## In the Matter of:

# In the Matter of Petition of Missouri-American Water Company for Approval

## WO-2018-0373 VOL 1

November 20, 2018



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1	STATE OF MISSOURI
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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5	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
6	Evidentiary Hearing
7	November 20, 2018
8	Jefferson City, Missouri
9	Volume 1
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13	In the Matter of Petition of )
14	Missouri-American Water Company ) File No. for Approval to Establish an ) WO-2018-0373 Infrastructure System Replacement ) Tariff No.
15	Surcharge (ISRS) ) YW-2019-0018
16	
17	CHARLES HATCHER, Presiding REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
18	RYAN A. SILVEY, Chairman, DANIEL Y. HALL,
19	MAIDA J. COLEMAN,  COMMISSIONERS
20	COMMISSIONERS
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(EXHIBITS 1 THROUGH 9 WERE MARKED FOR
3	IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT REPORTER.)
4	JUDGE HATCHER: Let's bring this proceeding to
5	order and go on the record. Good morning. Today is
6	November 20, 2018. The time is 9:13 a.m. The
7	Commission has set this time as an evidentiary hearing
8	In The Matter of Petition of Missouri-American Water
9	Company For Approval to Establish an Infrastructure
10	System Replacement Surcharge. That is File No.
11	WO-2018-0373, Tariff No. YW-2019-0018.
12	My name is Charles Hatcher and I am the
13	Regulatory Law Judge presiding over this hearing. Let's
14	go ahead and have counsel make their entries of
15	appearance this morning.
16	MR. COOPER: Your Honor, Dean Cooper appearing
17	for Missouri-American Water Company, and the court
18	reporter has the address.
19	MR. JOHNSON: Judge, Mark Johnson and Ron
20	Irving appearing on behalf of the Staff of the Missouri
21	Public Service Commission, and the court reporter has
22	our information.
23	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you.
24	MS. SHEMWELL: Good morning and thank you.
25	Lera Shemwell and John Clizer, C-l-i-z-e-r, representing

the public and the Office of the Public Counsel. 1 Thank 2 you. JUDGE HATCHER: At this point, I'd like to 3 4 advise everyone in the audience to please silence your 5 cell phones and any mobile devices and let's move to 6 preliminary matters. Do the parties have any 7 preliminary matters to address? 8 MR. COOPER: The only thing, Judge, is that I 9 would remind you, this was on the list of issues, but 10 our witness John Wilde will not arrive until 11 approximately 10:30. So depending upon how things sort 12 out between now and when he would appear, we may need to have a discussion about whether to go off the record or 13 14 to do something in a different order at that point in 15 time. JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Thank you. I did 16 17 see that. As noted, we'll go ahead and follow that same 18 order and we'll see where we get to at 10:30 and if Mr. 19 Wilde is here or not. 20 All right then. Let's go ahead and have the 21 parties offer the testimony and affidavits as exhibits, 22 please. I think they were premarked. 23 MR. COOPER: Judge, I guess we would commonly 24 I quess do that when the witnesses are on the stand. 25 don't mind doing it differently.

JUDGE HATCHER: No, let's go ahead and do it that way then. Let's go to opening statements. The order of opening statements will be the same as in the filings. That will be Missouri-American Water Company, followed by Staff, followed by Office of Public Counsel.

2.5

MR. COOPER: Thank you, Your Honor. Morning. Morning, Commissioners.

This hearing, of course, arises from a Missouri-American Water Company Petition to Establish Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge that was filed in August of this year. The issue today revolves around Staff's proposal and OPC's support for removal of what's called the accumulated deferred income tax asset, which is also known and referred to in the case as net operating loss from the calculation of appropriate pretax revenues.

Section 393.1000(1)(a) in part defines appropriate pretax revenues as including recognition of accumulated deferred income taxes and accumulated depreciation associated with eligible infrastructure system replacements.

Staff's adjustment in the Company's opinion would maintain recognition of the accumulated deferred income tax liability while eliminating the corresponding deferred income tax asset. The elimination of the asset

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is not supported by statute and may have significant adverse implications for the Company and ultimately its customers as failure to include the deferred tax asset resulting from net operating losses in MAWC's rate bases inconsistent with the normalized method of accounting and as such inconsistent with the tax normalization rules.

It further impacts a consent agreement

American Waterworks entered into in order to allow the utilization of the repairs deduction method. Now, it's become apparent to MAWC that its reflection of this repairs deduction in the ISRS filing has an impact on the necessity of the reflection of the deferred tax asset resulting from the net operating loss.

In fact, no other company using the Missouri ISRS, and those would be gas utilities, of course, because Missouri-American is the only water company that utilizes the ISRS, no other company utilizing the Missouri ISRS that we can locate reflects a repairs deduction. It appears this is not required by statute. That is, it's not depreciation. It doesn't fit the investment that qualifies for ISRS treatment. Thus, if the Commission chooses to not reflect the accumulated income tax asset, the NOL, it also we believe should not reflect the repairs deduction.

1	MAWC will have two witnesses today, Mr. John
2	Wilde, who is a tax professional with over 20 years of
3	tax and accounting experience serving multi-state
4	utilities. He will be our second witness today,
5	actually. He will address the tax issues. Our first
6	witness will be Mr. Brian LaGrand. Mr. LaGrand will
7	provide background information concerning
8	Missouri-American's ISRS filing. Thank you.
9	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you, Mr. Cooper. Next
10	opening statements oh, I'm sorry. Commissioner?
11	COMMISSIONER HALL: Good morning. Looking at
12	393.1000 for the definition of appropriate pretax
13	revenues, are you interpreting that to mean that the
14	accumulated deferred income taxes and the accumulated
15	depreciation both have to be associated with eligible
16	infrastructure system replacements?
17	MR. COOPER: I believe we are, yes.
18	COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. And then, and these
19	questions are perhaps better directed to your witnesses
20	and you can obviously let me know that, but the
21	deductions that are at issue with the net operating
22	losses, are those all deductions that are ISRS-eligible
23	deductions or ISRS-eligible expenses?
24	MR. COOPER: Well, we would say yes. There's
25	going to be a difference of opinion amongst the parties.

1	And I think, as you alluded to, I think Mr. Wilde is the
2	appropriate person to answer that question.
3	COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. But from a legal
4	perspective in terms of interpreting the statute, you
5	would agree that any deduction that you were trying to
6	take advantage of related to net operating loss has to
7	be a deduction that is an ISRS-eligible expense?
8	MR. COOPER: Is associated with ISRS-eligible
9	plant anyway, yes.
10	COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. So if a repair is
11	not an ISRS-eligible expense, then it would not be a
12	deduction that would be taken into account in
13	determining an NOL?
14	MR. COOPER: Well, and our argument is it's
15	also a deduction that shouldn't be reflected in the ISRS
16	calculation, but yes.
17	COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. Thank you.
18	JUDGE HATCHER: Any other questions from the
19	bench? Thank you, Mr. Cooper.
20	We'll have opening statements now from Staff
21	counsel.
22	MR. JOHNSON: Good morning, Commissioners,
23	Judge. May it please the Commission. My name is Mark
24	Johnson, and I along with Ron Irving will be
25	representing the Staff before the Commission today. And Page

this morning, as Mr. Cooper alluded to, we're here to discuss taxes, accumulated deferred income taxes and how they affect Missouri-American's ISRS revenues. More specifically the issue before you is whether the ADIT balance recognized in Missouri-American's ISRS should be offset by a potential deferred tax asset caused by net operating losses.

Now, in this case before you today Staff believes the answer to that question is no. But before I get into Staff's reasoning, I think it would be beneficial to briefly discuss accumulated deferred taxes in general. So what are they? Well, ADIT is essentially the difference between the amount a utility collects in rates for income taxes in a given year and the amount it actually pays.

Now, this difference is caused by the fact that utilities are able to deduct certain costs against income for tax purposes at different times than when they must reflect the same costs as a reduction to income for financial reporting purposes. Now, an example of this, and really at the heart of the issues today, is accelerated depreciation deductions.

Utilities are able to deduct more depreciation earlier for taxes than they are required to for regulatory purposes. Now, it's not a difference in the Page

actual amount of depreciation being deducted, but for tax purposes they are essentially able to front load the deductions causing an imbalance. Now, this is generally referred to as a book tax timing difference, and it creates a deferral of income tax expense to a future period. Generally this provides a net benefit to utilities.

For ratemaking purposes before this

Commission, those benefits are retained by the utility

for a period of time before being passed on to

ratepayers. This is where tax normalization comes into

play.

Now, in regard to the specific timing differences associated with the use of accelerated depreciation, for tax purposes the IRS Code basically mandates that utility rates be set so that ratepayers do not receive the tax benefit of accelerated depreciation deductions any faster than over the estimated straight-line book lives of the associated utility assets.

Using this approach, ratepayers will in almost every instance pay an amount of income tax in their rates that is higher than what the utility will actually incur. The amount that is in excess of the utility's tax bill is then accumulated in deferred income tax Page

expense accounts for later use, and this is effectively
an up-front payment of future taxes by ratepayers.

And the utility can use these funds as interest-free capital. It's a benefit to the utility. To recognize this contribution, the utility's rate base is then offset by that amount of accumulated deferred income taxes, which will ultimately reduce rates charged to ratepayers.

Now, a determination of the level of ADIT for a utility is made in a general rate case. Pursuant to Section 393.1000 and the Commission's ISRS rules, ADIT must also be taken into account in the determination of necessary revenues in an ISRS case. And that brings us to the issue at hand.

Both Staff and Missouri-American have calculated a level of ADIT to offset ISRS revenues in Missouri-American's filing and they've done it in a similar manner. The only difference is Missouri-American has taken an additional step to impute a deferred tax asset relating to a hypothetical net operating loss or an NOL.

This action results in an ISRS revenue requirement difference between Staff and the Company of about \$887,000. Now, an NOL occurs in a given tax year when a taxpayer has more available deductions than it Page

has taxable income. And when this occurs, the amount of those unused deductions are referred to as an NOL, and these amounts are booked in a deferred tax asset account.

The NOLs don't just go away, though. They're available to be carried forward to future tax years and offset taxable income later. Now, in Missouri, and really across the country, most utilities have been in a net operating loss situation and have been for awhile and it's really relating mostly in Staff's opinion to the use of bonus depreciation, which is similar to accelerated depreciation but even more so.

Typically utilities would be allowed to utilize 50 percent of their available depreciation deduction in the first year that plant went into service. However, with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, bonus depreciation is no longer available for use by utility companies, and Staff believes this is going to result in utilities moving away from net operating loss situations.

However, the concept of offsetting deferred tax liabilities with net operating loss assets is not new, although it is relatively new in relation to ISRS proceedings before this Commission. In general rate cases, utilities have argued that rate-based reduction Page

for ADIT must be offset by amounts related to incurred

NOLs. That's similar to Missouri-American's argument in

this case.

The reasoning for that is because due to the NOL, the utility is not currently able to use all of its available tax deductions and that should be reflected in the balance of ADIT. Staff generally agrees with this concept and it does this in general rate cases.

However, for this to make sense, the utility must show that any NOL resulted from activity.

Now, in this case the period for
Missouri-American's ISRS application extends from
January 1 of this year to September 30, and only costs
directly associated with that qualifying ISRS plant that
came into service during that nine-month period should
be reflected in ISRS rates.

I said earlier that most utilities in Missouri have been in net operating loss situations for the past several years. This is true for Missouri-American as well. However, according to the Company's own estimates, they are no longer in a net operating loss situation. They have a balance of net operating loss carry-forward amounts that they are going to utilize in future tax years, but they are no longer generating new net operating losses.

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1	COMMISSIONER HALL: Why is that relevant?
2	Isn't what is relevant is what are those deductions and
3	are those deductions related to qualifying ISRS
4	projects, not whether the balance is going up or going
5	down?
6	MR. JOHNSON: It is relevant. However, in
7	Staff's opinion we are not able to calculate the exact
8	amount of an NOL associated with ISRS plant
9	specifically.
10	COMMISSIONER HALL: But that's the Company's
11	burden, that's not yours.
12	MR. JOHNSON: It is not. However, the fact
13	that their balance of NOL carry-forwards is being
14	reduced shows us that there is taxable income on their
15	books and that they have taxable income indicates that
16	they do not have a net operating loss associated with
17	those interest plant additions.
18	COMMISSIONER HALL: So you're essentially
19	using that as a surrogate because you're unable to draw
20	the connection between the deduction and whether it's
21	related to an ISRS-eligible expense. You're instead
22	looking at the overall balance and seeing that it's
23	going down and therefore determining that there's
24	nothing related to the ISRS-eligible expenses.
25	MR. JOHNSON: I believe that is an accurate Page

1 reflection, but you may want to direct that at one of our technical witnesses when they're taking the stand. 2 COMMISSIONER HALL: Thank you. 3 MR. JOHNSON: Now, earlier I referred to 4 Missouri-American's inclusion of the NOL as 5 hypothetical. What I just covered is why. They are not 6 7 generating or they are not anticipating to generate However, Missouri-American is still recommending 8 an imputation of an amount to be utilized as an offset 9 10 to ADIT in this proceeding. 11 Now, the basis for this argument is the idea that the addition of ISRS plant to Missouri-American's 12 13 rate base without immediate receipt of new revenues 14 reduces its taxable income below the level that would 15 result if the ISRS plant addition had not been made at 16 all. 17 Now, Missouri-American alleges that not 18 including this imputed NOL would violate the IRS 19 normalization guidelines. Staff disagrees with this. 20 Missouri-American's methodology for calculating this hypothetical NOL, regardless of whether or not they are 21 22 generating NOLs in a given year, will always show the 23 existence of a net operating loss. This is because in 24 Missouri a utility must place investment in service

Page

prior to obtaining recovery in rates.

25

Now, Missouri-American engages in many financial transactions over time that can result in increases or decreases to its taxable income. For example, Missouri-American makes non-ISRS plant additions outside of a rate proceeding that will theoretically reduce its taxable income in the exact same manner that Missouri-American alleges ISRS plant additions do.

Despite the theoretical reduction to taxable income, Missouri-American still expects no new net operating losses to be generated. Including a hypothetical NOL, as Missouri-American suggests, staff believes that this will result in an overstatement of both ISRS rate base and ISRS customer rates and fail to appropriately compensate customers for the capital they provide to Missouri-American in rates on an ongoing basis.

Now, Staff has reviewed both the relevant sections of the IRS Code and the private letter rulings provided to it by Missouri-American, and it does not believe anything therein requires an imputation of an NOL when no NOL is, in fact, being generated. Staff believes its position on this issue to be fully consistent with the intent of the accelerated depreciation normalization requirements in the IRS Code Page

1 and that should the Commission adopt Staff's proposed treatment of ADIT that the tax benefits of accelerated 2 depreciation associated with ISRS plant additions will 3 not be passed on to customers prematurely in a manner 4 that violates the code. 5 In conclusion, Staff recommends the Commission 6 7 adopt its treatment of ADIT, recommends approval of its recommended ISRS surcharge revenues in the incremental 8 pre-tax revenue amount of \$6,377,959 and to approve the 9 10 rates recommended in testimony of Staff witness Matthew 11 Barnes. 12 Now, I have with me today Staff witnesses Mark 13 Oligschlaeger and Lisa Ferguson to provide testimony 14 relating to net operating losses and ADIT and Matthew 15 Barnes to provide testimony related to Staff's 16 recommended rate design. Thank you very much, and I'd 17 be happy to answer any more questions to the best of my 18 ability. 19 COMMISSIONER HALL: I have no further 20 questions. Thank you. We'll move to 21 JUDGE HATCHER: opening statements from Office of Public Counsel. 22 23 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you, Judge. 24 morning. May it please the Commission. My name is Lera Shemwell. I represent the Office of the Public Counsel 25

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and Mark Poston, the Acting Public Counsel.

Public Counsel's position in this case is that a net operating loss is not an appropriate conclusion in an ISRS case. ISRS is actually a revenue-producing process which occurs outside of the normal cost of service rate case.

The Company should not have any net operating loss from a revenue-producing process. Net operating losses are not asset specific and are not assignable to any particular asset. So in this case the net operating loss would not be assignable to any of the ISRS-eligible plant or infrastructure included in this case.

Mr. Riley, our tax expert, explains that an NOL is not a regulatory asset but a tax return item. An NOL is an accounting fiction where for tax return purposes a company reports deductions higher than its reported revenues. And even if inclusion of an NOL here were appropriate, which it is not, Missouri-American has not had any net operating loss during the period of January 1 through September 2018, which is the period covered by this ISRS.

This is not a cost of service rate case where an NOL may be considered. An ISRS case is an exception to the mandated cost of service rate case procedure which considers all revenues and all expenses. In this Page

1	NOL case, all revenues and expenses are not considered
2	and it is very specific. It has been very specifically
3	limited by the Court. That's all I have. Thank you.
4	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Now we'll move on
5	to witnesses, and according to the prefiled witness
6	testimony list we will start with Brian LaGrand.
7	MR. COOPER: Yes. Missouri-American will call
8	Mr. Brian LaGrand.
9	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. LaGrand, before you sit
10	down.
11	(Witness sworn.)
12	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Please be seated.
13	Mr. Cooper, go ahead.
14	MR. COOPER: Your Honor, I don't remember
15	whether we spoke about it earlier with you but I think
16	that counsel had some conversation about this. But
17	because of the shortness of the procedural schedule, the
18	parties made provision for some live rebuttal when
19	witnesses are on the stand. So my plan is to go through
20	the foundation for Mr. LaGrand's prefiled direct
21	testimony, do a few rebuttal testimony questions for him
22	and then tender him for cross unless someone has a
23	different opinion as to how we're going to do that.
24	JUDGE HATCHER: I'm seeing nods and no
25	differing opinions. Please, Mr. Cooper. Page

1	BRIAN LaGRAND, being sworn, testified as follows:
2	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. COOPER:
3	Q. Please state your name.
4	A. My name is Brian W. LaGrand, L-a-G-r-a-n-d.
5	Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
6	A. Missouri-American Water. I'm the rates
7	director for the state of Missouri.
8	Q. Have you caused to be prepared for the
9	purposes of this proceeding certain direct testimony in
10	question and answer form?
11	A. Yes, I have.
12	Q. Is it your understanding that that testimony
13	has been marked as Exhibit 1 for identification?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. Do you have any changes that you would like to
16	make to that testimony at this time?
17	A. No, I do not.
18	Q. If I ask you the questions which are contained
19	in Exhibit 1 today, would your answers be the same?
20	A. They would.
21	Q. Are those answers true and correct to the best
22	of your information, knowledge and belief?
23	A. Yes.
24	MR. COOPER: Your Honor, at this time I would
25	offer Exhibit 1 into evidence. Page

1	JUDGE HATCHER: Are there any objections?
2	MS. SHEMWELL: No.
3	MR. JOHNSON: No, Judge.
4	JUDGE HATCHER: So admitted. Go ahead.
5	(MAWC'S EXHIBIT 1 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
6	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
7	BY MR. COOPER:
8	Q. Mr. LaGrand, have you had a chance to review
9	the testimony of the Staff and the OPC in this case?
LO	A. Yes, I have.
11	Q. You may recall I believe Staff Witness
12	Ferguson describes in her testimony that, let's see, she
13	describes the reflection of the deferred tax asset as an
L4	extra step. Do you remember that?
15	A. I do. Can you point me to the page? I
16	believe it's page 3?
L7	Q. Yeah, page 3, line 4, I believe.
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Do you believe that there's another extra step
20	that's included in MAWC's ISRS filing?
21	A. Yes. One of the main drivers behind the extra
22	step of including the deferred the net operating loss
23	deferred tax asset was the inclusion of the repairs
24	deduction which our company is entitled to take under
25	IRS rules.

Q. But is not necessarily reflected or related
to ISRS-eligible plant? Well, let me back up. Have you
done any review of other companies' filings to see how
that is treated in gas ISRS filings, for example?

- A. Yes, yes, I have. I looked at the ISRS cases that were filed over the last four years or so and did not find any other utility that had included the repairs deduction in their ISRS calculations.
- Q. Have you had the opportunity to compute what MAWC's revenue requirement for ISRS would be in this case if neither the NOL or the asset nor the repairs deduction were reflected in the filing?
  - A. Yes, I did.

- Q. What would be the amount of the revenue requirement in that situation?
- A. Keeping all other calculations identical, if we remove the repairs deduction and the net operating loss from the calculation, the revenue requirement would be \$7,202,462 on an annualized basis.
- Q. Do you have a document that shows how you arrived at that number?
- A. Yes, I have an updated version of Appendix C which was attached to our application and is, I believe, included as Exhibit 1 to my testimony. It's an update to those numbers.

Page

MR. COOPER: Your Honor, I'd like to mark an 1 exhibit. I believe it would be Exhibit No. 7 on our 2 list. This would be ISRS calculation without NOL or 3 4 repairs deduction. MS. SHEMWELL: Dean, we've already marked some 5 of our exhibits as 7, 8 and 9. So perhaps the court 6 7 reporter --MR. COOPER: I apologize. 8 MS. SHEMWELL: I just didn't know. 9 10 (EXHIBIT 10 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION BY 11 THE COURT REPORTER.) 12 MR. COOPER: So I amend that, Your Honor. Ιt will be Exhibit No. 10. 13 14 JUDGE HATCHER: Can I ask what page 15 specifically or is it the entire additional Exhibit 1 or Schedule BWL-1? 16 17 MR. COOPER: It will be -- It will be an 18 entire equivalent of that. So I'm going to hand out 19 copies here. 20 JUDGE HATCHER: Please go ahead. BY MR. COOPER: 21 Mr. LaGrand, you have before you what's been 22 23 marked as Exhibit 10? 24 Α. Yes. 25 Would you describe that to me? Q. Page

1	A. Sure. It is a calculation of the revenue
2	requirement for ISRS, and the only change from what is
3	included in our exhibits, or excuse me, in the
4	attachment to my direct testimony is this shows what the
5	revenue requirement would be if we removed the repairs
6	deduction and removed the net operating loss.
7	Q. Is this a document you prepared yourself?
8	A. Yes, I did.
9	MR. COOPER: Your Honor, I would offer into
10	evidence Exhibit No. 10.
11	JUDGE HATCHER: Are there any objections?
12	MS. SHEMWELL: No.
13	JUDGE HATCHER: So admitted.
L4	(MAWC'S EXHIBIT 10 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
15	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
16	MR. COOPER: That's all the questions I have
L7	at this time for Mr. LaGrand.
18	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Chairman Silvey?
19	CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Thank you.
20	QUESTIONS BY CHAIRMAN SILVEY:
21	Q. Did I understand you to say that you have
22	reviewed the ISRS applications of the gas companies for
23	the last several years and none of them have included
24	what it is that you're asking for?
25	A. Based on my review, I could not identify that Page

1	any of them had included the repairs deduction when
2	calculating their deferred taxes.
3	Q. Okay. And has Missouri-American ever included
4	them in past ISRS applications?
5	A. I would have I believe that we have. I
6	believe that we have included them, but we have not
7	previously included the deferred tax asset that results.
8	Q. Did your review of the gas ISRSs include the
9	deferred tax asset?
10	A. To the extent the applications included that
11	detail, I did look at that and they didn't all have the
12	same level of detail.
13	Q. So did they or did they not include that?
14	A. The ones that provided the detail, they showed
15	accelerated depreciation, bonus depreciation but did not
16	include the repairs in their deferred tax calculations.
17	Q. Okay. And you believe that Missouri-American
18	has made similar ISRS applications to this Commission in
19	the past, including what you're asking?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. Okay.
22	A. May I ask a clarifying question?
23	Q. Sure.
24	A. When you say with what we're asking, do you

mean including the repairs deduction or including the

25

1	NOL deferred tax asset?
2	Q. Either or both.
3	A. In the last ISRS application, we did include a
4	deferred tax asset.
5	Q. And the Commission awarded it?
6	A. That case was settled.
7	Q. Was it in the settlement?
8	A. It was a black box.
9	CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Okay. All right. Thank
10	you.
11	THE WITNESS: Sure.
12	JUDGE HATCHER: Any other questions from the
13	bench?
14	COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: No.
15	COMMISSIONER HALL: I'll have questions after
16	they do cross.
17	JUDGE HATCHER: Let's go ahead then to
18	cross-examination. The order I have filed was Office of
19	Public Counsel.
20	MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.
21	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL:
22	Q. Good morning, Mr. LaGrand. I'm Lera Shemwell.
23	A. Good morning.
24	Q. Mr. LaGrand, could you explain to me perhaps
25	in a little more detail what Exhibit 10 replaces?

Page

1	A. Yes, it is a Exhibit 1, I believe it's
2	Exhibit 1 or Attachment 1 to my direct testimony, is the
3	Company's calculation of the revenue requirement after
4	Staff's evaluation and we removed some items that should
5	not have been included in the ISRS calculation. In the
6	Attachment 1 of my testimony, the only difference
7	between our calculation and Staff's calculation is the
8	inclusion of the net operating loss.
9	The only difference between this exhibit and
10	Staff's calculation is this removes the repairs
11	deduction to show what the revenue requirement would be
12	if the repairs deduction was not included in the
13	calculation. So that's the only difference between this
14	calculation and Staff's calculation.
15	MR. CLIZER: Good morning. Sorry.
16	MS. SHEMWELL: I'm sorry. We're a little
17	Let me just finish.
18	MR. CLIZER: Apologies.
19	BY MS. SHEMWELL:
20	Q. I reviewed in EFIS the Company's ISRS filings
21	back through 2010 and did not see net operating loss
22	included when I reviewed that either in testimony or in
23	the Commission's order. Is it 2013 that you believe it
24	was included but then black boxed in a settlement?
25	A. No, it was in the most recent ISRS case that  Page

1	the company had. I don't have the number off the top of
2	my head. It was the ISRS that took effect in December
3	of 2017.
4	Q. So since it was a black box, you have no
5	affirmative Commission decision that NOL was, in fact,
6	included in that black box?
7	A. Correct.
8	Q. And other than that, you have not claimed NOL
9	in prior ISRS cases?
10	A. Not to my knowledge.
11	Q. Is there any other type of case in which
12	you've asked the Commission to address NOL in a revenue
13	calculation?
14	A. Not to my knowledge.
15	Q. Do you agree with me that NOL does not attach
16	to any particular asset?
17	A. I would have to defer that question to John
18	Wilde who is our tax expert. I'm not a tax expert.
19	Q. Do you know whose responsibility it is if
20	there's an IRS normalization violation, whose
21	responsibility it is to report that?
22	A. Again, I would defer that to John Wilde.
23	Q. Do you know if Missouri-American Water has

Excuse me. Again, I would have to defer that

reported a normalization violation to the IRS?

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A.

1	to Mr. Wilde.
2	Q. Does Missouri-American Water yes, does
3	Missouri-American Water file a separate tax return to
4	the IRS?
5	A. I believe so, but I would defer that to Mr.
6	Wilde who is much more familiar with how that all works.
7	Q. The Company had submitted its ISRS and
8	included in that ISRS, and this is covered in Staff's
9	memo, the Company removed lead line service replacements
10	from its filing; is that correct?
11	A. That is correct. There were some that were
12	included in error.
13	Q. And then the Staff discovered some other costs
14	that were not ISRS eligible, including repairs to
15	customer-owned appliances and equipment?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. Duplicate charges of about \$25,000?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Installation of new service lines?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. And then some additional customer lead service

Page

line replacement costs and those have been removed from

A. Yes, and from the attachment to my direct

Staff's calculation; is that your understanding?

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testimony.

1	Q. That we just went through?
2	A. Yes.
3	MS. SHEMWELL: Okay. Thank you. That's all I
4	have. Thank you.
5	JUDGE HATCHER: Go ahead.
б	MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Judge.
7	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON:
8	Q. Good morning, Mr. LaGrand.
9	A. Morning.
10	Q. Does Missouri-American currently reflect an
11	NOL carry-forward on its books as a deferred tax asset?
12	A. I would have to defer to Mr. Wilde.
13	Q. Is Missouri-American able to break out an
14	amount of its current NOL carry-forward deferred tax
15	asset between items caused by ISRS plant additions or
16	non-ISRS plant additions?
17	A. Again, I would have to defer to Mr. Wilde on
18	that.
19	Q. Was Missouri-American's NOL carry-forward
20	deferred tax asset balance as of December 31, 2017
21	reflected in rate base in Missouri-American's last
22	general rate case?
23	A. Yes, I believe so.
24	Q. And did inclusion of this deferred tax asset
25	have the effect of increasing Missouri-American's rate Page

2	A. I don't have the numbers in front of me, but
3	in general the deferred tax would reduce the deduction

- 4 to rate base so would increase rate base.
- Q. Has the overall balance of Missouri-American's

  NOL carry-forward deferred tax asset declined since year

  end 2017?
  - A. Yes.

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base?

- Q. And is this decline projected to continue past September 2018?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know how long the Company expects this balance to decline?
- A. I would direct that to Mr. Wilde. He'll have a better sense for the time when that NOL will be used up entirely.
  - Q. Are you familiar with the calculations on pages 12 and 13 of Mr. Wilde's direct testimony that concern an asserted increase to Missouri-American's NOL carry-forward?
- 21 A. I mean, I am not familiar with how they were 22 calculated. I would again direct that to Mr. Wilde.
  - Q. Do you agree with Mr. Wilde's calculation?
- A. Well, yeah, he is our company's tax expert.

  So yes, I would agree with his calculations.

1	Q. Mr. Wilde projects approximately \$36.9 million
2	of an increase excuse me. Let me rephrase that. Mr.
3	Wilde's calculation shows an increase to
4	Missouri-American's NOLC of approximately \$36.9 million
5	during the ISRS period. Where can I find that 36.9
6	million recorded in Missouri-American's books during the
7	ISRS period?
8	A. I would direct that to Mr. Wilde.
9	Q. Has Missouri-American made non ISRS-eligible
10	plant additions so far in 2018?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. Has Missouri-American generated additional
13	amounts of NOL carry-forward in 2018 on account of those
14	non-ISRS plant additions?
15	A. I would presume so, but I would confirm that
16	with Mr. Wilde.
17	Q. Do you know what amounts of NOLC is
18	attributable to those plant additions?
19	A. No, I do not.
20	Q. Do you know where I can find that amount of
21	additional NOLC attributable to those non-ISRS plant
22	additions in Missouri-American's books and records for
23	2018?
24	A. Again, I would defer to Mr. Wilde.
25	Q. Is it Missouri-American's position that it is

Page

1	improper to include its repairs allowance deduction in
2	an ISRS calculation?
3	A. I don't know that I would say that it's
4	improper. It is an incremental.
5	Q. Thank you, Mr. LaGrand. If the Commission
6	were to remove the repairs allowance from ISRS, is it
7	your opinion that this would make the NOL issue moot?
8	A. I would defer to Mr. Wilde on that.
9	Q. Is the repairs allowance deduction the only
LO	driver of Missouri-American's NOL calculation in this
11	proceeding?
12	A. No. There would still be a very small NOL
13	resulting if you remove the repairs deduction.
14	Q. Would that small amount be associated with
15	accelerated depreciation deductions?
16	A. Yes.
17	MR. JOHNSON: I have no further questions.
18	Thank you.
19	JUDGE HATCHER: Questions from the bench?
20	Chairman?
21	COMMISSIONER HALL: Morning oh, I'm sorry.
22	QUESTIONS BY CHAIRMAN SILVEY:
23	Q. Just real quickly to touch on kind of my
24	previous line of questioning. If this is something that

has not been explicitly included in the previous

Page

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1	applications and may not have been included in the black
2	box settlement, do you believe that this ISRS
3	application is the appropriate mechanism to address this
4	or would it be better addressed in a general rate case?
5	A. Well, I think in this ISRS application we were

- A. Well, I think in this ISRS application we were trying to include all the incremental costs associated with the ISRS investment and the repairs deduction results in a larger tax increase, or excuse me, a tax deduction that in our original application we were trying to include. Yeah, I'm not sure what the best --
- Q. I guess my question is why now and why not in previous applications? What's the difference between this ISRS application and why you haven't sought this in previous applications?
- A. So we have included the repairs deduction in previous applications, but the deferred tax asset offset resulting from those was included in the most recent application. As far as why we have not included it in prior applications, I would have to -- I think Mr. Wilde would probably be in a better position to answer that question than I can.

22 CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Okay. Thank you.
23 JUDGE HATCHER: Commissioner Hall?
24 QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER HALL:

Q. Good morning.

Page

1	A. Good morning.
2	Q. Exhibit 10, can you walk through the changes
3	that you made and why?
4	A. Sure. Give me just one moment.
5	Q. Okay.
6	A. So in Exhibit 10, and I think I would I'll
7	discuss the changes that went from Schedule 1 of my
8	testimony to Exhibit 10, if that's okay?
9	Q. Yes, that's what I'm asking.
10	A. So there really were only two changes that
11	were made. The amount of investment, everything is
12	depreciation expense, everything is all the same in both
13	cases.
14	In Exhibit 10, I had the two changes were,
15	one, I eliminated including any NOL from the
16	calculation.
17	Q. Okay. What line are you referring to?
18	A. You would actually You would see it on
19	If you look at page 2 of Exhibit 10.
20	Q. Okay. I mean, the first number that is
21	different is on line 7, deferred taxes?
22	A. Yes.
23	Q. So if you could march me through Exhibit 10
24	and explain what you've done differently? Are you going
25	back to Okay. All right. Continue.

Page

1	A. Okay. So if you look at page 2 of both
2	Exhibit 10 and the Schedule 1 to my testimony, the two
3	changes you can see on line 14 I excluded the repairs
4	deduction. So that is one change and the most
5	substantial. And then on line 55, I have excluded an
6	NOL, and those two changes are what then results in the
7	lower amount of deferred income taxes.
8	Q. So it goes from 473,307 to a negative 185,031?
9	A. Correct.
LO	Q. So that's like 650,000?
11	A. Approximately, yes.
12	Q. Okay. Is that the only change?
13	A. That's the only difference between the two
14	schedules.
15	Q. So why is your number different from Staff's
16	number after you make that change?
L7	A. The only difference between our numbers is
18	that Staff is including the repairs deduction so they
19	have a much larger deferred tax liability or reduction
20	to rate base.
21	Q. I thought the repairs deduction is what

A. That contributes to the vast, vast majority of the NOL or that causes the vast majority I should say.

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generates the NOL.

Q. So why is it that getting rid of that repairs Page

1 deduction doesn't get you on the same page as Staff?

- A. Because Staff's number is including the repairs deduction and thus they have a large deferred tax liability which reduces the rate base.
- Q. Can you turn to the direct testimony of Mr. Oligschlaeger. Do you have that in front of you?
- 7 A. I do, yes. Give me just one moment, sir. 8 Okay.
  - Q. On page 6 I want to know if you agree with this language on 22 and 23 on page 6. Do you agree with that?
- 12 A. Yes.

- Q. So how are -- So would you say that repairs are directly associated with qualifying ISRS plant?
  - A. I believe so, although I would suggest Mr. Wilde has a much deeper understanding of the repairs deductions specifically and could probably give you a more thorough description of that than I can.
  - Q. Okay. And then turning to page 7, lines 23 and 24 and then on to page 8, line 1, this appears to me to be Mr. Oligschlaeger's attempt to explain
    Missouri-American's position. And I want to know if you agree with his characterization of your position.
  - A. I would say generally, although I think we would disagree that the reduction is theoretical, page Page

8, line 2. Mr. Wilde I think will be addressing that. 1 Okay. Okay. And then final line of 2 Ο. questioning and it's related to, I believe, the issue 3 4 that Chair Silvey was getting at. Is there something going on related to the recent tax cut and its effect on 5 ADIT accounting that has caused this controversy? 6 7 trying to understand better why it is that this issue is coming to a head now. 8 I don't know that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act 9 Α. 10 has specifically driven this issue, but again I would 11 recommend Mr. Wilde could answer that with more depth. 12 COMMISSIONER HALL: Thank you. 13 JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Then we move to 14 recross and I think that would go back to Public Counsel 15 first. 16 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you. 17 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL: 18 Q. Mr. LaGrand, when will Missouri-American Water 19 or American Water file its 2018 tax return? 20 Α. I mean, I know sometime in 2019, but I don't know specifically. Mr. Wilde could easily answer that 21 22 question. 23 But you haven't filed anything for 2018? Q.

So can you explain how the NOL could be

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Not to my knowledge.

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Α.

Q.

1	concrete as opposed to hypothetical when you haven't	
2	filed your 2018 tax returns?	
3	A. I would again direct that to Mr. Wilde.	
4	Q. Because NOL is a tax return item?	
5	A. I mean, yes, it does appear on the tax return,	
6	yes.	
7	MS. SHEMWELL: That's all I have. Thank you.	
8	THE WITNESS: Okay.	
9	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Johnson?	
LO	MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Judge.	
11	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON:	
12	Q. Mr. LaGrand, did Missouri-American include the	
13	repairs deduction in its initial application in this	
L <b>4</b>	proceeding?	
15	A. Yes.	
16	Q. Did Staff's recommendation agree with that	
L7	inclusion?	
18	A. Yes.	
19	Q. Did the Company respond to Staff's	
20	recommendation?	
21	A. We did.	
22	Q. Did the Company allege that the inclusion of	
23	the repairs deduction was improper at that time?	
24	A. No.	
25	Q. I believe just a short time ago I asked you Page	

- whether it was your opinion if including the repairs 1 2 deduction was improper and you characterized it as not improper; is that correct? 3 4 Α. I don't recall exactly how I phrased it. Generally is that correct? 5 Ο. 6 Α. Yes. 7 Ο. If the inclusion is not improper and the Company included it in its initial position, Staff 8 agreed with that inclusion, why now would the Company 9 10 recommend removing it? Well, we are presenting Exhibit 10 as an 11 Α. 12 alternative --13 Thank you, Mr. LaGrand. Is that essentially a Ο. 14 settlement offer? I don't know that I'd characterize it as that. 15 16 Thank you. Would you agree that the tax cut Ο. 17 -- well, excuse me. I believe Commissioner Hall asked 18 you a question regarding if there was anything in the 19 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that may be causing the NOL issue. 20 Would you agree that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act has
  - A. That is my understanding, yes.

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companies?

Q. Would you agree that the use of bonus depreciation has been a large driver for utility Page

precluded the use of bonus depreciation by utility

1 companies to be in net operating loss situations? That's my general understanding. 2 Α. 3 Ο. Wouldn't you also agree that the exclusion of 4 bonus depreciation would have the opposite effect? 5 Α. Yeah, yes. MR. JOHNSON: I have no further questions. 6 7 Thank you. JUDGE HATCHER: And redirect, Mr. Cooper? 8 MR. COOPER: Briefly, Your Honor. 9 10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. COOPER: 11 Q. And you may have taken care of this a few minutes ago. Early on Ms. Shemwell asked you, I 12 13 believe, whether Exhibit 10 was meant to replace 14 Schedule BWL-1. Does it replace that or does it provide 15 an alternative? 16 I would say it provides an alternative. 17 Ο. I believe that Commissioner Hall asked you 18 about, you know, why your alternative wasn't on the same 19 page as Staff's number. Are those two numbers close, 20 your alternative and Staff's? Well, I'm sorry. Are the numbers between the original proposal, including both 21 repairs deduction and the NOL, very close to your 22 23 alternative that reflects the removal of both repairs 24 deduction and the NOL?

The revenue requirement in the Exhibit 1

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Α.

Yes.

1	Attachment 1 to my direct testimony and Exhibit 10	
2	are relatively close.	
3	Q. Ms. Shemwell asked you whether, again, whether	
4	the NOL was a tax return item. Do you remember that?	
5	A. I do.	
6	Q. Is it your understanding that an NOL was also	
7	reflected in Missouri-American's base rate or rate base	
8	calculation in its last general rate case?	
9	A. Yes.	
10	MR. COOPER: That's all the questions I have.	
11	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. And I notice the	
12	time is just after 10:15. Again, I would reference the	
13	note in filings that Mr. Wilde is expected to be here	
14	after 10:30. Do we have any updates on that or any	
15	requests to go to other witnesses? Why don't we go off	
16	the record for a few minutes.	
17	MR. COOPER: That would be great.	
18	JUDGE HATCHER: Let's go off the record.	
19	(Off the record.)	
20	JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Let's go back on	
21	the record. Mr. Cooper, call your next witness.	
22	MR. COOPER: Thank you, Your Honor.	
23	Missouri-American would call Mr. John Wilde to the	
24	stand.	
25	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Wilde, please raise your	

1	right hand.	
2	(Witness sworn.)	
3	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Please be seated.	
4	JOHN WILDE, being sworn, testified as follows:	
5	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. COOPER:	
6	Q. Please state your name.	
7	A. John R. Wilde.	
8	Q. And by whom are you employed and in what	
9	capacity?	
10	A. American-Water Service Company as Assistant	
11	Vice President of Tax.	
12	Q. Have you caused to be prepared for the	
13	purposes of this proceeding certain direct testimony in	
14	question and answer form?	
15	A. Yes, I have.	
16	Q. Is it your understanding that the testimony	
17	has been marked as Exhibit 2 for identification?	
18	A. Yes, it is.	
19	Q. Do you have any changes that you would like to	
20	make to that testimony at this time?	
21	A. No, I do not.	
22	Q. If I asked you the questions which are	
23	contained in Exhibit 2 today, would your answers be the	
24	same?	
25	A. Yes, they would. Page	

1	Q. Are those answers true and correct to the best
2	of your information, knowledge and belief?
3	A. Yes, they are.
4	MR. COOPER: Your Honor, I would at this time
5	offer Exhibit 2 into evidence.
6	JUDGE HATCHER: Any objections?
7	MS. SHEMWELL: No.
8	MR. JOHNSON: No.
9	JUDGE HATCHER: So admitted. Go ahead.
10	(MAWC'S EXHIBIT 2 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
11	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
12	BY MR. COOPER:
13	Q. Mr. Wilde, have you had a chance to review the
14	direct testimony of both the Staff and the OPC in this
15	case?
16	A. Yes, I have.
17	Q. I believe that Staff's primary objection to
18	MAWC's claim that a net operating loss or a deferred tax
19	asset should be reflected is that that NOL is
20	hypothetical and not directly attributable to the ISRS
21	plant at issue. Do you agree with that allegation?
22	A. I do not.
23	Q. Why not?
24	A. The NOLC that American-Water is carrying
25	Q. Why don't we start with

1	A and Missouri-American Water and American
2	Water is carrying is real. It's stated on the tax
3	return, each of the previous years all the way back
4	before 2008. It won't be fully utilized based on
5	estimates today until 2019, 2020. If you look at the
6	2018 tax return, line 30 of that return will be zero.
7	If you take the ISRS into account, line 29 of that tax
8	return will be higher than it would be without. Line
9	29A net operating loss will decrease proportionately.
10	So therefore, there is an adjustment to the NOL that
11	occurs on the tax return as a result of these
12	expenditures.
13	Q. Let me ask you a few questions for
14	clarification. You referred early on to NOLC. That

- stands for?
  - Net operating loss carryover.
- And then you referred to line 30 from the Q. federal tax return. What is line 30?
- Α. Taxable income, federal taxable income.
- 20 Q. And I believe you also mentioned line 29A. Maybe you didn't. 21
  - Total deductions. Α.

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Now, it's also alleged, and I think 23 Q. 24 particularly in Staff Witness Ferguson's direct 25 testimony she states that the existence of a

hypothetical net operating loss will always result from
essentially the Company's calculation whether the
utility is actually recording an NOL amount on its books
or not. Do you agree with that assertion?

- A. No. You have to be in an NOLC position of an amount greater than the ISRS deductions in order for that to occur on a with and without basis as required by the IRS.
- Q. It's also alleged that MAWC is not generating or booking any actual NOL, net operating loss, during this ISRS period. Do you agree with that?
- A. No. As I described, we're -- that number is in flux as to what it will be, the balance will be at the end of the year, depending on what our expenditures are, depending on what our income is during the given year. So that NOLC will change. Now, on a vintaged basis it's a vintaged calculation, but it still just evolves over time. It's just on a first-in, first-out basis that you kind of use it.
- Q. But you believe that it's associated with the plant that's been put in service between January 1 of this year and September 30 of this year?
- A. I believe when you look at it incrementally as you should, and you look at whether you make a choice as to whether you invest in ISRS or infrastructure or not, Page

yes, it is associated with this particular property.

- Q. There's been discussion of normalization rules and applicability to a general rate case versus a single-issue proceeding that might impact only a surcharge such as the ISRS. In your opinion, do the normalization rules apply to a single-issue proceeding impacting only a surcharge such as this ISRS case?
- A. I think prior to, I can't remember the year that FERC made the ITC request, but there was a thought that the normalization rules didn't have to be applied in the context of a formula rate mechanism, but that was kind of ruled out in the rulings related to the ITC where bonus was considered as whether it was required, a utility was required to take bonus or not in a formula rate proceeding. And it was ruled -- I think that was like two or three years ago where that was ruled that formula rate mechanisms are treated just like a rate case as a separate distinct rate proceeding.
- Q. You say formula, but you would also apply that to sort of a single-issue proceeding such as the ISRS?
- A. Where it's a cost of service mechanism, yes.

  MR. COOPER: That's all the questions I have
  at this time.
- JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. We'll go ahead and go with cross-examination, Office of Public Counsel?

  Page

1	MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.
2	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL:
3	Q. Mr. Wilde, I'm Lera Shemwell. I represent the
4	Public Counsel and the public. Good morning.
5	A. Nice to meet you.
6	Q. We heard from Mr. LaGrand that MAWC has only
7	included net operating loss in the 2017 ISRS. Is that
8	your understanding?
9	A. I believe so.
10	Q. If I say to you that I've looked through all
11	of the past ISRS to about 2000 and didn't see that in
12	there, would that make sense to you?
13	A. I wasn't with the Company prior to 2016. So
14	I'd have to go back and look at the exact facts, but I
15	also understand that not only Missouri-American Water
16	but other companies in the state of Missouri in their
17	ISRS calculation do not do repairs. So if you don't
18	have repairs in that calculation, there could be
19	situations where you don't need to account for the DTA
20	as well.
21	Q. DTA?
22	A. Deferred tax asset. I'm sorry. So that NOL
23	DTA.
24	Q. So you don't have any past Commission order in
25	an ISRS case affirmatively including a NOL or an NOL?

Page

1	A. No.	
2	Q. Thank you. If the Company has a violation of	
3	the IRS normalization rules, whose responsibility is it	
4	to report that violation?	
5	A. It would be the Company's.	
6	Q. Have you made any such reports to the IRS?	
7	A. No. There's also an inadvertent error	
8	exception. So you wouldn't necessarily	
9	Q. I'm sorry. I don't know what that means.	
10	Let's just move, on if that's all right with you. This	
11	is not a formula rate proceeding, correct?	
12	A. It's a formula calculation of an additional	
13	incremental rate mechanism or surcharge. So would I	
14	distinguish the two? No.	
15	Q. You're saying that this is a formula rate	
16	proceeding?	
17	A. With respect to a single-issue item. So you	
18	have a rate base component and you have a cost of	
19	service component or revenue requirement component. So	
20	it's not really distinguishable.	
21	Q. Let's back up a little bit. The FERC formula	
22	rate considers all revenues and expenses. The FERC	
23	formula transmission rate considers all of those things?	
24	A. Yes, and that's why I classified it just	
	•	

slightly different as a single-issue item.

1	Q. This is a single-issue ite	em as you said, and
2	are you aware of any cases in Missou	ari that have made
3	the distinction of this being a sing	gle issue as opposed
4	to a full cost of service rate case?	
5	A. In Missouri with respect t	to the Missouri
6	Commission?	
7	Q. Or the Court rulings?	
8	A. The IRS in not with res	spect to Missouri
9	Q. No, I'm talking about Miss	souri courts.
10	A. I'm not aware of one.	
11	Q. When is your 2018 tax retu	arn filed?
12	A. It will be in '19.	
13	Q. Carryover means you're bri	nging forward from
14	year to year?	
15	A. Correct.	
16	Q. An NOL is not attached to	any certain
17	infrastructure, any particular asset	:?
18	A. You're correct with that.	
19	Q. Your NOL level is going to	change. So it's
20	not certain what that amount will be	e today?
21	A. It's not certain.	
22	Q. Is it your position that t	the Company needs an
23	incentive to invest in ISRS-eligible	e infrastructure?
24	A. I would say it's always a	factor of how much
25	you invest or when you invest. I'm Page	sure reliability and

quality of the water and wastewater service is a principal factor.

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- Q. You're saying quality of the water is a principal factor of whether or not you invest in ISRS?
- A. Whether we invest in our system, ISRS itself at my understanding of it is an incentive mechanism to carry those investments outside of the rate case and simplify the ratemaking process.
- Q. You believe that it -- let's see. We have established, haven't we, that this is not a full rate case?
- A. This is not a full rate case.
- Q. It's a single-issue rate case. Those were your words?
  - A. Single-issue rate mechanism.
- Q. You mention on page 6 the intent -- I'm sorry.
- 17 Line 3, 4, 5. Are you there, sir?
- 18 A. Page 6, yes, I am. Lines what?
- Q. 3, 4, 5. It says the intent of Congress in creating the normalization rules, is to provide the utility an interest-free source of funds to invest in utility property. What's your citation for that, the intent of Congress?
- A. Actually in some preceding words to the TCJA
  that was mentioned but it's also in -- there's the
  Page

- Bluebook, Congressional Bluebook that would discuss that from 1986.
- Q. The TCJA? Tell the court reporter what that means, please.
- A. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. I apologize for the acronym.

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- Q. It just helps everybody to have an idea.
- A. I gotcha. That's a pretty well known stipulation as to why the tax normalization rules are put in place.
- Q. Sir, no question pending. Thank you. I'm on page 8, line 10, 11 and 12. And you say as part of a normalized method of accounting, and consistent with tax normalization rules, the cumulative balance of plant-related deferred taxes is treated as a zero interest loan from the government, but the government doesn't give you the money that goes into that zero interest loan, it's the customers, right?
- A. No. The customers pay the tax on their operating cost or operating revenues to provide an adequate return and the Company invests money. So the shareholders invest money. The deductions are on the shareholders' money.
- Q. I'm sorry. I was talking about the
  government. I'm not sure where shareholders came into
  Page

this.

- A. Because you get an incentive, you reduce your tax burden that would otherwise exist. Customers don't pay a different tax. You don't get a loan from a customer. That's pretty well -- I'm not really -- That's not something I came up with. That's pretty much outlined in --
- Q. But the government doesn't put in any money into this. That's all taxpayer funds that they have paid for income taxes and then those moneys paid are deferred under accumulated deferred income tax?
- A. Again, what -- it's a tax incentive that you get from the government. Not-- it doesn't come from a customer. I don't pay the customer back interest. I don't pay the government interest.
- Q. But they just recognize that. The government recognizes that. There's no taxpayer money. It's not actually from the government. It is the money going in there is from your ratepayers. It's not from the Company, right? It's not Company money. It comes from ratepayers who have paid the taxes?
- A. We're using customer money from other income from their normal operations and we're taking a tax incentive from the government that we'll have to return in the future, and so the incentive itself is from the Page

1 government, not from the customer.

- Q. The incentive is the government permitting you to do that with your customers' money.
- A. I guess we're going to have to disagree on that. I don't know how else to answer it. I understand that the customer is paying a cost of service for the taxes, but the cost of service on the taxes that they're paying is not related to this property. It's related to
  - Q. It's not related to the ISRS property?
- A. If you would take away ISRS, they would have the same tax burden and actually they would actually pay the tax in today.
- Q. Yes. Okay. But on page 15 you say that zero interest loan is actually received from the government, but that money is received from customers?
- A. Again, I'm kind of citing typical tax wording.

  You can find that in private letter rulings. You can

  find that --
  - Q. Can you cite me to a private letter ruling?
- A. We submitted some into the record. I'd have to go back and look and find it exactly. Typically tax folks cast an interest-free loan from the government, not an interest-free loan from the customer. If you give me time, I'll find it, I'll find the citation.

1	Q. Can we agree that customers have put the money
2	in?
3	A. Customers paid their taxes on their
4	operations.
5	Q. Okay. On page 9, you indicate that a finding
6	by the IRS during an audit that the Company violated the
7	tax normalization rules or the consent decree could
8	cause the loss of significant tax benefits. However, we
9	have agreed earlier that for that to incur the Company
10	would have to report that tax normalization violation to
11	the IRS itself?
12	A. It would have to believe a normalization
13	violation occurred.
14	Q. The Company?
15	A. The Company. I believe also the Commission
16	could also self report.
17	Q. But the Commission doesn't have any tax
18	normalization violation to self report.
19	A. Yes. That's why it typically comes from the
20	taxpayer. I believe I've known that there's at least
21	one case, and I don't know which one it is, I'd have to
22	go back and look where the Commission actually reported.
23	MS. SHEMWELL: That's all I have. Thank you.
24	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Mr. Johnson?
25	MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Judge.

Page

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1	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON:
2	Q. Good morning, Mr. Wilde. I'm Mark Johnson. I
3	represent the Staff of the Commission.
4	A. Okay.
5	Q. On page 12 to 13 of your direct testimony you
6	calculate that the incremental ISRS-eligible investments
7	are estimated to generate a taxable loss of \$36.9
8	million. Where can I find this \$36.9 million recorded
9	on Missouri-American's books during this ISRS period?
10	A. It would be net within the deductions and it
11	would be incremental. If you took a with and without
12	view of the tax return
13	Q. Thank you, Mr. Wilde. Where can I find this
14	deduction?
15	A. You really won't find any NOLC as a separate
16	item or deferred tax on a separate
17	Q. Thank you, Mr. Wilde. Has Missouri-American
18	made non ISRS-eligible plant additions in 2018?
19	A. I don't know that. You'd have to ask Brian,
20	Mr. LaGrand.
21	Q. Well, assuming that Missouri-American has made
22	non ISRS-eligible plant additions, would
23	Missouri-American generate additional amounts of NOLC in

Page

2018 on those non ISRS additions?

Yes.

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A.

1	Q. Would you be able to calculate the amount of
2	the additional NOLC attributable to those non ISRS
3	additions?
4	A. If you were in the context of a rate
5	mechanism, yes, you would be able to separate that out.
6	Q. Where could I find these non ISRS plant
7	additions if they have occurred on the books and records
8	of Missouri-American?
9	A. They would be part of the difference between
10	the beginning and ending balance net of any kind of
11	retirements or transfers or adjustments in the plant and
12	service line.
13	Q. Would they be separated out from ISRS-eligible
14	plant additions or the NOLC related to ISRS-eligible
15	plant additions?
16	A. I'm not familiar with the book accounting
17	whether there's an indicator within the system that
18	accounts for it separately. Sometimes there is.
19	Sometimes there's not.
20	Q. Thank you, Mr. Wilde. On page 13 of your
21	direct testimony you indicate that the Company was
22	carrying an NOLC balance of \$148 million as of December
23	31, 2017 and based on your projections as of December
24	31, 2018 that balance would be reduced by \$92.1 million
25	or 2, 91 point excuse me.

You indicate that the balance would be reduced to \$92.1 million as of December 31, 2018; is that correct?

A. Yes.

- Q. So if the Company did not have a net operating loss carry-forward from prior test years, does this indicate that Missouri-American would have taxable income?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. The fact that but for those net operating loss carry-forward amounts your estimate is that the Company would have taxable income. Doesn't that not reflect that all of the Company's net accelerated depreciation benefits associated with new ISRS plant would not need or would not generate a new offsetting net operating loss?
  - A. Our position is that the 92 point --
- Q. Thank you, Mr. Wilde. I am asking you if but for prior net operating loss amounts the Company is estimated to have positive taxable income, does that not indicate that ISRS plant additions are not -- do not need to record a new offsetting NOL amount?
  - A. No, it does not mean that.
- Q. At this time does Missouri-American expect that American Water will be able to reflect all of the Page

1	available accelerated depreciation tax deductions
2	associated with the 2018 ISRS plant additions on
3	American Water's 2018 tax returns?
4	A. No, not on a with and without basis.
5	Q. How about in actuality?
6	A. On a first-in, first-out basis, yes.
7	Q. Is it accurate to state that Missouri-American
8	expects to be able to book as deferred income tax
9	expense all of its benefits from accelerated
10	depreciation in 2018 without booking any offset from
11	additional generation of an NOL?
12	A. Can you ask that question again?
13	Q. Certainly. Would it be accurate to state that
14	Missouri-American expects to be able to book as a
15	deferred income tax expense all of its benefits from
16	accelerated depreciation in 2018 without booking any
17	offset from additional generation of net operating
18	losses in 2018?
19	A. Not on a with and without basis.
20	Q. How about in an actual basis?
21	A. Yes, overall it would
22	Q. Thank you, Mr. Wilde. Is the repairs
23	allowance deduction generally considered a protected tax
2.4	timing difference per the IRS Code?

A. Not per the code.

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Page

Q. In the context of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,
can this Commission order any of Missouri-American's
excess ADIT associated with the repair allowance
deductions to be flowed back to customers over a period
set at the Commission's discretion?

- A. Can you state the question in full again?
- Q. Certainly. In the context of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, can this Commission order any of Missouri-American's excess ADIT associated with the repair allowance deductions to be flowed back to customers over a period set at the Commission's discretion?
- A. I want to make sure I understand your question. I apologize for asking you to state it again. Please, it's a long question. Could you say it again?
- Q. Certainly. I'll try to reword it.

  Considering that the repairs allowance deduction is not generally considered protected, does the Commission have the ability to order excess ADIT associated with that deduction to be flowed back to customers over any period?
- A. So the first the Commission -- the tax code doesn't bar the Commission from acting out of concert with the tax normalization rules.
  - Q. Would you consider that answer to be yes?

    Page

1	A. In the context of just simply the tax TCJA,
2	yes.
3	MR. JOHNSON: That's all the questions I have.
4	Thank you, Mr. Wilde.
5	JUDGE HATCHER: Commissioner Hall?
6	QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER HALL:
7	Q. Good morning. Are you familiar with Exhibit
8	10 that was introduced during Mr. LaGrand's testimony?
9	A. I wasn't here. So I wouldn't have it in front
10	of me.
11	Q. Are you familiar with this document?
12	A. I'm familiar with versions of it. I'm not
13	certain of what version I mean, is this the as-filed
L4	version or is this an updated version?
15	Q. Well, if you're not familiar with the
16	document, then I'm not sure it's of any value for me to
L7	ask questions about it.
18	A. You can try. I mean, I'm familiar with how
19	it's laid out and what it does. I just The numbers
20	could be different from what is in my testimony and then
21	I would be
22	Q. It's my understanding that what this document
23	is is a modification of the Company's prior position on
24	the proper ISRS amount by backing out net operating
25	losses and the repairs deduction, and my question is, Page

and if you can answer it, great; if you can't, it is

what it is, but I'm trying to understand how this bottom

line number differs from Staff's position and why.

- A. I think I believe, as explained to me, the reason why they wanted to show it this way is because other Missouri utilities have filed without the repair deduction in it and this just takes the repair deduction out which then eliminates at least mostly the net operating loss DTA that's required then to be put into the calculation. It just basically gets you back to the same answer as someone who actually didn't put it in in the first place would be. It also gets you back to where Missouri-American might have been with past filings not including it.
- Q. Do you have an understanding as to how this number differs from Staff's position in this case and why?
- A. Yes. This position would take out both the DTL from the repairs deduction and would take out the NOL DTA. Staff only wants to take out the DTA and not the DTL. Therefore, they're imputing an interest-free loan from the government or from customers that doesn't -- hasn't happened yet because of the NOLC.
  - Q. Imputing. Explain that to me.
  - A. They believe that the fact that when you Page

- spend, make the incremental spend, I believe -- I 1 shouldn't say. I can't speak for what exactly. It 2 appears what they believe is that the incremental spend 3 doesn't create any new NOL, therefore it shouldn't cause 4 5 a carryover to DTL. But what really occurs by making a decision to incrementally spend in ISRS, you actually 6 7 delay the use of the NOL that would have been used by normal operations. So therefore the net, when I talk 8 about the with and without test and the balance of the 9 10 interest-free loan remains unchanged in our thinking. 11 Staff would say that there's an interest-free loan 12 that's occurring that's not really occurring.
  - Q. Okay. So I think what you're getting at is -Do you have the direct testimony of Mr. Oligschlaeger in
    front of you?
    - A. No, I do not.
  - Q. Have you read this testimony before?
- 18 A. Yes.

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- Q. Could you turn to page 7.
- 20 A. I'm there.
- Q. Lines 23, 24 and then on to line 1 of page 8.
- 22 | Is this -- This is Mr. Oligschlaeger's characterization
- 23 of your position and I think it's the position that you
- 24 | just reiterated a moment ago. I want to make sure that
- 25 I'm tracking.

Page

- A. Yes, I think he captured my position.
- Q. So would you say that this is the issue, has nothing to do with the repairs deduction. The difference between Staff and OPC and the Company is whether or not the expenditure for ISRS-eligible plant without immediately putting those costs into rates has an impact on the taxable income and that is what is reflected in ISRS or should be reflected in ISRS? I'm sure I mangled that description.
  - A. I would state it a little differently. I would say that our position is that the interest-free loan that should be in rate base should be the net of all DTLs and DTAs.
  - O. DTEs, DTLs?

A. Sorry about that. Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities. Deferred taxes represent an interest-free loan. Okay. That's a zero cost of capital available to shareholders to invest in property. If they don't have that zero cost of capital, they're going out and borrowing or they're going out and getting equity. So if you put a DTL in or deferred tax liability in for the actual deduction when you're actually having then on an incremental basis looking at what happened in your regular rate case, on an incremental basis doing that spend you just delayed

1 getting that money from the government or getting that benefit in reduced taxes. You can only reduce your 2 3 taxes to zero. Once you're to zero, you can't do anything more. If you haven't perfected that loan. 4 That's what the normalization rules are about. 5 They say if you have not perfected that loan, you can't give the 6 7 benefit of that loan to the customers, otherwise you're in violation of the normalization rules or you're not 8 following the normalized method of accounting. I don't 9 10 know if I helped you or not.

- Q. I think we're getting there. Does the repairs deduction play a role in the ISRS calculation other than its connection to net operating losses?
  - A. Say that again.

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- Q. I'll try. Does the repairs deduction play a role in the ISRS calculation other than its relation to net operating losses?
- A. In any kind of incremental spend formula or calculation where you're trying to measure the cost to the customers of adding that, a repair deduction for tax purposes would generally generate a DTL, a deferred tax liability, therefore it would generally if you had taxable income to match it against would create a balance of interest-free loans. When that balance of that DTL is offset by a DTA in the deferred tax Page

calculation for that ISRS, then the interest-free loan 1 doesn't perfect and therefore you're basically not 2 getting the benefit of those deductions until you have 3 taxable income to use them against. You can only --4 5 again, you can only take your taxable income to zero. They're not going to give you more money back than what 6 7 you would otherwise pay. COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. Thank you. 8 JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Let's go to 9 10 recross and we'll start with Office of Public Counsel? 11 MS. SHEMWELL: We have no recross. Thank you. JUDGE HATCHER: And Mr. Johnson? 12 13 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Judge. 14 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Wilde, Commissioner Hall asked you a 15 16 series of questions regarding normalization. 17 discussed earlier that but for NOLs from prior tax years 18 the Company would estimate that it would have taxable 19 income for 2018; is that correct? Is that what we discussed earlier? 20 It's taxable income -- That's not really what 21 22 you asked. It would have -- but for those NOLCs, you're 23 correct. 24 Thank you, Mr. Wilde. Can a company utilize Q. 25 an NOLC prior to exhausting all of the deductions for Page

1	the current tax year?
2	A. No.
3	MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Wilde. I have no
4	further questions.
5	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Cooper, redirect?
6	MR. COOPER: Thank you, Your Honor.
7	REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. COOPER:
8	Q. Mr. Wilde, you still have your testimony in
9	front of you?
10	A. I do.
11	Q. Could you turn to page 12.
12	A. I'm there.
13	Q. I believe that Mr. Johnson well, let me
14	back up. Mr. Johnson had asked you the origin of some
15	of your numbers there, maybe the 36.9 million and then
16	you got cut off before you were able to explain the
17	origin of that number. Would you do so now or where
18	that number comes from?
19	A. Sure. Part of this Appendix C that the
20	Commissioner gave me with our original filings, so it's
21	a tax calc, that's within that particular schedule.
22	Q. But what So let me point you to line 18 and
23	line 19 of page 12. It talks about the incremental
24	ISRS-eligible investments are estimated to generate a
25	taxable loss of 36.9 million during the measurement Page

period for this case. Where does that 36.9 million come from? How is that calculated?

- A. Sure. It's calculated in the same manner that we would calculate an estimate of what our tax return deductions would be. So we'll look at, for example, for tax repairs we used a 10-year average of what our repairs came from from that particular kind of spend and calculated the deduction that way for tax -- Then we calculated tax depreciation based on what those rates are for the eligible property. And so it's really an estimate of the tax deductions that would occur plus any other like, for example, I believe there's interest expense in that calculation and there's book depreciation deductions that offset that to come to that \$36 million.
- Q. When you referred to a 10-year average on the repairs, I assume that's an average of all plant, all investment; it's not specific to ISRS, is it?
- A. No. We haven't separated out to ISRS. It's ISRS like property. So it's the same types of property. So it would be like mains and distribution and transmission kinds of mains that are typically billed under ISRS.
- Q. You define, though, the repairs qualifications in your testimony, correct?

1 A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. On page 13 of your testimony, it was pointed out that there's a reduction, I think it's line 7 to line 10 there Mr. Johnson pointed out the reduction of the NOLC balance from the end of 2017 to the end of 2018. Do you remember that?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And I think he asked you if that meant that no NOL was required and you said no but didn't explain. Would you explain that now?
- A. I think line 12 -- actually 11 through 14 kind of explained that. Said without including the ISRS investments, the Company and the Consolidated group would have been able to utilize more NOL and would have a projected NOLC for 2018 of 36.9 million less or, 55 million and 651 million respectively. Essentially the NOLC that was I want to call it delayed or recreated as a result of engaging in these ISRS expenditures caused additional NOL that wouldn't have been there had you not made these deductions. So incrementally they did drive NOL.
- Q. Elsewhere there's an estimate of when the Company will no longer be in an NOLC position. I think that's by the end of 2020; is that correct?
  - A. Yes. It will likely be at a situation where Page

its NOL will be less than the ISRS deductions that are being created. So it will in part generate less of an NOL DTA starting in '19 and probably no NOL DTA by the end of 2020.

- Q. But for the ISRS investment, would you expect the Company to be out of the NOLC position earlier perhaps than 2020?
  - A. Yes, absolutely.

- Q. You were asked some questions by Mr. Johnson where I believe your answer referred to a with or without basis and then he specified an actual basis.

  Let's start with this. What's significant about the with or without basis? What are you referring to when you talk about that?
- A. The with and without basis is a means that taxpayers have generally used to ask the IRS for normalization rules, and the IRS has come back that -- The regulations don't spell out a specific method. So you actually have to go to the IRS to find out whether your method is acceptable or not. The with or without method or the last deduction taken method combined with that with and without is the method that taxpayers normally have used and the IRS has said yes, because we know doing any -- I think the words are paraphrased, if you did anything else you'd have a normalization

1 violation. MR. COOPER: That's all the questions I have, 2 3 Your Honor. Thank you. JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Then I believe the 4 next witness is Office of Public Counsel's. 5 MS. SHEMWELL: Public Counsel calls Mr. John 6 7 Riley to the stand. JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Riley, please raise your 8 right hand. 9 10 (Witness sworn.) 11 JUDGE HATCHER: Please be seated. JOHN RILEY, being sworn, testified as follows: 12 13 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL: 14 Mr. Riley, would you state your name? Ο. John S. Riley, R-i-l-e-y. 15 Α. Mr. Riley, where do you work and what do you 16 Ο. 17 do there? I work for the Office of Public Counsel. I'm 18 Α. 19 a Public Utility Accountant III. 20 Have you prepared testimony in this case that Ο. 21 has been marked as Exhibit No. 6? 22 Yes, ma'am. Α. 23 Do you have any corrections or additions? Q. 24 Α. No, I do not. 25 Is your testimony true and correct, to the Q. Page

best of your knowledge and belief?

- A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. I have a few rebuttal questions for Mr. Riley.

  Mr. Riley, to begin, do you have any general comments
- 5 about Mr. Wilde's testimony?
- A. Mr. Wilde generally talks about how not
- 7 | including net operating loss is going to cause a
- 8 | normalization penalty with the Internal Revenue Service,
- 9 and I think the logic is flawed because normalization
- 10 | actually is the difference between accelerated
- 11 depreciation and straight-line depreciation in
- 12 | regulatory revenues. So what you have is the deferred
- 13 | tax which represents the difference between those two.
- 14 So the flow of that back happens over the life of the
- 15 | asset that you've assigned it to. So a net operating
- 16 | loss isn't something you really need to consider when
- 17 | you're talking about normalization violations.
- Q. Do you have Mr. Wilde's testimony in front of
- 19 you?

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- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 21 O. I need my copy. Pardon me just a moment.
- 22 Does Mr. Wilde claim there's a benefit to customers for
- 23 | not making use of a net operating loss?
- A. Mr. Wilde makes that claim on page 6, line 5
- 25 through 9, to the extent that the utility does not Page

receive this interest-free source of funds because 1 taking the accelerated depreciation deduction causes a 2 taxable loss, that taxable loss needs to be included in 3 the numbers so that the customers are not benefiting 4 before the utility company receives the benefits. He's 5 claiming somehow not being able to use a net operating 6 7 loss somehow benefits the customer, which I disagree with because the income tax expense built into rates is 8 9 essentially constant. So the ratepayer is putting money 10 in whereas the Company is not paying any tax. 11 though they don't get to use a net operating loss, they aren't paying tax, but they are getting taxed through 12 13 To say that the ratepayer is benefiting is I rates. 14 think false.

- Q. Is the Company harmed?
- A. No, not in any way.

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- Q. Mr. Wilde mentions the with and without method on page 7. Do you agree with his analysis of the with and without method?
- A. What Mr. Wilde says there is a new or additional net operating loss generated with accelerated depreciation, then the NOL generated is clearly related to accelerated depreciation and needs to be included. However, if you look at some of their records, the accelerated depreciation on its own does not create a Page

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1	net operating loss.	
2	Q. Do you have an example of some of those	
3	records?	
4	A. Yes, I do.	
5	Q. I think we need to get an exhibit marked.	
6	It's been premarked as Exhibit No. 8.	
7	JUDGE HATCHER: Before we do that, have you	
8	introduced the direct testimony?	
9	MS. SHEMWELL: I have not. I was going to do	
10	that at the end of rebuttal.	
11	JUDGE HATCHER: Then we're on to No. 8.	
12	MS. SHEMWELL: Yes, we are. Thank you.	
13	BY MS. SHEMWELL:	
14	Q. So how does Exhibit 8 support the comments	
15	that you were making?	
16	A. Exhibit 8 is a filing from Missouri-American	
17	Water with its annual report to the Commission.	
18	Q. Let me stop you there for just a minute. This	
19	is a copy of the annual report to the Commission?	
20	A. Page from the annual report, yes, ma'am.	
21	Q. You have added the highlighting?	
22	A. Yes, I have.	
23	Q. Thank you.	
24	A. Several lines on here. So it's a little hard	

to keep track of. This is page F-29 Attachment A from Page

Missouri-American Water Company basically breaking down
the financial income of the Company and then also
showing all of the deductions that it is allowed to take
through Internal Revenue rules and regulations and then
comes up with a taxable income down towards the bottom.

Now, the point I'm trying to make is that there's -- in this particular file, the financial taxable income is \$75 million. However, when you add all of the temporary differences in the middle, you come up with a taxable income of negative 15,971,209. So the point I want to make is that we had \$75 million. If you go down to the highlighted depreciation and amortization, which would be your accelerated depreciation on line 26, that's only \$26 million, 26,615,215. So to actually say that your accelerated depreciation is causing your loss, well, it's a portion of it, but it in itself does not cause the loss.

- Q. Anything else on that?
- A. Excuse me?

- Q. Anything else you want to add on that? We were talking about the with and without argument.
- A. I'm sorry. To say the with or without and saying that the depreciation is my point is the accelerated depreciation that he talks about in his testimony is not necessarily the driving force of net

1 operating loss.

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- Q. Thank you. Mr. Wilde has pointed out on page 4 and on page 11 that recognition of accumulated deferred income taxes typically referred to as ADIT or ADIT requires recognition of both the deferred income tax liabilities and the deferred income tax assets. Do you agree with that?
- A. Well, those terms are kind of loosely defined. However, in a strict regulatory accounting format, you don't really have a deferred tax asset because the Uniform System of Accounts does not have an asset title deferred tax asset. So to say that you have to combine these two is a little bit of a stretch because I contend that a net operating loss is a tax item and not a regulatory item.
- Q. Would a copy of Exhibit 9 assist in your explanation, what's been marked as Exhibit 9?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- MS. SHEMWELL: I'd like to introduce Exhibit 20 9.
- JUDGE HATCHER: Ms. Shemwell, I just want to
  make sure for my notes, did you offer into the record
  Exhibit 8?
- MS. SHEMWELL: I'd like to do that, and I will get to Exhibit 7.

Page

1	JUDGE HATCHER: Not a problem. On Exhibit 8,
2	before we move on, are there any objections to the
3	admission of Exhibit 8 onto the record? Hearing none,
4	it is so admitted.
5	(OPC EXHIBIT 9 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE AND
6	MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
7	JUDGE HATCHER: And Exhibit 9, Ms. Shemwell,
8	if you would please describe that for us.
9	MS. SHEMWELL: We're calling it the
10	accumulated deferred tax exhibit.
11	BY MS. SHEMWELL:
12	Q. Mr. Riley, do you have something more
13	specific?
14	A. No.
15	Q. Can you explain how this exhibit supports your
16	testimony?
17	A. Well, I started to review the chart of
18	accounts in order to understand how this might be
19	interpreted and how you would record it and I never
20	found an asset that is titled accumulated deferred
21	income tax. Accumulated deferred income tax in the
22	Uniform System of Accounts is a 200, what is known as a
23	200 account which is a liability account.
24	Specifically the accumulated deferred income
25	tax in the Uniform System of Accounts is Account No. Page

- 1 281, 282 and 283.
- Q. Those numbers that you're listing, how are those used?
- A. Well, that would be the account code that you would book your deferred income tax to.
  - Q. That's where the Company would actually book on its records --
  - A. Right.

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- O. -- the accumulated deferred income tax?
- 10 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q. What was your point about it does not?
- 12 A. The point there was that --
- Q. Excuse me.
- A. -- you have a deferred tax which is a
  liability. However, Mr. Wilde claims that you need to
  add your deferred tax asset with your deferred tax
  liability and technically there isn't an asset in the
  Uniform System of Accounts.
- 19 Q. There's not a place to book that?
- 20 A. No, there is not.
- Q. Mr. Wilde mentioned several letter rulings,
  IRS letter rulings in his testimony. Are you familiar
- 23 with IRS letter rulings?
- A. In testimony for a prior case Kansas City

  Power & Light, I entered a private letter ruling as

  Page

1 | evidence in that case in my testimony.

- Q. And what was the purpose for you entering that into your testimony?
- A. The topic I was reviewing was net operating
  losses for GMO and KCPL. So I started to look at
  private letter rulings and I came across one that I feel
  is very similar to how the Commission operates and
  reviews things and put that in testimony to demonstrate
  how the Internal Revenue Service treated the net
  operating loss in that particular letter ruling.
  - MS. SHEMWELL: I would like to introduce Exhibit No. 7 which is the IRS private letter ruling that Mr. Riley had entered into evidence.
- 14 BY MS. SHEMWELL:

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- Q. Was that the last KCPL rate case, Mr. Riley?
- 16 A. Yes. That was ER-2018-0145 and 146, I 17 believe.
  - Q. Does the Company have itself an IRS private letter ruling for its use of net operating loss? Are you aware of that?
  - A. No, I'm not aware that they have -- They requested a private letter ruling back in 2010. It wasn't for net operating losses. It was a change in accounting rules, change in accounting methods.
    - Q. In the private letter ruling in Kansas City Page

Power & Light, how does that apply in this case?

- A. Well, the company that submits the information to the Internal Revenue Service requesting a ruling from them had sent in information about net operating losses and whether they should be included in the deferred tax balance in order to set rates. It was asking should it offset deferred income tax with a net operating loss, and in short basically the Internal Revenue Service in this letter ruling said that the NOLC was taken into account and was not included and did not need to be included in the deferred tax balance.
- Q. I had a discussion with Mr. Wilde about who pays into the accumulated deferred income taxes. Who puts -- Who pays money for that?
- A. Well, the ratepayer is always the one that foots any bill. So when rates are set and tax amount is calculated for the case, then that's built into the rates. So the ratepayer is always the one that pays the taxes.
- 20 MS. SHEMWELL: Does that conclude your 21 rebuttal testimony?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.
- 23 MS. SHEMWELL: Judge, I'd like to offer
- 24 Exhibits 6, 7, 8 and 9 into evidence.
- JUDGE HATCHER: I don't have 6 marked down.
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1	MS. SHEMWELL: 6 is the direct testimony of
2	Mr. Riley.
3	JUDGE HATCHER: Sure that's not 3?
4	MS. SHEMWELL: I'm pretty sure it's not 3.
5	JUDGE HATCHER: Okay. I will take those up
6	one at a time. Exhibit 6, the direct testimony of
7	Mr. Riley, are there any objections to that admission on
8	the record? It is so admitted.
9	(OPC'S EXHIBIT 6 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
10	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
11	JUDGE HATCHER: Exhibit 7 is the IRS letter
12	rulings offered by the Office of Public Counsel. Are
13	there any objections to that exhibit being admitted onto
14	the record? Not hearing any, it is so admitted.
15	(OPC'S EXHIBIT 7 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
16	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
17	JUDGE HATCHER: And also Exhibit 8, Ms.
18	Shemwell?
19	MS. SHEMWELL: Yes, please.
20	JUDGE HATCHER: Exhibit 8, this is the page
21	from the Annual Report. Are there any objections to
22	that exhibit onto the hearing record? Without seeing
23	any, it is so admitted.
24	JUDGE HATCHER: And Exhibit 9, which is the
25	accumulated deferred tax exhibit, are there any Page

1	objections to Exhibit 9 being admitted onto the hearing
2	record? Seeing none, it is so admitted.
3	(OPC'S EXHIBIT 9 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
4	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
5	MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you, Judge. I tender the
6	witness for cross-examination.
7	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. And our pre-agreed
8	upon order, Mr. Cooper?
9	MR. COOPER: I think I go after Mr. Johnson.
10	JUDGE HATCHER: I'm sorry. I'm looking at the
11	person Mr. Johnson.
12	MR. JOHNSON: I think we're going to have Mr.
13	Irving handle this witness.
14	JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Please go ahead.
15	MR. IRVING: Actually I don't have any
16	questions for this witness at this time.
17	JUDGE HATCHER: That brings us to Mr. Cooper.
18	MR. COOPER: And in that case I have no
19	questions for this witness.
20	JUDGE HATCHER: Okay. Well, that leaves you
21	with no redirect.
22	MS. SHEMWELL: Commissioner questions?
23	JUDGE HATCHER: Commissioners, any questions
24	from the bench?
25	COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: No questions. Page

JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Then we will move 1 on to the next witness and that will be from 2 3 Mr. Johnson. Please go ahead. 4 MS. SHEMWELL: Judge, may Mr. Riley be 5 excused? JUDGE HATCHER: I have not been doing that all 6 7 day. Mr. Riley, thank you for your testimony. You're excused. 8 9 (Witness excused.) 10 MR. JOHNSON: Staff calls to the stand Mark Oligschlaeger. 11 12 JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Oligschlaeger, please 13 raise your right hand. 14 (Witness sworn.) 15 JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Please be seated. MARK OLIGSCHLAEGER, being sworn, testified as follows: 16 17 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON: 18 Q. It is still morning, Mr. Oligschlaeger. So 19 good morning. 20 Α. Good morning. 21 Ο. Would you please state and spell your last 22 name for the record? 23 My name is Mark L. Oligschlaeger. My last Α. 24 name is spelled O-l-i-g-s-c-h-l-a-e-g-e-r. 25 And by whom are you employed and in what Q. Page

# 1 capacity?

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- A. I'm employed as the manager of the auditing department for the Missouri Public Service Commission.
- Q. Are you the same Mark L. Oligschlaeger who caused to be prepared direct testimony which has been marked as Exhibit No. 3?
  - A. I am.
  - Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to your testimony?
- 10 A. I do not.
  - Q. If I were to ask you the same questions today, would your testimony be true and correct to the best of your belief and knowledge?
- 14 A. It would.
- MR. JOHNSON: Judge, at this time I would offer Exhibit No. 3 into the record.
- JUDGE HATCHER: So offered. Are there any objections to the admission of the direct testimony of Mr. Oligschlaeger? No objections, it is so admitted.
- 20 Please continue.
- 21 (STAFF'S EXHIBIT 3 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
- 22 AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
- 23 BY MR. JOHNSON:
- Q. Mr. Oligschlaeger, have you read the direct testimony of Missouri-American witnesses Brian LaGrand

1 and John R. Wilde in this matter?

A. I have.

- Q. And do you agree with the testimony of

  Mr. LaGrand and Mr. Wilde concerning the NOL issue in
  this ISRS case?
  - A. I do not. Their proposed inclusion of a hypothetical NOL deferred tax asset and ISRS rate base is not reasonable on its own terms and that treatment is not in any way mandated by the IRS tax normalization rules.
  - Q. As a preliminary matter, is there currently an NOL deferred tax asset on Missouri-American's books?
  - A. Yes, there is. An NOL was generated by Missouri-American for a period of time through the end of 2017. However, this NOL amount was reflected in rate base in Missouri-American's last general rate case, Case No. WR-2017-0285. That rate case had a true-up cutoff date of December 31, 2017. Because the NOL deferred tax asset balance as of year end 2017 is currently reflected in MAWC's base rates, no further rate treatment of that amount is appropriate in this ISRS proceeding.

The only NOL amounts potentially relevant to this case would be if any additional NOL amount was generated by Missouri-American from January through September 2018, the ISRS period in this proceeding.

Q. Has Missouri-American generated any NOL during this ISRS period?

- A. No. As clearly shown in the response to Staff Data Request No. 4, the balance of Missouri-American's NOL deferred tax asset has been declining at a steady rate so far in 2018. The response also indicates that this reduction is expected to continue until at least the end of 2019. This means that MAWC is expected to use its prior NOL to offset taxable income in 2018 and 2019 and that the Company is not projecting any additional generation of NOL in the aggregate for the ongoing future.
- Q. Mr. Oligschlaeger, when a utility is able to use prior amounts of net operating losses to offset taxable income on a going-forward basis as
  Missouri-American projects it can do now and in the future, what does that mean in relation to tax normalization accounting and ratemaking?
- A. A utility that is in the position of using prior NOL to offset taxable income by mathematical necessity is able to reflect all of its current accelerated depreciation tax deductions on its tax returns going forward. And as a result, it will receive the full financial benefit of such deductions. Because these benefits are provided to the utility in customer Page

rates through collection of deferred income taxes, the resulting accumulated deferred income tax balance must be included in rate base without offset in order to provide ratepayers a return on capital they provide to the utility.

- Q. That is rebuttal -- excuse me. In his direct testimony, Mr. Wilde claims that failure to reflect a rate-based offset for a hypothetical NOL in this case could or would lead to an IRS Code tax normalization violation. Do you agree with that statement?
- A. No. Staff has not found any support for this contention in either the IRS Code or in the private letter rulings cited by Mr. Wilde.
- Q. Why is it do you say the IRS Code does not support Missouri-American's position?
- A. The tax normalization rules embedded within the IRS Code clearly state that the existence of NoLs can be a relevant consideration in assessing whether a utility is in compliance with the rules. However, the Code specifies that NoLs may be relevant in two specific situations. First, when the utility is unable to reflect all of its accelerated depreciation tax deductions on its tax returns, thus creating a new NoL. And second, when a utility's balance of an already existing NoL deferred tax asset increases due to the

Company's continuing inability to reflect all available tax deductions on its returns. 2

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However, neither situation applies to Missouri-American during this particular ISRS period. So far in 2018, MAWC has not generated any new NOL in the aggregate and as a result its existing NOL balance has been decreasing, not increasing. Since MAWC is not currently generating any additional amount of NOL in aggregate, no violation of the tax normalization rules is at risk in this case.

- Now, why do you say that the private letter Q. rulings referred to by Mr. Wilde did not support the Company's position?
- None of the PLRs attached to Mr. Wilde's testimony or otherwise provided to Staff by Missouri-American are relevant to Missouri-American's current financial and taxable positions. Without exception, all of the PLRs cited by Mr. Wilde address time periods in which the utility in question was generating NOL amounts. Again, MAWC is not currently generating any NOL. It is using prior amounts instead.

Mr. Wilde has not provided any citations to PLRs that might address tax normalization consequences in the situation which a utility is using and not generating NOL amounts.

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Q. In his testimony Mr. Wilde makes several references to the with and without method applicable to tax treatment of NOLs for utilities that allegedly mandates its recommended treatment of NOLs in this case. Does Staff agree with his characterization of the with and without method?

A. No. The PLRs that Staff has reviewed make it clear that the with and without method is intended to allow a utility to determine how much of a generated NOL should be considered attributable to accelerated depreciation deductions and how much of the NOL should be attributable to other categories of tax deductions for purposes of compliance with the code. However, in this proceeding MAWC is actually proposing to apply the with and without method for an entirely different purpose which is to determine how much of a hypothetical NOL should be assigned to a single-issue rate element of ISRS plant additions in lieu of attributing the NOL to other MAWC cost components not at issue here.

None of the PLRs provided to Staff by MAWC seem to give guidance on how to make assignments to NOL to separate rate elements and the PLRs certainly do not specify that the with and without method must be used for this purpose.

Q. At pages 12 and 13 of his rebuttal, or excuse Page

me, his direct testimony, Mr. Wilde presents a

calculation of an alleged increase in

Missouri-American's NOL balance during the ISRS period.

What does his calculation actually show?

A. All that Mr. Wilde demonstrates with his calculation is that MAWC would be using even more of its NOL to offset taxable income from January 1, 2018 forward under the hypothetical scenario that if MAWC would have made no ISRS plant additions during that period. However, in reality a calculation of a lesser actual decrease in an NOL balance in comparison to the decrease that might have resulted from a what if situation cannot in any way reasonably consider to be an increase in NOL.

As I previously testified, it is only when an NOL is increasing that tax normalization rules violations may come into play for utilities in this situation.

- Q. Do you believe that Missouri-American's position on NOL ratemaking in this case is consistent with the intent and the theory behind the IRS tax normalization rules?
- A. No. Missouri-American's position if adopted would lead to customers not being compensated for capital provided to them -- provided by them to MAWC in Page

1	the form of deferred income taxes. That's a result
2	squarely inconsistent with proper ratemaking principles
3	and is not mandated in any fashion by the IRS Code.
4	Q. Mr. Oligschlaeger, do you have any further
5	rebuttal testimony?
6	A. I do not.
7	MR. JOHNSON: Thank you. Judge, at this point
8	I tender the witness for cross.
9	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. And going with the
10	already agreed upon order for cross-examination, Office
11	of Public Counsel?
12	MS. SHEMWELL: We have no questions. Thank
13	you.
14	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Cooper?
15	MR. COOPER: No questions as well.
16	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Any questions from
17	the bench? All right. And that takes care of recross
18	and redirect also. Mr. Oligschlaeger, you are excused.
19	Thank you.
20	(Witness excused.)
21	JUDGE HATCHER: Looking at the attorneys for
22	the case, I would note that it is ten till noon and we
23	have two witnesses left. If I can see a shake of heads
24	who would like to take a break, who would like to push
25	through? Page

1 MS. SHEMWELL: Let us confer just a moment. (Off the record.) 2 MR. JOHNSON: Judge, I think we will continue 3 4 the proceeding. JUDGE HATCHER: Excellent. We will be calling 5 our next witness. Mr. Johnson, please go ahead. 6 7 MR. JOHNSON: Staff calls to the stand Lisa 8 Ferguson. 9 JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Ms. Ferguson, please raise your right hand. 10 11 (Witness sworn.) 12 JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Please be seated. Mr. Johnson? 13 14 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Judge. LISA FERGUSON, being sworn, testified as follows: 15 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON: 16 17 Would you please state your name and spell Ο. 18 your last name for the record? 19 Α. My name is Lisa M. Ferguson. Last name is 20 spelled F-e-r-g-u-s-o-n. By whom are you employed and in what capacity? 21 Ο. I'm employed by the Missouri Public Service 22 Α. 23 Commission as a utility regulatory auditor. 24 Are you the same Lisa M. Ferguson who caused 25 to be prepared direct testimony which has been marked as Page

1	Exhibit No. 4?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to your
4	testimony?
5	A. I do not.
6	Q. Is your testimony true and correct to the best
7	of your belief and knowledge?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. If I asked you those same questions today,
10	would you give the same answers?
11	A. Yes.
12	MR. JOHNSON: Judge, I would offer Exhibit 4
13	as evidence into the record.
14	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. The Exhibit 4, the
15	direct testimony of Ms. Ferguson, do I have any
16	objections? Seeing no objections, it is so admitted.
17	(STAFF'S EXHIBIT 4 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
18	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
19	JUDGE HATCHER: Go ahead, Mr. Johnson.
20	BY MS. JOHNSON:
21	Q. Ms. Ferguson, have you read the direct
22	testimony of Missouri-American witnesses Mr. LaGrand and
23	Mr. Wilde?
24	A. I have.
25	Q. Do you have any rebuttal testimony you would Page

1 like to provide?

- A. I do.
- Q. Does Staff agree that accumulated deferred income taxes include both deferred tax liabilities and deferred tax assets?
- A. Generally, yes. As long as the deferred tax liabilities and deferred tax assets are related to regulated deductions that are included in the utility's cost of service. However, in this ISRS petition, Staff does not believe that there is actually any generation of a deferred tax asset in the form of an NOL associated with this particular ISRS investment. The TCJA, or the tax reform that was changed in December of 2017, changed the tax law to eliminate the availability of bonus depreciation deductions which has historically been the main cause of NOLs by utilities.
- Q. Thank you, Ms. Ferguson. Just to clarify, the TCJA is the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017?
  - A. That's correct.
- Q. Does Missouri-American -- Does

  Missouri-American's proposed calculation of the NOL make

  sense to you?
- A. No. Especially in this proceeding. In

  Missouri, direct rate recovery of investment by a

  utility can only occur after that investment is in

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service. If you subtract the incremental tax deductions associated with the new ISRS plant investment from the level of zero, which is what the Company is stating is incremental revenue associated with that investment, a hypothetical net operating loss will occur each time you do that calculation whether the utility is actually generating incremental NOL or not. There could be a situation in the future maybe when or if bonus depreciation returns where an NOL is generated due to ISRS investment, but I believe a different method of calculation needs to be considered in order to appropriately assign an NOL to incremental ISRS investment. If it's determined in the future that an NOL may be appropriate to include in the ISRS rate calculation, then a pro rata ratio of ISRS plant to non ISRS plants would need to be developed to calculate the portion of the NOL reasonably attributable to ISRS plant additions.

Q. On page 9, lines 1 through 9 of Mr. Wilde's direct testimony he represents that a normalization violation will occur if the benefits from tax timing differences are deducted and included in rates faster than the NOL is reflected. Does Staff believe a normalization violation will occur if an NOL deferred tax asset is not included in this case?

1	A. No. Staff does not believe there is even a
2	deferred tax asset in the form of an NOL in this case.
3	And we can tell that by looking at the NOL balances that
4	are declining over time that's in my direct testimony.
5	However, even if MAWC does inadvertently commit a
6	normalization violation, Revenue Procedure 2017-47 that
7	was released in September of 2017 creates a safe harbor
8	for utilities to correct their unintentional
9	normalization violations regarding the Section 168
10	accelerated depreciation deductions on a going-forward
11	basis without penalty.
12	Q. Is it possible to determine what specific item
13	gave rise to an NOL?
14	A. No. NOLs are calculated on an overall basis
15	and they're not split out for accounting purposes based
16	on what tax deductions gave rise to that NOL.
17	Q. Ms. Ferguson, what is the repairs deduction
18	and associated consent agreement that Mr. Wilde
19	mentioned on page 8, lines 20 through 23 of his direct
20	testimony and is this deduction appropriate for
21	inclusion in an ISRS case?
22	A. In 2010, American Waterworks and its
23	subsidiaries requested permission to change their method

of accounting for costs associated with routine repair

and maintenance of tangible property. The deferred tax  $$\operatorname{\textsc{Page}}$$ 

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liability associated with the repair allowance deduction
is appropriate to include in ISRS rates because the
costs associated with this deduction are incurred to
keep the taxpayer's property in ordinary efficient
operating condition and does not materially increase the
value of the property or increase the useful life.

I like to think that this type of deduction is akin to the definition of ISRS-eligible property and is thus appropriate.

- Q. Mr. Wilde discusses the consent agreement related to the tax repairs deduction that Missouri-American was able to begin taking. Does Staff believe that its recommendation in this case would cause a normalization violation in regards specifically to the repairs deduction?
- A. No. Staff agrees that the consent agreement by the IRS does require MAWC to follow normalization accounting in regard to its repairs deduction. That's why Staff accepted the repairs deduction and has included the deferred tax liability relating to it in the ISRS calculation.

If Staff believed a deferred tax asset had been generated in the form of an NOL and was actually related to this deduction and this specific ISRS investment, then Staff would have considered inclusion Page

of any NOL associated deferred tax asset in this case, but no such generation of an incremental NOL has actually occurred that's attributable to this repairs allowance or any other deduction. MAWC, in fact, proposed this deduction, but I believe now that it has been established that there's no generation of a net operating loss the deduction is being proposed to be removed.

- Q. On page 11, lines 20 through 23, Mr. Wilde states that Staff only attributes the term hypothetical to the NOL deferred tax asset that they suggest should be excluded from the ISRS rate base, yet this amount is no more or less an estimate and hypothetical than the deferred tax liability generated in claiming tax depreciation and tax repairs. Do you agree with this assessment?
- A. No, I do not. Staff understands that MAWC uses accrual accounting to record their deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities on their financial reporting books and may later true up these amounts with updated information. When Staff called the deferred tax asset hypothetical, it meant that an NOL was being calculated for purposes of this ISRS while no such NOL deferred tax asset was actually being booked by MAWC.

Assuming the existence of an NOL when no such

1	amount at all is recorded on a utility's books is very
2	different than relying on actual book information for
3	the amount of accelerated depreciation deferred tax
4	liabilities even if the amounts may be subject to change
5	later. The deferred tax liability is recorded on the
6	MAWC's books. There is no new deferred tax asset or NOL
7	that's recorded on its books.
8	Q. Thank you, Ms. Ferguson. Do you have any
9	further rebuttal testimony you wish to provide?
10	A. I do not.
11	MR. JOHNSON: Judge, at this time I would
12	tender the witness for cross-examination.
13	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Ms. Shemwell?
14	MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.
15	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON:
16	Q. Good morning, Ms. Ferguson. How are you?
17	A. I'm good.
18	Q. Good. In your rebuttal close to the end you
19	said that something was proposed to be removed. I think
20	it was about your third question from the end. Are you
21	finding that?
22	A. Oh, about the repairs deduction?
23	Q. That's what I was going to ask you. You were
24	referring to the repairs deduction?

A. I think there's some confusion this morning

- about what the true issue is here. The true issue is is 1 2 Missouri-American experiencing a net operating loss. 3 Now, what can cause that net operating loss, the repairs deduction that they're taking in their calculation could 4 be one factor in that. We don't believe there is an 5 NOL, but what has occurred since this as this case has 6 7 progressed is we have shown, I believe, that there is no 8 support for an NOL deferred tax asset included. The 9 Company has now come back and proposed to remove the 10 repairs deduction. They have proposed that deduction in 11 prior ISRS cases and I believe we're still in support of 12 that, the Staff is.
  - Q. So it was the Company that proposed the removal and now Staff agrees?
  - A. No, Staff does not agree to remove the deduction. Staff is only -- has only had the position to remove the net operating loss. That's all.
  - Q. So the Company proposed to remove it, but you don't agree?
  - A. The Company proposed to remove the NOL, what I understand, as long as the repairs deduction is also removed. Staff does not agree with both removals, only the NOL.
    - Q. That's very helpful. Thank you.
  - A. Yes.

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1	MS. SHEMWELL: That's all I have, Judge.
2	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Cooper?
3	MR. COOPER: Yes. Thank you.
4	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. COOPER:
5	Q. Ms. Ferguson, repairs, the repairs deduction
6	is not depreciation, is it?
7	A. No, it's not.
8	Q. Now, you also made a statement, I believe,
9	that Staff believes it's appropriate to include the
10	repairs deduction in an ISRS; is that correct?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. Has Staff taken that position in any other
13	ISRS case?
14	A. I will say there's a difference between the
15	repairs deduction in a gas case than what is being
16	proposed here. I believe back in 2004, Staff had
17	proposed in a Laclede Gas Company ISRS case to include a
18	263(a) repairs deduction. Now, I believe that was
19	settled and we might have split that 50/50. I'd have to
20	clarify that.
21	Now, moving forward, I don't believe that
22	deduction has been included, but the 263(a) deduction is
23	different than what is being proposed here, because the
24	263(a) deduction has to do with indirect and direct
25	costs that are related to the resale of gas. I don't

know if Missouri-American is eligible to take this 1 2 deduction, but what this deduction is is the 162 general 3 business deduction. So yes, it has been proposed. And it's your belief that the gas companies do 5 not have the 162 deduction that you're talking about? I don't believe that's true. I can't say 6 7 either way. 8 You just don't know, right? Q. 9 Right, I don't. Α. 10 The end result of all that is you just don't Ο. 11 know? 12 A. I don't know if they have access to both, no. 13 MR. COOPER: That's all the questions I have, 14 Your Honor. 15 JUDGE HATCHER: All right. And any questions from the bench? We'll move to recross. Any questions 16 17 on recross? 18 MS. SHEMWELL: No. MR. COOPER: I was going to say we ought to be 19 20 redirect, shouldn't we, here? 21 JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Redirect. 22 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Judge. Just very 23 briefly. REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. JOHNSON: 24 2.5 And just to further clarify, Ms. Ferguson, the Ο.

1 Company proposed in its initial application to include 2 the repairs deduction in its ISRS filing? Yes, that's correct. 3 Α. And Staff agrees with that practice? Ο. 5 Α. Yes. 6 Mr. Cooper was asking you about other 7 utilities taking repairs deductions and you mentioned a 8 gas utility that has taken a repair deduction in the 9 past or at least it was proposed. Maybe not the same 10 deduction. Do you happen to know the case number for 11 that case? 12 I do. The case number is GO-2004-0443. Α. 13 it was a similar, you know, proposal. It might not have 14 been the same exact repairs deduction but it was a 15 repairs deduction. 16 MR. JOHNSON: Judge, I would request that the 17 Commission take notice of that case file. And it was 18 GO-2004-0443. 19 JUDGE HATCHER: All right. I've seen this in 20 a hearing before and it is the decision of the 21 Commission, but I'll go ahead and ask if there's any 22 objections to the Commission taking note of its own 23 decision? 24 MS. SHEMWELL: No.

JUDGE HATCHER: All right. We will so take

2.5

1	
1	note. Go ahead.
2	MS. JOHNSON: I have no further questions.
3	Thank you, Ms. Ferguson.
4	JUDGE HATCHER: Any recross after that?
5	MS. SHEMWELL: No, thank you.
6	JUDGE HATCHER: Ms. Ferguson, you're excused.
7	Thank you.
8	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
9	(Witness excused.)
10	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Johnson, go ahead.
11	MR. IRVING: Yes, Staff would like to call
12	Matthew Barnes to the stand.
13	JUDGE HATCHER: Mr. Barnes, please raise your
14	right hand.
15	(Witness sworn.)
16	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Please sit.
17	MATTHEW BARNES, being sworn, testified as follows:
18	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. IRVING:
19	Q. Mr. Barnes, please state your name and spell
20	your last name for the court reporter.
21	A. My name is Matthew J. Barnes. Last name is
22	B-a-r-n-e-s.
23	Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
24	A. I'm employed by the Missouri Public Service
25	Commission as a utility regulatory auditor in the water

1	
1	and sewer department.
2	Q. Did you prepare or cause to be prepared direct
3	testimony that has been marked as Exhibit 5?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. Do you have any corrections to that testimony?
6	A. I do not.
7	Q. Is that testimony true and accurate to the
8	best of your knowledge and belief?
9	A. Yes, it is.
10	Q. If I were to ask you the same questions today,
11	would your answers be the same?
12	A. Yes, they would.
13	MR. IRVING: At this time I would move to
14	admit Exhibit 5.
15	JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Any objections to
16	the admission of the direct testimony of Mr. Barnes?
17	MS. SHEMWELL: No, thank you.
18	JUDGE HATCHER: Hearing none, it is so
19	admitted. Go ahead.
20	(STAFF'S EXHIBIT 5 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
21	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
22	BY MR. IRVING:
23	Q. Do you have any rebuttal testimony at this
24	point?
25	A. I do not.

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1	MR. IRVING: Your Honor, I would like to				
2	tender the witness for cross-examination.				
3	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. And again, we turn				
4	to the Office of Public Counsel.				
5	MS. SHEMWELL: We have no questions. Thank				
6	you.				
7	MR. COOPER: No questions, Your Honor.				
8	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. Any questions from				
9	the bench?				
10	COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: No.				
11	JUDGE HATCHER: Thank you. And that will, of				
12	course, take care of redirect and recross. Mr. Barnes,				
13	you're excused. Thank you very much.				
14	(Witness excused.)				
15	JUDGE HATCHER: All right. Are there any				
16	other witnesses that were not on the witness list?				
17	Okay. Then let's move on to any final matters that need				
18	discussing.				
19	MS. SHEMWELL: Do we need to discuss on the				
20	record the transcript availability?				
21	JUDGE HATCHER: Let's go ahead. The				
22	transcript I've been informed will be available tomorrow				
23	and that will be as soon as it is possibly made				
24	available will be the exact time. Any other questions				
25	or issues regarding the transcript? I see shaking of				

heads. 1 2 Let's get back to the exhibits. Mr. Cooper, if you would be so kind, you may have done this but I 3 failed to mark it down, would you please move to offer 4 Exhibit 10 onto the record? 5 6 MR. COOPER: Yes, yes, Your Honor. 7 JUDGE HATCHER: Would there be any objections? 8 Exhibit 10, just reminder, is the ISRS recalculation 9 that was offered for Mr. LaGrand's attachment to his 10 testimony. Not hearing any objections, it is so 11 admitted. Thank you all. 12 Are there any other exhibits? I have all 10 13 admitted. Are there any others to be offered? THE COURT REPORTER: Judge, I can safely say 14 15 it will be before noon. 16 JUDGE HATCHER: Excellent. Just in case 17 anyone didn't hear, the transcript will be available before noon. 18 Let's talk about late-filed exhibits just real 19 20 quickly. I don't know if anyone anticipates any 21 late-filing exhibits, but let's go ahead and we'll just 22 put a due date of -- we're right into Thanksgiving. 23 Let's say Monday, close of business Monday, and I don't have a date. 24 2.5 MR. COOPER: Be the 26th, I believe.

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1	JUDGE HATCHER: 26th, close of business Monday				
2	the 26th for any late-filed exhibits. They will be				
3	filed by filing it with EFIS and simultaneously				
4	providing a copy to all parties.				
5	MS. SHEMWELL: Judge, are the briefs then due				
6	on the 27th? That's a little late for exhibits if the				
7	brief is due on the 27th.				
8	MR. JOHNSON: Judge, I can state that from				
9	Staff's perspective we do not anticipate filing any late				
10	exhibits.				
11	MS. SHEMWELL: We do not either.				
12	MR. COOPER: Nor would I.				
13	JUDGE HATCHER: Excellent. I love it when we				
14	all agree.				
15	MR. COOPER: Unless the Commission asks for				
16	one.				
17	JUDGE HATCHER: I'm not aware of any. So we				
18	will scratch the late-filed exhibits instruction. We				
19	will move right to the 27th briefs being due, and all of				
20	those dates are on the already approved schedule. Last				
21	call any other issues?				
22	Thank you all. Let's adjourn the proceeding				
23	and go off the record.				
24	(Off the record.)				
25					

1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER				
2					
3	I, Beverly Jean Bentch, RPR, CCR No. 640,				
4	Certified Court Reporter with the firm of Tiger Court				
5	Reporting, LLC, within the State of Missouri, do hereby				
6	certify that I was personally present at the proceedings				
7	had in the above-entitled cause at the time and place				
8	set forth in the caption sheet thereof; that I then and				
9	there took down in Stenotype the proceedings had; and				
10	that the foregoing is a full, true and correct				
11	transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at such time				
12	and place.				
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