Yes.

16
17 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE ISSUES SHE IDENTIFIES IN HER
18 REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

19 **A.** With the use of graphs and discrete data point comparisons, Ms. Mantle is
20 attempting to create a perception of suspicious data due to occasional billing
21 issues and their supposed impact on Test Year water usage that was
22 employed by myself and Mr. Kevin Dunn of MAWC to develop the Company
23 analysis of base (non-discretionary) and non-base (discretionary) usage
24 employed as the basis of developing test year water sales volumes and
25 current revenues in this case. Unfortunately, Ms. Mantle with her comparisons
26 demonstrates a misunderstanding of the working and results of the analysis
27 employed by MAWC, the nature of the impact of weather in the water industry
28 on discretionary water usage and the impact of quarterly billing on MAWC
29 sales/revenues.

30
31 **Q. WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY MS. MANTLE'S FOCUS ON
32 MONTHLY VARIATIONS DURING MONTHS OF OUTDOOR**

1 **DESCRETIONARY USAGE HAVE NO IMPACT ON THE RESULTS OF**
2 **YOUR ANALYSIS OF NON-DESCRETIONARY WATER USAGE OR THE**
3 **DEVELOPMENT OF TEST YEAR WATER SALES VOLUMES AND**
4 **CURRENT REVENUE?**

5 A. Yes, I will. Reviewing Ms. Mantle's rebuttal testimony beginning on page 17
6 through page 20, Ms. Mantle illustrates the variations of billing from month to
7 month for the five year period of 2010 to 2014 and highlights two months,
8 August 2012 and June 2013 that appeared to be different from corresponding
9 months in her 5 year analysis. As I explained in my direct and rebuttal
10 testimony, my analysis of water usage for the residential MAWC customers
11 bifurcated usage into two groupings, non-discretionary usage which was
12 estimated analyzing per customer billed usage during the months of February
13 through April and discretionary usage which was estimated as the difference
14 between total annual residential usage and total annual non-discretionary
15 residential usage. Since the billing anomalies of August 2012 and June 2013
16 do NOT occur during the period of our estimating residential discretionary
17 usage, and that the estimation of residential non-discretionary usage was an
18 annual calculation, the variance of billing to usage from a month during the
19 discretionary period has NO impact on our analysis or estimates.

20
21 **Q. WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY MONTHLY VARIATIONS IN THE NON-**
22 **DISCRETIONARY USAGE DOES NOT IMPACT THE RESULTS OF YOUR**
23 **ANALYSIS OF RESIDENTIAL USAGE FOR MAWC?**

24 A. Yes, I will. As illustrated in my rebuttal testimony, monthly oscillations of
25 usage due to billing fluctuations will resolve themselves over the course of a
26 year. As an example, I will refer to a table that was originally in my rebuttal
27 testimony as Table GPR-2R and here as Table GPR-2SR.

Table GPR-2SR							
Missouri American Water Company							
Comparison of Usage Per Customer							
2013 and 2014							
	Monthly	Annual			Monthly	Annual	
		Average	Std Dev.			Average	Std Dev.
Jan-13	5,934			Jan-14	5,304		
Feb-13	5,261			Feb-14	5,047		
Mar-13	5,048			Mar-14	5,985		
Apr-13	5,532			Apr-14	6,361		
May-13	5,752			May-14	7,834		
Jun-13	3,771			Jun-14	8,023		
Jul-13	8,815			Jul-14	8,365		
Aug-13	8,309			Aug-14	6,838		
Sep-13	9,581			Sep-14	5,911		
Oct-13	6,250			Oct-14	5,735		
Nov-13	5,427			Nov-14	4,929		
Dec-13	5,273			Dec-14	5,243		
2013		6,246	1,657.7	2014		6,298	1,155.0
Difference 2014 to 2013 (gl)		52					
Difference 2014 to 2013 (%)		0.82%					

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This table clearly illustrates that the unusually low usage per customer value that occurred in June 2013, had no appreciable impact on the annual total usage per customer average of 2013 as compared to 2014 indicating that the unusually low value for June 2013 didn't have any impact on the MAWC estimation of discretionary usage used to set Test Year water sales and current revenues.

- Q. BEGINNING ON PAGE 21 THROUGH 25 OF HER REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MS. MANTLE ALLUDES TO THE IMPACT OF VARIANCES IN CUSTOMER COUNTS ON RESIDENTIAL USAGE PER CUSTOMER NUMBERS THAT WOULD INTRODUCE ERROR INTO THE MAWC DEVELOPED WATER SALES AND CURRENT REVENUES FOR THE TEST YEAR. IS THAT AN ACCURATE ASSESSEMENT OF THE IMPACT OF CHANGING CUSTOMER COUNTS IN 2013?**
- A. No it isn't. Ms. Mantle fails to understand the impact of variations in total usage per customer for June 2013 on the MAWC process employed to develop Test Year water usage or current revenues. As illustrated in my rebuttal testimony, monthly oscillations of total water usage per customer due

1 to billing or CUSTOMER COUNT fluctuations will resolve themselves over the
2 course of a year as illustrated by table GPR-2SR above. For purposes of
3 developing Test Year water usage and current revenue, MAWC bifurcates
4 usage per customer into non-discretionary and discretionary components.
5 The non-discretionary usage is estimated based on a 10 year trend of the
6 February through April billed usage per customer values. The non-
7 discretionary usage is estimated as the ANNUAL difference between total
8 usage per customer and the non-discretionary usage. Table GPR-2SR
9 illustrates that that the monthly fluctuation of June 2013 had NO appreciable
10 impact on the 2013 annual total usage per customer and thus would not have
11 introduced error into the Annual estimation of discretionary, non-base usage
12 for the 10 year average. In summary, neither fluctuations of total usage per
13 customer due to billing oscillations or customer counts in June 2013
14 introduced error into the MAWC estimates of Test Year water usage or
15 current revenues.

16

17 **Q. DO YOU KNOW THE CAUSE OF THE BILLING OSCILLATIONS AND**
18 **CUSTOMER COUNT FLUCTUATIONS IN THE JUNE 2013 DATA?**

19 A. Yes, this was a simple function of the implementation of the new SAP
20 Customer Information System CIS system and it had nothing to do with bad
21 or inconsistent data.

22

23 **Q. YOU EXPLAINED THAT THE JUNE 2013 DATA DID NOT AFFECT YOUR**
24 **ANALYSIS. WOULD CHANGES IN USAGE PER CUSTOMER DUE TO**
25 **BILLING OSICILLATIONS AND/OR CUSTOMER COUNT FLUCTUATION**
26 **DUE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SAP IN JUNE 2013 IMPACT THE**
27 **DEVELOPMENT OF WATER USAGE AND CURRENT REVENUES USING**
28 **THE SIXTY MONTH AVERAGING TECHNIQUE EMPLOYED BY THE**
29 **STAFF AND OPC?**

30 A. Yes it would. Because the Staff and OPC performed a simple 5 year monthly
31 average of water usage and revenue to set Test Year water usage and
32 revenue, each month in which the reported billing or customer count

1 fluctuated would be impacted in the Staff/OPC method. Hence, in addition to
2 the Staff/OPC method being dominated by the monthly climatic conditions
3 during the 60 month period, the Staff/OPC method would fluctuate due to
4 billing oscillations or customer count fluctuations for the months averaged to
5 develop their Test Year water usage and revenue levels. Thus, unlike the
6 MAWC methodology for developing Test Year water usage, which is insulated
7 from the impact of such monthly billing oscillations or customer count
8 fluctuations, the Staff/OPC method is open to error that could be introduced
9 due to such monthly oscillations or fluctuations.

10
11 **Q. MS. MANTLE PRESENTS WEATHER DATA ON PAGE 20 OF HER**
12 **REBUTTAL TESTIMONY THAT WOULD APPEAR TO INDICATE THAT**
13 **THE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED DURING AUGUST OF 2012**
14 **WAS NOT UNUSUALLY WARM. WHAT IS THE DATA THAT MS.**
15 **MANDTLE REPORTS AND WHY DOES IT UNDERSTATE CLIMATIC**
16 **CONDITIONS FOR AUGUST 2012 IN ST. LOUIS?**

17 **A.** Ms. Mantle introduces a table on page 20 of her testimony that compares
18 August Average Temperature and Precipitation for the period 2010 through
19 2014 stating that the data is for "National Oceanic and Atmospheric
20 Administration ("NOAA") that includes St. Louis County". Researching the
21 details of this data series on the National Climatic Data Center website per
22 Ms. Mantle's footnote on page 20, I find that the data series is for US
23 Climatological Division 2 which is defined as the "Northeast Prairie" and
24 roughly comprises 20% of the state of Missouri's geographic area including
25 counties from St. Louis along the Eastern border of the state all the way north
26 to Iowa. As such, this Climatological Division is dominated by agricultural
27 areas with the single exception of St, Louis County as illustrated by the map
28 presented in Schedule GPR-2SR. This data, which is an average of all the
29 NOAA weather stations in Climatological Division 2 is dominated by reporting
30 stations in rural counties that DO NOT represent the urban environment
31 which defines the MAWC St. Louis County system, the dominant load center
32 of MAWC. As such, Ms. Mantle is comparing apples and oranges. She is

1 reporting average weather data for a NOAA Climatological Division
2 dominated by relatively cool rural environments that do not represent the
3 urban heat sink that is the St. Louis metropolis. This comparison is similar to
4 using climatic conditions from upstate New York in the Adirondack mountain
5 area to reflect conditions on the Island of Manhattan. Hence, Ms. Mantle's
6 application of this data to MAWC and St. Louis County lacks merit as such
7 data is not representative of the climatic conditions faced by MAWC
8 residential customers in St. Louis County. Further, this climatic data set,
9 because it is dominated by rural reporting stations, cannot provide any insight
10 into the cause of the unusually high MAWC Residential August 2012 usage
11 per customer value.

12

13 **Q. HAVE YOU ANALYZED CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA THAT WOULD**
14 **EXPLAIN THE CATALYST FOR THE UNUSUALLY HIGH RESIDENTIAL**
15 **USAGE PER CUSTOMER FOR AUGUST OF 2012?**

16 A. Yes, as explained in my rebuttal testimony, I have analyzed 40 years of daily
17 climatic data downloaded from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
18 Administration, National Centers for Environmental Information Administration
19 website, for the GHCND:USW00013994 - ST LOUIS LAMBERT
20 INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, MO US reporting station.

21

22 **Q. WHAT WAS THE RESULTS OF YOUR ANALYSIS?**

23 A. In considering and explaining usage per customer for August 2012, the
24 analyst cannot ignore the impact of quarterly billing on the MAWC residential
25 usage per customer data series. Due to the quarterly nature of MAWC St.
26 Louis County billing (roughly 74% of MAWC residential customers are on
27 quarterly billing), usage per customer data in August of 2012 would be
28 expected to include billing totals that are approximately 1/6 May, 1/3 June, 1/3
29 July and 1/6 August. Ms. Mantle failed to take quarterly billing into
30 consideration when she inappropriately compared NOAA Missouri Climate
31 Division 2 climatic data to the August 2012 residential usage per customer
32 values. Any comparison of climatic conditions to MAWC residential usage

1 per customer must take into consideration that the majority of MAWC
2 residential customers are billed on a quarterly billing cycle. Such a
3 comparison should use climatic data for the two months prior to, as well as
4 August 2012, in order to match the predominantly June-August billing term for
5 the quarterly MAWC residential customers defining the August 2012 usage
6 per customer data point. To that end, I have compared climatic conditions for
7 the 40 year June-August average and the June-August average for the 2010-
8 2015 time frame used by Staff/OPC to the June-August 2012 time frame.
9 The results of that analysis are detailed in Schedule GPR-3SR and
10 summarized below in Table GPR-3SR. That table reports that the June-
11 August 2012 time frame was significantly warmer than either the 40 year
12 average (27.5% warmer by cooling degree days) and that the 2010-2015 time
13 frame used by Staff/OPC (17.8% warmer by cooling degree days). Further,
14 the analysis illustrates that the June-August 2012 period was significantly
15 dryer than either the 40 year average (-40.9% less precipitation) or the
16 Staff/OPC 2010-2015 time period (-37.2% less precipitation). This data fully
17 supports usage being significantly greater than typical due to excessive warm
18 and dry conditions during the June through August 2012 billing period.
19 Hence, as opposed to August 2012 being a supposed "billing error" as
20 claimed by Ms. Mantle and which she is unable to support, the June-August
21 2012 climatic data clearly indicates that the usage was unusually high
22 because of MAWC quarterly residential customers were responding to
23 significantly warmer and dryer climatic conditions by increasing their
24 discretionary outdoor water usage.

Table GPR-3SR							
Missouri American Water Company							
Comparison of 40 Year Weather to 2010-2015							
June- August							
Time Period Measured	Cooling Degree Days	Mean Total Precipitation	Maximum Monthly Temperature	Minimum Monthly Temperature	Mean Maximum Daily Temperature	Mean Minimum Daily Temperature	Mean Average Daily Temperature
Mean % Change 2012 to 40 Years	27.5%	-40.9%	8.0%	3.4%	6.3%	2.7%	4.7%
S. Dev % Change 2012 to 40 Years	39.2%	-41.5%	-10.8%	81.3%	14.7%	51.1%	34.7%
Mean % Change 2012 to Staff	17.8%	-37.2%	6.4%	-0.4%	4.8%	1.1%	3.2%
S. Dev % Change 2012 to 40 Years	45.0%	-33.2%	-14.6%	94.4%	17.9%	67.4%	44.3%

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Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY AS IT APPLIES TO MS. MANTLE'S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

A. Yes.

First, Ms. Mantle's statement that monthly billing oscillations and/or fluctuations in monthly customer count would cause error in the MAWC development of Test Year water usage and current revenues is baseless and not supported by an analysis of annual discretionary water usage. Rather, that analysis indicates such oscillations or fluctuations would impact the Staff/OPC analysis without impact to the MAWC methodology.

Second, Ms. Mantle misapplied weather data from a rural dominated National Climatological Division 2 for August 2012 which is not representative of and is inapplicable to the urban dominated climatic conditions faced by customers on the MAWC St. Louis County system.

Third, Ms. Mantle failed to understand that the usage for August of 2012 is composed of total usage from approximately 1/6 May, 1/3 June, 1/3 July and 1/6 August and is not related to climatic conditions experienced solely in August of 2012.

Fourth and finally, when reviewing the climatic conditions for St. Louis (Lambert Field station) the June-August 2012 time frame to the 40 year average of 1976 to 2015 (or the 5 year average of the Staff/OPC 2010-2015) period, the climatic conditions of June-August 2012 were significantly in excess of the multi-year averages and this divergence fully explains why

1 August 2012 usage per customer results were well in excess of typical August
2 residential total water usage per customer values. In summary, none of the
3 criticisms that Ms. Mantle makes in her rebuttal testimony related to MAWC's
4 processes, data and development of Test Year water usage and current
5 revenues are supported by data or analysis and her claims should be rejected
6 for purposes of determining Test Year water sales volumes or current
7 revenues in this case.

8
9 **V. RESPONSE TO REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF CHARLES R. HYNEMAN - OPC**

10
11 **Q. IS ONE OF THE LARGEST CONCERNS FACING MAWC THAT**
12 **REVENUES BASED ON USAGE PER CUSTOMER FAIL TO CAPTURE**
13 **THE SYSTEMIC TREND OF A DECLINE IN USAGE PER CUSTOMER?**

14 **A.** Yes it is. I am concerned that neither Mr. Hyneman nor Ms. Mantle fully
15 appreciate, analyze or properly take into consideration: 1) the nationally
16 recognized phenomenon of declining usage per customer and 2) the need to
17 normalize usage for weather effects.

18
19 **Q. DOES MR. HYNEMAN PROPERLY RECOGNIZE THESE EFFECTS?**

20 **A.** To the contrary, he seems to trivialize them; ignoring the effect of weather
21 and the well-recognized trend of declining use per customer and claiming (at
22 p. 40) that the "revenue growth numbers provided by Mr. Roach show a
23 robust increase in revenue growth from 2011 through 2014 of 12%, with an
24 average annual increase during this period of 4%." In fact, Mr. Hyneman
25 goes so far as to assert (at p. 18) that MAWC's "revenues are increasing at
26 an impressive level."

27
28 **Q. MR. HYNEMAN CLAIMS AT PAGE 20 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY**
29 **THAT MAWC'S REVENUES ARE STRONG AND GROWING." IS HIS**
30 **CLAIM ACCURATE?**

31 **A.** No, it is not. Based on a chart he presents on page 18, Mr. Hyneman claims
32 that "MAWC's revenue growth in the period 2011 through 2014 have

1 averaged greater than 3% per year." His claim suffers from several fatal
2 deficiencies. First, Mr. Hyneman fails to normalize his revenue for
3 fluctuations in water sales and revenue related to changes in outdoor
4 discretionary usage for climatic conditions. Second, he gave no effect to the
5 well-recognized trend of reduced water usage per customer. And third, he
6 completely ignored the effect of recent acquisitions, ISRS filings and rate
7 cases that increase total revenue. The last point will be addressed in Ms.
8 Tinsley's surrebuttal testimony. I will address Mr. Hyneman's first two points.
9

10 **Q. YOU ALSO NOTED THAT MR. HYNEMAN IGNORES THE WELL-**
11 **RECOGNIZED TREND OF DECLINING USAGE PER CUSTOMER.**
12 **PLEASE EXPLAIN THE EFFECT OF THAT.**

13 A. As my direct testimony explained in detail, the trend of declining use per
14 customer is well established and acknowledged, having been recognized by
15 none other than the United States Environmental Protection Agency, among
16 others. This trend is the perfectly explainable result of the penetration of low-
17 flow faucets, reduced flow toilets and other highly water efficient appliances
18 such as clothes washers and dishwashers. Just as Mr. Busch and Ms. Mantle
19 incorrectly use five years of usage unadjusted for climatic influences to assert
20 that residential usage per customer is not declining, Mr. Hyneman's assertion
21 that "revenues are increasing at an impressive level" is simply in conflict with,
22 and is masked by climatic induced water usage and revenue. The simple and
23 irrefutable reality is that usage per customer is declining.
24

25 **Q. PLEASE ADDRESS MR. HYNEMAN'S FAILURE TO REFLECT WEATHER**
26 **SENSITIVITY.**

27 A. It is beyond dispute that water utility revenue is sensitive to weather. Hot, dry
28 weather results in increased outdoor watering of lawns, gardens and other
29 irrigation activities. Conversely, cooler, wetter weather dampens revenue
30 from those activities. I find it a bit surprising that Mr. Hyneman could look at
31 the revenue shown on his chart on page 18 and not question how revenue
32 could grow by 15% in one year and then decline by 6% in the very next year.

1 As explained in my response to Ms. Mantle's rebuttal testimony, the answer is
2 largely explained by the fact that 2012 was one of the hottest, driest years on
3 record and outdoor discretionary water usage surged that year. Mr.
4 Hyneman's failure to normalize his usage and hence, revenue, for weather
5 variations from year to year is a gaping deficiency in his logic.

6
7 **Q. IF THE CUSTOMER COUNT IS INCREASING, WON'T REVENUES**
8 **INCREASE ACCORDINGLY? WHAT IMPACT DOES THIS HAVE ON**
9 **RESIDENTIAL USAGE PER CUSTOMER?**

10 A. Ms. Tinsley and Mr. Watkins explain the rate and revenue relationships that
11 result when customers are being added through acquisition. Generally, if
12 customer totals are increasing, we would anticipate that total usage will
13 increase, all things being equal. However, my analysis addresses usage per
14 customer not total water usage. There is no evidence that these customers
15 added by acquisition have significantly difference usage characteristics as
16 compared to the existing MAWC residential customer base. Therefore, if
17 usage per customer is declining for the existing MAWC residential customer
18 base, that is an important consideration related to acquired customers as the
19 expected amount of weather-normalized usage per customer must be
20 properly aligned to the numbers of customers.

21
22 **Q. DOES MR. HYNEMAN'S APPARENT REFUSAL TO ACCOUNT FOR THE**
23 **EFFECTS OF WEATHER AND THE TREND IN DECLINING USE PER**
24 **CUSTOMER INVALIDATE HIS CLAIMS ABOUT REVENUE GROWTH? IF**
25 **THE CUSTOMER COUNT IS INCREASING, WON'T REVENUES**
26 **INCREASE ACCORDINGLY?**

27 A. Yes, the failure of Mr. Hyneman to address either the impact of climatic
28 conditions or declining base usage renders his claims of revenue growth
29 without support or merit. Water utility revenue forecasts are properly based
30 on normalized climatic conditions. Climatic conditions, however, are seldom
31 experienced at the normal level. Therefore there is an equal probability that
32 the utility will exceed the forecast due to abnormally warm climate or fall short

1 of the revenue forecast due to a cooler than average summer. Usage per
2 customer results that capture several years of abnormally hot and dry
3 conditions will represent usage per customer that simply cannot be achieved
4 in a year of average climatic conditions. In addition to that challenge, the
5 failure of a forecast to capture the full effect of a trend of reduced usage per
6 customer (that is masked by usage changes in response to climatic
7 conditions) will result in the adoption of a faulty forecast that improperly
8 captures a usage trend biased by abnormal climate conditions in the historic
9 data set.

10 As explained in my direct testimony, the variability in customer usage
11 patterns due to climatic conditions can have a substantial effect on a water
12 company's actual revenues. Changes in customer usage patterns can reflect
13 seasonal variation in usage (e.g., from winter to summer) as well long term
14 water use trends (for example as a result of sustained water efficiency and
15 conservation efforts). As demonstrated in my direct testimony, this trend is
16 true for MAWC as well as other water utilities across the country. Although
17 the effect of climatic conditions can be random and work either in favor of or
18 against the Company from a financial standpoint, the declining use per
19 customer is another factor, altogether. My direct testimony demonstrated
20 that our customers are using less water every year. Residential usage per
21 customer is steadily declining by as much as 2.0% annually and MAWC's
22 experience is consistent with a national trend of declining water usage per
23 customer. My Hyneman's failure to recognize the effects of climatic
24 conditions and the trend of declining usage per customer are serious defects
25 in his analysis rendering his conclusions without basis or merit.

26
27 **Q. ON PAGE 18 MR. HYNEMAN PRESENTS A TABLE DEPICTING THREE**
28 **YEARS OF REVENUE GROWTH. IS THE APPLICATION OF SIMPLE**
29 **AVERAGING EXPERIENCED HISTORIC SALES GROWTH A**
30 **SUPPORTABLE APPROACH TO SETTING NORMALIZED TEST YEAR**
31 **USAGE?**

1 A. No, it isn't, for at least two primary reasons. First, without taking into
2 consideration the effect of climatic conditions during the period being
3 averaged, the results of employing such a short period can be very
4 misleading. For example, 2012 was the hottest, driest summer on record,
5 leading to a significant increase in water usage per customer for outdoor
6 discretionary water usage. Such a climate induced anomaly will clearly skew
7 the average for the period. Furthermore, the use of a short term such as five
8 years will fail to discern a trend in usage per customer as well as dampen the
9 effects of such a trend. Ms. Tinsley has presented in her surrebuttal
10 testimony MAWC's comments in File No. AW-2015-0282. Pages four and five
11 of those comments contain charts that show irrefutable evidence of both the
12 clear effects of climatic conditions on usage and the undeniable decline in
13 usage per customer. The use of a short term climatic dominated averaging
14 technique is simply not a proper way to recognize long-term effects on usage
15 of weather and conservation. As denoted above, this is fatal flaw that impacts
16 the analysis and conclusions of both Ms. Mantle and Mr. Hyneman.

17

18 **Q. ON PAGE 40 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. HYNEMAN**
19 **EXPRESSED "CONCERN" THAT THE TWO MAWC REVENUE SERIES**
20 **PRESENTED IN THE TABLE ON THAT PAGE "DO NOT MATCH". IS MR**
21 **HYNEMAN'S CONCERN A VALID CRITICISIM OF YOUR TESTIMONY**
22 **AND MAWC RECORD KEEPING ?**

23 A. No, it is not. Rather it is an indictment of Mr. Hyneman's lack of thoroughness
24 in his analysis of the evidence presented by MAWC in this case and in its
25 annual report. The data Mr. Hyneman presents for the MAWC annual report
26 is water sales revenue exclusively. The revenue series that Mr. Hyneman
27 has lifted from page 20 of my direct testimony in this proceeding is total
28 revenue for MAWC including waters sales and waste water revenue. As
29 such, Mr. Hyneman is comparing apples to oranges and instead of requesting
30 explanation from MAWC, he chooses to criticize MAWC for allegedly
31 reporting inconsistent revenue numbers. Mr. Hyneman's allegations related

1 to inconsistent revenue reporting are not supported by the evidence in the
2 case and are without merit.

3

4 **Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY**
5 **AS IT APPLIES TO MR. HYNEMAN’S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

6 A. Yes, I will. First, Mr. Hyneman fails to make any adjustment in his analysis for
7 the effects of climatic conditions on discretionary water usage and hence
8 revenues. What he fails to understand is that the greatest contribution to the
9 percentage “growth” in revenue discussed by Mr. Hyneman are climatic
10 induced fluctuations in water usage, not a trend of revenue growth. With so
11 much of the annual variation in total usage per customer and revenue being
12 driven by climate, neither Mr. Hyneman nor any other witness can make
13 assertions related to long-term usage/revenue growth.

14 Second, Mr. Hyneman fails to adjust his data set for a historically dry and
15 warm June-August period of 2012 in the St. Louis area that is the largest
16 driver of revenue change during the period analyzed, completely distorting the
17 trend of non-discretionary water usage for MAWC. Without making an
18 appropriate adjustment for historically abnormal climatic conditions (see Table
19 GPR-2SR), the long term trend of non-discretionary water usage remains
20 invisible to the analyst.

21 Third, due to these prevailing analytical flaws in Mr. Hyneman’s rebuttal
22 testimony, his conclusions related to Test Year water sales volumes and
23 current revenues are without support and lack merit.

24 Fourth, Mr. Hyneman’s criticism of MAWC for inconsistent revenue reporting
25 is simply not true.

26

27 **VI. RESPONSE TO REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF GEOFF MARKE - OPC**

28 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF MR. GEOFF**
29 **MARKE OF THE OPC?**

30 A. Yes, I have.

31

1 **Q. GENERALLY WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE ISSUES HE**
2 **IDENTIFIES IN HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

3 A. Through the citation of certain pieces of anecdotal evidence which are not
4 supported by any analytical analysis supporting the conclusions he derives
5 from the anecdotal evidence, Mr. Marke attempts to either obfuscate the
6 basis of the MAWC analysis employed to develop Test Year water sales
7 volumes and revenues or to infer alternative causes for the reductions in
8 usage experienced by MAWC in the historic data set that he claims will not
9 occur in the future. None of Mr. Marke's observations are supported by
10 analytical evidence and they are refuted by evidence previously submitted by
11 MAWC or submitted here in my surrebuttal testimony.

12
13 **Q. MR. MARKE QUESTIONS THE USAGE OF THE FEBRUARY TO APRIL**
14 **TIME FRAME FOR ESTIMATING BASE, NON-DISCRETIONARY USAGE**
15 **FOR THE MAWC SYSTEM. WHY WAS THAT TIME-FRAME CHOSEN TO**
16 **ESTIMATE BASE USAGE AND WHAT HAS MR. MARKE FAILED TO**
17 **REALIZE IN HIS CRITIQUE FOR USING THAT PERIOD?**

18 A. Mr. Marke, like Ms. Mantle before him, has completely failed to consider the
19 impact of quarterly billing on the MAWC residential customer base and the
20 billing information available for analysis. When one considers the billing
21 artifact introduced by quarterly billing on the billing data available to be
22 analyzed illustrated in Table GPR-4SR below, the support for the February to
23 April time frame choice is clear. In order to minimize the impact of usage
24 during the holiday months of November and December, as well as the early
25 spring month of May, given the choices of billing months that have very
26 limited discretionary outdoor usage that we could employ to derive the non-
27 discretionary base usage, we choose to use the February through April billing
28 months. By choosing the February through April time frame, MAWC has
29 maximized the ability to gain insight into the trend of base, non-discretionary
30 usage while minimizing the impact of Holiday and spring influences.

Table GPR-4SR					
Missouri American Water Company					
The Impact of Quarterly Billing					
Billing Month	Approximate Composition of Billing Month Reading *				Midpoint
January	1/6 Oct	1/3 Nov	1/3 Dec	1/6 Jan	December
February	1/6 Nov	1/3 Dec	1/3 Jan	1/6 Feb	January
March	1/6 Dec	1/3 Jan	1/3 Feb	1/6 Mar	February
April	1/6 Jan	1/3 Feb	1/3 Mar	1/6 April	March
May	1/6 Feb	1/3 Mar	1/3 April	1/6 May	April

* Approximately, All Things Being Equal Under Typical Billing Conditions

1

2 **Q. MR. MARKE ALLUDES TO THE IMPACT OF HOLIDAYS AND SCHOOLS**
 3 **ON WATER USAGE. WHAT HAS MR. MARKE FAILED TO REALIZE?**

4 **A.** Mr. Marke admits that he does not have extensive experience with the water
 5 industry and that his professional work has been focused on the power and
 6 gas industries. It is this lack of experience which likely accounts for his major,
 7 incorrect conclusions. First off, as explained above and in Table GPR-4SR,
 8 MAWC has minimized the impact of either autumn or spring shoulder months
 9 in its analysis of base, non-discretionary usage to the extent that can be
 10 accomplished with the data available for analysis. Second, the portion of
 11 February usage which is derived from November and December would tend
 12 to increase non-discretionary base usage as more people are home from
 13 work for the Holiday period increasing usage for the month of December.
 14 Hence it would not lead to additional declining use. Lastly, Mr. Marke alludes
 15 to the impact of "school months". I am unsure of the impact Mr. Marke sees
 16 with the analysis of "school months". All things being equal, what little
 17 additional seasonal usage that may occur during the months of June through
 18 August would add to the amount of our estimation of non-base discretionary
 19 usage and would be picked up by our projections of non-base Test Year
 20 water usage. Thus, all of Mr. Marke's concerns related to the period of
 21 February through April being used to estimate base non-discretionary usage
 22 are baseless and without merit.

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Q. Mr. MARKE CLAIMS THAT THE MAWC ANALYSIS UNDERLYING THE COMPANY PROPOSED TEST YEAR WATER USAGE AND CURRENT REVENUE IS NOT WEATHER NORMALIZED. IS THAT AN ACCURATE ASSERTION RELATED TO THE MAWC ANALYSIS OF BASE AND NON-BASE USAGE?

A. No it certainly is not. As with Ms. Mantle, Mr. Marke fails to understand that the 10 year average non-base, discretionary water usage is normalized to the average non-discretionary water usage over the period 2005 through 2014. Insomuch as MAWC has chosen to normalize non-discretionary water usage to 10 years of data, MAWC has eliminated the impact implicit in the Staff/OPC 60 month averaging method of weather induced, greater-than-normal water usage due to the choice of an abnormally warm period for a simple averaging technique. Rather, with the bifurcated base and non-base analysis sponsored by MAWC, the Company was able to capture the declining trend of non-discretionary indoor usage while eliminating the impact of a few years of abnormally warm or dry weather on total usage by normalizing discretionary outdoor water usage to its average over the 10 year period of 2005-2014. This bifurcation eliminates the climatic induced bias in the Staff/OPC method for setting Test Year water usage and current revenue.

Q. Mr. MARKE CLAIMS ON PAGE 17 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIOMONY THAT YOU FAILED TO PROVIDE ANY ANALYTICAL EVIDENCE SUPPORTING OR ILLUSTRATING THE EFFECT OF FEDERAL APPLICANCE AND WATER FIXTURE USAGE REGULATIONS ON MAWC WATER SALES. IS MR. MARKE CORRECT IN HIS CLAIM OF LACK OF ANALYTICAL SUPPORT TYING FEDERAL USAGE REGULATIONS WITH AN IMPACT ON THE MAWC SYSTEM?

A. No. Mr. Marke missed three major areas in my direct testimony that linked federal water usage regulations with an impact on residential water usage on the MAWC system. First, the post-tornado Joplin, MO analysis clearly illustrated the impact of the federal water use regulations on water usage

1 where the post-tornado rebuild resulted in a 37% acceleration in the rate of
2 residential usage reduction when only a relatively modest 13.8% of the
3 residential dwellings were rebuilt post-tornado. Second, applying the
4 federal water use guidelines in the theoretical family of four analyses for the
5 MAWC residential customer base, MAWC estimated a potential 54,315
6 annual gallon reduction in usage for a family four. Based on current rates of
7 usage decline, this trend could extend for up to 45 more years at current rates
8 of fixture replacement. Lastly, Mr. Marke attempts to project uncertainty onto
9 the validity of the MAWC analysis of base, non-discretionary residential usage
10 by claiming on page 17 of his rebuttal testimony that it is based on "the
11 isolation of three select months of metered residential data". As illustrated
12 above, those billing months were chosen in order to eliminate the effect of
13 potential discretionary usage being included with the non-discretionary usage.
14 Further, Mr. Marke's lack of experience with quarterly billing did not allow him
15 to understand that the MAWC analysis of base non-discretionary usage is
16 based on data which includes the months of November through April. So too
17 that data, when annualized, is analyzed for a 10 year period. In essence the
18 MAWC analysis of non-discretionary usage is based on 50 observations (5
19 months x 10 years). In the end, MAWC has analyzed a 10 year data set and
20 produced overwhelming evidence that federal water use regulations have
21 impacted base non-discretionary use over the last 10 years, that the rate of
22 usage decline has been accelerated under conditions of greater fixture
23 replacement rates as illustrated by the post-tornado Joplin, MO analysis and
24 the theoretical family of four analysis indicates the trend could be extend for
25 up to 45 more years.

26
27 **Q. MR. MARKE IN HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY ON PAGES 17-25 GOES TO**
28 **GREAT LENGTHS TO ILLUSTRATE THE LACK OF STATE OF MISSOURI**
29 **REGULATORY STANDARDS RELATED TO WATER FIXTURE,**
30 **APPLIANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES AS THEY RELATE TO**
31 **WATER USAGE. MR MARKE CLAIMS THIS LACK OF STATE OF**
32 **MISSOURI STANDARDS SOMEHOW INVALIDATES THE MAWC**

1 **ANALYSIS WHICH ESTIMATES THE RESIDENTIAL USAGE**
2 **REDUCTIONS IN NON-DISCRETIONARY BASE USAGE. IS THIS**
3 **ASSERTION CORRECT?**

4 A. Mr. Marke, due to his limited experience in the water industry has missed a
5 critical element of water appliance and fixture usage regulation. As with most
6 consumer manufacturing industries, the production standards for final product
7 are driven by the federal government unless there is a state standard which is
8 more stringent than the federal regulation (such as California for automobiles
9 as an example). Manufacturers prefer to build to one standard in order to
10 standardize and minimize production costs in order to maximize economies of
11 scale. Hence federal water use standards set the level for the production of
12 water using appliances and fixtures installed across the United States while
13 only being impacted by state standards should they require even LOWER
14 usage than the federal standards. Thus, for purposes of our analytical
15 exercises, the dearth of Missouri state standards has NO impact on the
16 results of our analysis or on the declining water use trend in the state of
17 Missouri. All of the effects felt in Missouri are based on federal water usage
18 guidelines that define what type of appliances and fixtures are sold
19 nationwide. The residences of Missouri do not get to purchase water using
20 appliances or fixtures made to some other standard that is somehow LESS
21 efficient. They have the same water using appliance and fixtures as any
22 other resident in any other state. For that reason, Mr. Marke's allusion to lack
23 of State of Missouri water usage regulatory standards somehow undermining
24 the credibility of the MAWC analysis of non-discretionary base usage is at
25 best illogical, has NO analytical support and is without merit. Again, if Mr.
26 Marke were correct, we certainly would not have seen the real-world example
27 of the Joplin MO decline in usage per customer, yet we did.

28

29 **Q. MR. MARKE IN HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY ON PAGES 26-31 GOES TO**
30 **GREAT LENGTHS AND REPORTS NUMEROUS INCOME AND**
31 **EMPLOYMENT TRENDS TO DEMONSTRATE A SUPPOSED**
32 **CORRELATION OF GENERAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS TO THE**

1 **DECLINE OF WATER USAGE. HAVE YOU PERFORMED ANALYTICAL**
2 **ANALYSIS THAT WOULD EITHER SUPPORT OR DISPROVE MR.**
3 **MARKE'S CLAIMS?**

4 A. In his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Marke cites several economic trends and
5 statistics, most notably during the recession that began in 2008 as the source
6 of declining residential water usage per customer. Unfortunately for Mr.
7 Marke's claims, the alleged correlation between certain economic indices and
8 usage per customer is merely circumstantial. In order to test the validity of
9 Mr. Marke's claim about an economic cause for MAWC residential declining
10 usage, I performed a regression analysis employing MAWC base, non-
11 discretionary usage using the economic variables St. Louis, Missouri
12 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area ("SMSA") total employment and St.
13 Louis SMSA real personal income per capita (\$2009) for the years of 2000
14 through 2014. In addition, I tested the Time and Binary variables used by
15 MAWC to model and forecast non-discretionary residential usage per
16 customer for setting Test Year waters sales and current revenues. I was not
17 able to model 2015 data as the SMSA specific data is not yet available from
18 the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. The results of
19 this modeling are reported in Table GPR-5SR below and are very clear.
20 Employment has an extremely weak positive association with the trend of
21 non-discretionary usage per customer. Income has a strong illogical inverse
22 relationship with the trend of non-discretionary usage per customer. This
23 relationship is illogical as it indicates the greater the income per capita over
24 time, the less discretionary residential usage is observed. When included
25 with a model that employs the Time and the Binary variable, neither
26 employment nor income has a significant explanatory relationship with non-
27 discretionary usage per customer. What does this mean from a practical
28 sense? The results demonstrate that neither employment nor income can be
29 used as explanatory or predictive indicator for the trend of non-discretionary
30 usage per customer. Rather, the statistical results demonstrate that the
31 variable Time employed by MAWC to model the trend and project residential
32 non-discretionary usage per customer is by far the strongest explanatory

1 variable of all the variables tested in my analysis. Further, the statistical
 2 results completely disprove Mr. Marke's presumption that the cause of the
 3 decline of non-discretionary usage per customer where induced by recession.
 4 The regression analysis results completely negate Mr. Marke's claim and
 5 even result in an illogical inverse relationship between income and
 6 discretionary residential usage per customer.

Table GPR-5SR						
Missouri American Water Company						
Bases Non-Discretionary Water Usage Modeling						
2000-2014 - Summary						
	Employment	Income	Employment Income	Employment Income Binary	Time Binary	All
R-Square	0.174	0.613	0.744	0.760	0.829	0.840
T-Statistic						
Time					-7.547	-2.234
Binary				0.862	2.294	1.820
Income		-4.540	-5.174	-5.185		-0.802
Employment	-1.652		2.479	2.297		0.554
Coefficient						
Intercept	17,529.5	14,986.7	3,728.3	4,908.6	16,636.8	13,849.2
Time					-0.273	-0.204
Binary				239.728	524.310	473.508
Income		-0.217	-0.353	-0.361		-0.104
Employment	-0.007		0.010	0.010		0.003

Note:
 Employment: St. Louis SMSA Employment Total
 Income: St. Louis SMSA Real Personal Income Per Capita (\$2009)
 Time: Median Day of the Year
 Binary: Value of zero in all years but 2014 in which the value is 1.

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Q. ON PAGE 26 OF MR. MARKE'S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY HE DISCUSSES THE IMPACT OF PRICE AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHOICE TO CONSUME WATER CLAIMING THAT YOUR REFERENCING PRICE AS A POTENTIAL FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO DECLINING RESIDENTIAL NON-DISCRETIONARY USAGE PER CUSTOMER IN YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY WAS NOT SUPPORTED BY A "PRICE ELASTICITY STUDY"

1 AND THAT HE DOUBTS THE IMPACT OF PRICE ON THE DECISION TO
2 CONSUME LESS WATER SITTING IN GENERAL, WATER IS
3 CONSIDERED TO BE AN INELASTIC GOOD AND NOT THAT
4 RESPONSIVE (AT LEAST IN THE SHORT-TERM) TO CHANGES IN
5 PRICE. “. SINCE DEVELOPING THE ANALYSIS SUPPORTING YOUR
6 DIRECT TESTIMONY, HAVE YOU HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO
7 ANALYZE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISCRETIONARY
8 RESIDENTIAL USAGE PER CUSTOMER AND PRICE?

9 A. Mr. Marke's claims about the relationship of residential water consumption
10 and price caused me to consider the relationship of price and residential
11 water consumption on the MAWC system. The results of that analysis are
12 detailed in Table GPR-6SR below. Table GPR-6SR formatted similarly to
13 Table GPR-5SR, reports the r-square, t-statistics and coefficients for several
14 regression models that I ran testing the relationship of price and usage per
15 customer. I choose to model this relationship over the time period of 2005 to
16 2015 as that data was on hand and did not require new data base queries to
17 obtain the data. Price in this analysis was defined as the simple derivation of
18 total residential revenue divided by the total water unit sales for a particular
19 year. For purposes of modeling, I scaled price into real 2009 dollars and
20 expressed all my time series in log form in order to get a percentage change
21 relationship between non-discretionary usage per customer and the
22 explanatory variables including price and time. The results as reported in
23 Table GPR-6SR clearly illustrate that 1) residential non-discretionary water
24 consumption is relatively inelastic to price (0.2% change in consumption for a
25 1% change in the real price), 2) that similarly to the economic variable
26 income, the relationship between price and non-discretionary water
27 consumption changes sign and produces an illogical result (consumption
28 increases with increases in price) when time is included with price in modeling
29 and 3) that models containing time and the binary variable (the variables
30 employed by MAWC to measure the trend and forecast non-discretionary
31 residential water usage for purposes of setting Test Year water sales volumes
32 and current revenues) continue to produce the best statistical characteristics.

1 In general, the results confirm that the correlation of price to base non-
 2 discretionary water usage is statistically significant but relatively inelastic in
 3 the decision to consume water and any effect of increases in price on the
 4 decision to consumer water are incorporated by the time variable that MAWC
 5 has used to trend and forecast Test Year water sales volumes and current

Table GPR-6SR				
Missouri American Water Company				
Bases Non-Discretionary Water Usage Modeling with Price				
2005-2015 - Summary				
	Price	Time Price	Time Binary	All
R-Sqaure	0.563	0.780	0.896	0.974
T-Statistic				
Time		-2.812	-8.293	-8.147
Binary			3.908	7.174
Price	-3.407	1.726		4.536
Coefficent				
Intercept	8.9	54.1	31.4	57.6
Time		-4.334	-2.143	-4.660
Binary			0.101	0.100
Price	-0.201	0.341		0.332

Note:
 Log-Log Analysis - Price, Time and Usage all natural log indices.
 Pice estimated as simple average of total residential sales revenue
 divided by total residential sales volumes.

6 revenues.

7

8 **Q. WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RESULTS OF YOUR**
 9 **STATISTICAL MODELING REPORTED IN TABLES GPR-5SR AND GPR-**
 10 **6SR AS THEY RELATE TO MR. MARKE’S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY AND**

1 **TO MAWC'S MODELING APPROACH FOR SETTING TEST YEAR WATER**
2 **SALES VOLUMES AND CURRENT REVENUES?**

3 A. The statistics paint a very clear and concise picture affirming the MAWC
4 approach to modeling and forecasting Test Year residential water sales
5 volumes and current revenue. Further, the results of this analysis debunk Mr.
6 Marke's claims related to the impact of changes on income and employment
7 being the main drivers behind reductions in non-discretionary usage per
8 customer. In summary, the statistical results reported in Tables GPR-5SR
9 and GPR-6SR indicate the following: 1) that neither real income per capita
10 nor employment have a significant statistical explanatory relationship with
11 non-discretionary water usage per customer, 2) that real income has a
12 perverse illogical inverse relationship with water consumption (the more
13 income a person has the less water they consume), 3) that real price has a
14 statistically significant but inelastic relationship with water consumption (a 1%
15 change in price results in a 0.2% change in consumption), 4) that the Time
16 and Binary variables used by MAWC to model and forecast discretionary
17 residential water usage by customer have by far the best statistical properties,
18 resulting in the least statistical forecast error and explain the majority of the
19 variance over time of water usage and 5) that this modeling confirms the
20 original rate of declining use for non-discretionary water usage of -1.94% per
21 year reporting a rate of decline (with a log-log model using the same
22 parameters) of -2.14% per year. Lastly, as discussed in my direct testimony,
23 this statistical analysis affirms that the time variable employed by MAWC in its
24 modeling and forecasting of non-discretionary water use stands as a
25 statistically significant proxy for the influence of the methodical year to year
26 impact of continued penetration of higher efficiency appliances and water
27 fixtures as older units are retired in existing homes and are the only units that
28 can be installed in new housing units. As such, the time variable has all the
29 explanatory power that an appliance saturation or water fixture survey study
30 would bring to the analysis of declining usage of non-discretionary residential
31 water usage.

1 Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY
2 AS IT APPLIES TO MR. MARKE'S REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

3 A. Yes, First, Mr. Marke failed to realize the impact of quarterly billing when
4 choosing "winter" months for purposes of modeling and estimating non-
5 discretionary residential water use. As a result he failed to realize the
6 MAWC's choice of the billing month's February through April included data
7 from December through April and reflects what is referred to as
8 meteorological "winter". Further, Mr. Marke fails to realize that the modeling
9 data set employed by MAWC incorporates 5 months times 10 years for 50
10 total observations and is not limited to "3 months". Second Mr. Marke, like Ms.
11 Mantle, fails to realize that with the application of the MAWC bifurcated base
12 and non-base usage components of total residential usage per customer, that
13 MAWC did normalize non-base usage to the 10 years of data used in its data
14 set. Hence unlike the Staff/OPC method that is totally dependent on the
15 climatic conditions of the 60 months they averaged, the MAWC method
16 adjusts for the weather occurring during the 10 year historic data set. Third,
17 Mr. Marke fails to understand that like most manufacturing industries, in order
18 to minimize production model types and hence cost of production, the
19 production of water using appliances and fixtures is dependent on either
20 federal or the most stringent state regulations (normally California) not the
21 state of Missouri. Thus, the water using appliances and fixtures installed in
22 Missouri are not dependent on any state of Missouri program or regulation.
23 Those state regulations (unless more stringent then federal standards) are
24 irrelevant in the final decisions as to what water appliance and fixture will be
25 installed. Fourth, contrary to Mr. Marke's suggestion, statistically speaking,
26 neither real income per capita nor employment were found to have a
27 significant impact on the trend of non-discretionary residential usage per
28 customer. Thus, the recession had no statistical impact on the decision to
29 reduce non-discretionary residential consumption. Fifth, the impact of price is
30 significant but inelastic. Finally, none of the causes of reductions in
31 discretionary residential usage per customer referenced by Mr. Marke are
32 even close to the statistical significance of the Time variable which

1 encapsulates the methodical year to year advancement in the greater
2 penetration of more efficient water using appliances and fixtures. As Mr.
3 Marke fails to make even one credible and analytically verifiable argument
4 supporting his alternative explanations and theories, his observations are
5 without support or merit and should be rejected by this Commission.
6

7 **VII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

8
9 **Q. WHAT ARE THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON**
10 **YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY AS IT APPLIES TO SETTING TEST**
11 **YEAR RESIDENTIAL WATER SALES REVENUE AND CURRENT RATE**
12 **REVENUE AS IT RELATES TO THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF MR.**
13 **BUSCH OF STAFF, AND MS. MANTLE, MR. HYNEMAN AND MR. MARKE**
14 **OF THE OPC?**

15 **A.** Quite simply, all of the witnesses whose testimony I address either overtly or
16 tacitly take the insupportable positions that 1) weather can be ignored when
17 examining use per customer data for a water utility and 2) that there is no
18 long term trend of declining water use per customer. Given the deficiencies
19 noted in my surrebuttal testimony for each of their observations and claims,
20 coupled with the total lack of analytical support for ANY of their positons, I
21 recommend that the Commission reject their positions when determining test
22 year residential water sales volumes and current revenue and rely on the
23 analysis and testimony of MAWC in this case.
24

25 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

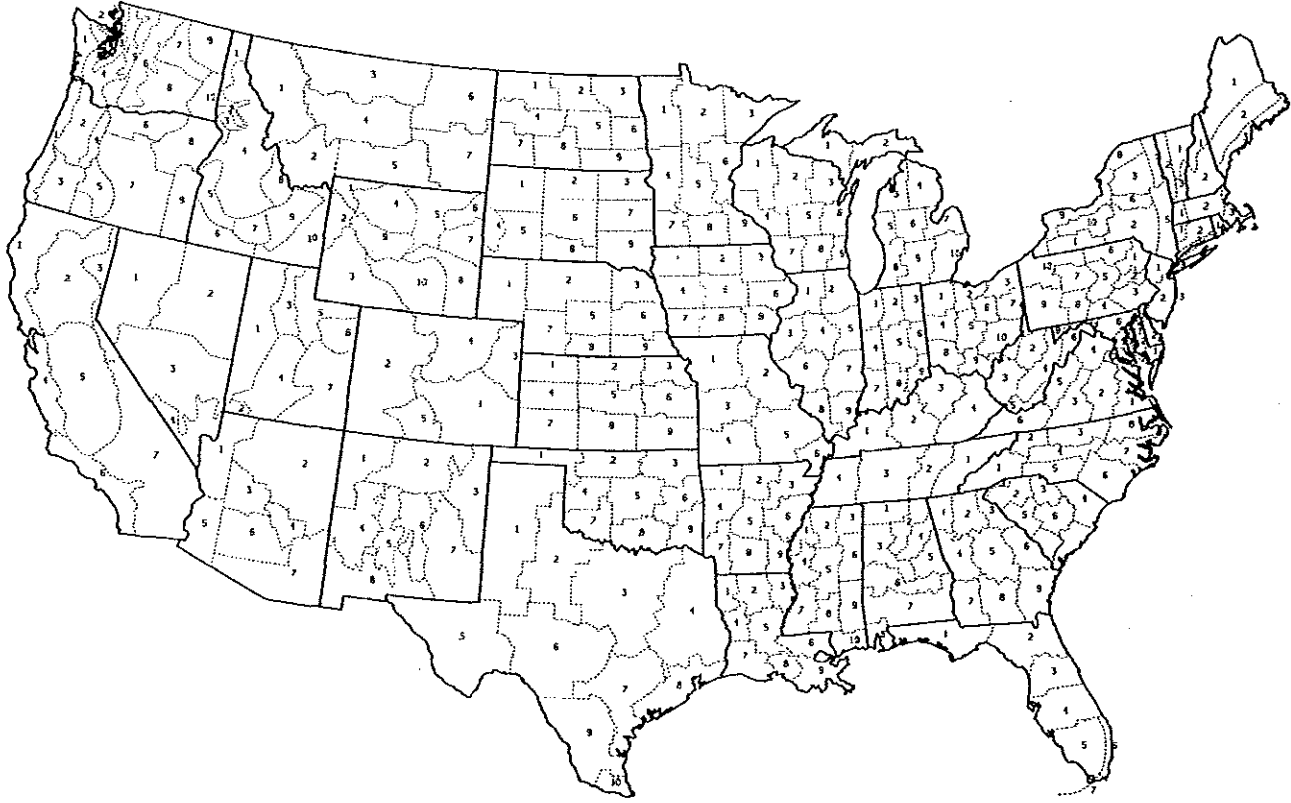
26 **A.** Yes, it does.

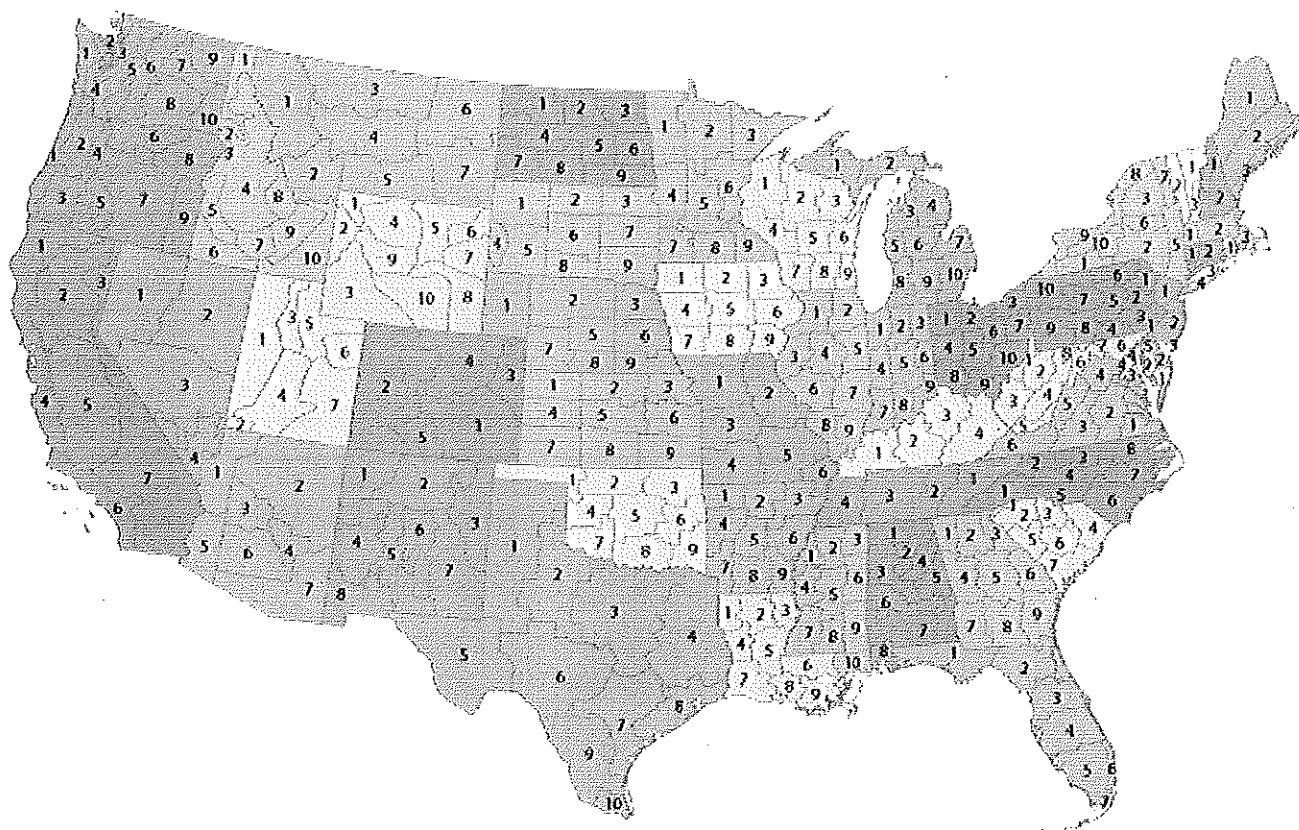
Missouri American Water Company
Comparison of 40 Year Weather to 2010-2015
Summer Season (May - Sept)

Time Period Measured	Cooling Degree Days	Maximum Monthly Temperature	Minimum Monthly Temperature	Mean Maximum Daily Temperature	Mean Minimum Daily Temperature	Mean Average Daily Temperature
Mean 1976-2015	314.7	95.4	52.1	84.0	64.9	74.4
STDV 1976-2015	148.0	5.0	8.2	5.6	5.9	5.7
SD as % Mean 76-15	47.0%	5.2%	15.8%	6.7%	9.2%	7.7%
Mean 10-2010 - 9-2015	355.9	98.0	53.6	85.4	66.4	75.9
STDV 10-2010 - 9-2015	146.0	5.1	8.4	5.6	5.6	5.6
SD as % Mean 76-15	41.0%	5.2%	15.6%	6.6%	8.5%	7.3%
Mean % Change Staff to 40 Years	13.1%	2.7%	2.9%	1.6%	2.3%	1.9%
STD % Change Staff to 40 Years	-1.3%	2.6%	1.6%	-0.5%	-5.0%	-2.7%

U.S. CLIMATOLOGICAL DIVISIONS

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01 NORTHERN VALLEY
02 WESTERN MOUNTAIN
03 SOUTHERN VALLEY
04 TREADER PLATEAU
05 RIVER
06 WEST PLAIN
07 EAST</p> | <p>05 - FLORIDA
01 NORTHWEST
02 NORTH
03 WEST CENTRAL
04 EAST CENTRAL
05 SOUTHWEST
06 SOUTHEAST</p> | <p>13 - OKLAHOMA
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- History
- Former Dataset (Drd964x)
- Current Dataset (nClimDiv)
- Drd964x vs. nClimDiv
- Discovery Tool
- References

History of the U.S. Climate Divisional Dataset

For many years the Climate Divisional Dataset was the only long-term temporally and spatially complete dataset from which to generate historical climate analyses (1895-2013) for the contiguous United States (CONUS). It was originally developed for climate-division, statewide, regional, national, and population-weighted monitoring of drought, temperature, precipitation, and heating/cooling degree day values. Since the dataset was at the divisional spatial scale, it naturally lent itself to agricultural and hydrological applications.

There are 344 climate divisions in the CONUS. For each climate division, monthly station temperature and precipitation values are computed from the daily observations. The divisional values are weighted by area to compute statewide values and the statewide values are weighted by area to compute regional values. (Karl and Koss, 1984).

In March 2015, historical data for thirteen Alaskan climate divisions were added to the nClimDiv database and will be updated each month with the CONUS nClimDiv data. The Alaska nClimDiv data were created and updated using similar methodology as that for the CONUS, but with a different approach to establishing the underlying climatology. The Alaska data are built upon the 1971-2000 PRISM averages whereas the CONUS values utilize a base climatology derived from the nClimDiv

dataset. More information on this new dataset can be access here: [Alaska FAQ's](#)



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- [NESDIS](#)

[Department of Commerce](#) > [NOAA](#) > [NESDIS](#) > [NCEI](#) > [NCDC](#)

Missouri American Water Company
Comparison of 40 Year Weather to 2010-2015
June - August

Time Period Measured	Cooling Degree Days	Mean Total Precipitation	Maximum Monthly Temperature	Minimum Monthly Temperature	Mean Maximum Daily Temperature	Mean Minimum Daily Temperature	Mean Average Daily Temperature
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STDV 10-2010 - 9-2015	146.0	2.7	5.1	8.4	5.6	5.6	5.6
SD as % Mean 76-15	41.0%	65.3%	5.2%	15.6%	6.6%	8.5%	7.3%
Mean 2012	524.9	2.2	1.7	2.2	105.7	59.7	93.1
STDV 2012	136.9	1.4	2.4	1.4	3.3	8.6	3.9
SD as % Mean 2012	26.1%	60.6%	141.4%	60.6%	3.1%	14.4%	4.2%
Mean % Change 2012 to 40 years	27.5%	-40.9%	8.0%	3.4%	6.3%	2.7%	4.7%
STD % Change 2012 to 40 Years	39.2%	-41.5%	-10.8%	81.3%	14.7%	51.1%	34.7%
Mean % Change 2012 to Staff	17.8%	-37.2%	6.4%	-0.4%	4.8%	1.1%	3.2%
STD % Change 2012 to Staff	45.0%	-33.2%	-14.6%	94.4%	17.9%	67.4%	44.3%