Exhibit No.:

Issue(s): Business Transformation/
DPAD/Income Taxes/

Cost of Service/Rate Design

Witness/Type of Exhibit: Smith/Surrebuttal Sponsoring Party: Public Counsel Case Nos.: WR-2015-0301/SR-2015-0302

OF RALPH C. SMITH

Submitted on Behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel

MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

Case Nos. WR-2015-0301/SR-2015-0302

March 4, 2016 [Draft 06- 3/4/2016]

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Missouri-American Water)	
Company's Request for Authority to)	Case No. WR-2015-0301
Implement a General Rate Increase for)	Case No. SR-2015-0302
Water and Sewer Service Provided in)	
Missouri Service Areas.)	

AFFIDAVIT OF RALPH C. SMITH

STATE OF MICHIGAN)	
)	SS
COUNTY OF WAYNE)	

Ralph C. Smith, of lawful age and being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

- 1. My name is Ralph C. Smith. I am the Senior Regulatory Consultant with Larkin & Associates, PLLC, acting as consultants in this matter for the Office of the Public Counsel.
- 2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my surrebuttal testimony.
- 3. I hereby swear and affirm that my statements contained in the attached testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Ralph Ć. Smith

Senior Regulatory Consultant

Notary Public

My Commission expires

COUNTY OF WAYNE

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Nov.8, 2021

CTING IN COUNTY OF

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Schedule RCS-21, Cost of Service Per Residential Customer Comparison by Districts and District Groups

1		SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY
2		OF
3		RALPH C. SMITH
4		MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
5		CASE NOS. WR-2015-0301/SR-2015-0302
6		I. INTRODUCTION
7	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, TITLE, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
8	A.	Ralph C. Smith. I am a Senior Regulatory Consultant at Larkin & Associates, PLLC,
9		15728 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154.
10		
11	Q.	ARE YOU THE SAME RALPH SMITH WHO PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED
12		DIRECT TESTIMONY REGARDING CERTAIN REVENUE REQUIREMENT
13		ISSUES AND DIRECT AND REBUTTAL TESTIMONIES ON COST OF
14		SERVICE STUDY AND RATE DESIGN ISSUES IN THIS CASE?
15	A.	Yes. I previously submitted direct testimony in this case on December 23, 2015,
16		addressing these revenue requirement issues: Business Transformation and Income
17		Taxes. Additionally, I previously submitted direct testimony on January 20, 2016 on the
18		Class Cost of Service ("CCOS") studies filed by Missouri-American Water Company
19		("Company" or "MAWC") and discussed the Office of Public Counsel's ("OPC")
20		position on how the results of these studies should affect the rate design for customer
21		classes within each district, as well as presenting testimony on district specific pricing

versus single tariff pricing, and a recommendation of revenue at current and proposed rates for the St. Louis Metro District of MAWC. I also submitted rebuttal testimony to address and respond to the recommendations concerning cost of service study and rate design issues of Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers ("MIEC") witness Brian C. Collins.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

A. The purpose of my surrebuttal testimony is to address and respond to the rebuttal testimony of selected MAWC witnesses. I respond to MAWC rebuttal witnesses Donald Petry and John Spanos on certain issues pertaining to the American Water Works Business Transformation project. I also respond to MAWC rebuttal witness Carl Meyers about certain income tax issues, including the Section 199 deduction that has been calculated for MAWC on a stand-alone basis. Finally, I respond to MAWC rebuttal witness Paul Herbert concerning the Company's proposal to consolidate rate zones and other cost of service study/rate design issues, including his rebuttal testimony proposal for uniform customer charges.

17 Q. HAVE YOU ATTACHED ANY SCHEDULES TO YOUR SURREBUTTAL

TESTIMONY?

19 A. Yes. Schedule RCS-21, presents a Cost of Service Per Residential Customer Comparison
20 by Districts and District Groups. This is based on MAWC witness Mr. Herbert's Schedule
21 PRH-6, which was attached to his rebuttal testimony. Schedule RCS-21 shows subtotals
22 and a total for cost of service as well as customer amounts and also shows differences

between the residential cost of service for each district and the group averages and overall
 average.

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II. REVENUE REQUIREMENT ISSUES

- 5 A. American Water Works Business Transformation Costs and
 6 Depreciation Life
- 7 Q. WHAT DOES MAWC WITNESS DONALD PETRY STATE ABOUT THE
- 8 BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION COST OVERRUNS?
- 9 A. Mr. Petry, who filed rebuttal testimony for MAWC and is adopting the Direct Testimony 10 of MAWC witness Mr. VerDouw, addresses the American Water Works Business 11 Transformation costs at pages 14-22 of his rebuttal testimony. At page 15, he states: 12 "The Company undertook the BT initiative because its existing technology systems had 13 become antiquated and reached the end of their lives." However, he fails to mention the 14 lives of the systems that the American Water Works BT systems are replacing. He notes 15 the replaced systems were "stand-alone" systems designed for specific departments and were not integrated. He states an integrated approach was needed and notes that the 16 17 American Water Works BT systems provided "added functionality that the existing 18 systems could not deliver."
- 19 Q. WHAT ASPECTS OF THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS BT COSTS HAVE
 20 BEEN CHALLENGED IN THE CURRENT MAWC RATE CASE?

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¹ See, e.g., Petry Rebuttal, page 15, lines 7-9.

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- 1 A. The American Water Works BT systems cost as proposed by MAWC have been challenged in the following respects:
 - 1. MAWC has proposed a depreciation period of 10 years versus the current depreciation period of 20 years. The OPC recommends that the current period of 20 years continue to be used.
 - 2. It has been noted that the total American Water Works BT costs of \$326.2 million have exceeded the initial estimate of \$280 million by \$46.2 million. A satisfactory explanation of those cost overruns should be required from MAWC, otherwise a cost disallowance should be imposed on any inadequately explained differences.
 - 3. The allocation of American Water Works BT costs to MAWC has been challenged. There is concern that a higher amount of BT costs should be charged or allocated to unregulated affiliates of American Water Works and should not be charged or allocated as heavily to the regulated public utilities such as MAWC, with the unregulated affiliates being allowed to selectively opt into portions at their choosing, and to only receive cost allocations for small portions of the overall BT project costs.

18 Q. WHAT DOES MR. PETRY STATE ABOUT THE DEPRECIABLE LIFE ISSUE?

A. At page 21 of his Rebuttal Testimony, Mr. Petry states: "the value of an asset is determined by its useful life." He also claims it is typical to depreciate IT assets over a relatively short period because of the rapid technological changes that render such assets obsolete in relatively time periods. He concedes "the IT systems might have some value at the expiration of 10 years ..." But he claims that "is irrelevant to the issue of the appropriate useful life to assign to an asset."

Q. IS THE VALUE OF THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS BT ASSET DETERMINED BY ITS USEFUL LIFE, AS CLAIMED BY MR. PETRY?

² See, e.g., Petry Rebuttal, page 21, line 21.

³ Id, at lines 22-23.

⁴ Id, at lines 25-26.

⁵ Id, at lines 26-27.

- A. No. For ratemaking purposes, the value being used is based on the cost of the asset. The depreciation period for a public utility asset relates to how the cost is recognized for regulatory purposes and determines the amount of the utility's depreciation expense and the charges to ratepayers.
- 5 Q. ARE IT ASSETS ALWAYS DEPRECIATED OVER A SHORT TIME PERIOD?
- A. No. A major total overhaul of a company's systems, such as represented by the American
 Water Works BT program, for which a cost of \$326.2 million was incurred, is not a
 routine IT program. It is reasonable to depreciate this massive total overhaul and
 replacement of the American Water Works then-existing business systems over a longer
 period than might typically be used for smaller, routine IT expenditures.
- Q. WHAT DOES MAWC WITNESS SPANOS STATE WITH REPECT TO THE BT
 DEPRECIATION LIFE IN HIS REBUTTAL?
- 13 A. MAWC witness Mr. Spanos addresses the BT depreciation life at page 37 of his rebuttal
 14 testimony. He indicates that Staff proposes a 20-year life and 5 percent rate for BT assets
 15 "which represent software applications developed for all American Water entities." He
 16 indicates that, in the last case, MAWC agreed to a 5 percent rate for these assets before
 17 they were placed into service until a further understanding of the software application
 18 was known. He states further he is specifically familiar with three other American
 19 Water entities with a 10-year amortization period and 10 percent rate agreed upon.
- 20 Q. PLEASE RESPOND TO THOSE STATEMENTS BY MR. SPANOS.

⁷ Id. at lines 9-12.

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⁶ See, e.g., Spanos Rebuttal Testimony, page 37, lines 4-6.

A.

Mr. Spanos' statement that the American Water Works BT "represent software applications developed for all American Water entities" contradicts Mr. Petry's assertion at page 16, line 4-6 of his Rebuttal Testimony that the American Water Works BT systems were designed only for the American Water Works utilities: "All of the components of the BT initiative were designed, developed and implemented specifically to meet the needs of the water and wastewater utility subsidiaries of American Water Works Company, Inc." American Water has other entities besides water and wastewater utilities, including unregulated businesses.

Concerning Mr. Spanos' familiarity with three other American Water Works utilities using a 10-year amortization period and 10 percent rate agreed upon, I am not aware of any requirement for the Missouri PSC to defer to other states' determinations on depreciable lives of assets that are recorded on the books of Missouri utilities or to adopt settled results from American Water Works utilities in other jurisdictions.

Mr. Spanos' comments about the 5 percent depreciation rate being agreed to in the last MAWC rate case and his statement that Staff proposes a 20-year life and a 5 percent rate appear to be accurate.

Q. DOES MAWC DENY THAT THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS BUSINESS
TRANSFORMATION SYSTEMS COULD HAVE USE BEYOND THE 10-YEAR
PERIOD THE COMPANY PROPOSES FOR DEPRECIATION?

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⁸ See, e.g., Spanos Rebuttal Testimony, page 37, lines 4-6.

- 1 A. No. In fact, Mr. Petry concedes "the IT systems might have some value at the expiration of 10 years ..." Moreover, contrary to Mr. Petry's assertion, it is relevant the American 2 3 Water Works BT systems could have value beyond ten years. The Company has failed to demonstrate that the current depreciation life of 20 years being used by MAWC for the 4 5 American Water Works BT systems is inappropriate. Consistent with my direct 6 testimony, I continue to recommend the current 20-year period be used for the 7 depreciation of American Water Works BT systems allocated to MAWC and reflected in 8 MAWC rate base.
- 9 Q. TO WHAT DOES MR. PETRY ATTRIBUTE THE AMERICAN WATER
 10 WORKS BT SYSTEMS COST OVERRUNS?
- At page 18 of his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Petry denies there were any cost overruns. At pages 17-18, he states approximately one-half of the \$46.2 million difference is AFUDC and the remainder is for Sarbanes Oxley Act ("SOX") compliance. He claims neither AFUDC nor SOX compliance costs were part of the American Water Works BT cost estimate of \$280 million from 2009.
- 16 Q. DOES MR. PETRY PROVIDE ANY DOCUMENTATION OR SUPPORT FOR
 17 THOSE ASSERTIONS?
- 18 A No, not with his Rebuttal Testimony.
- 19 Q. WHEN WAS THE SARBANES OXLEY ACT PASSED AND WHAT DID IT
 20 REQUIRE?

⁹ See, e.g., Petry Rebuttal Testimony, page 21, at lines 25-26.

1 A. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("SOX") is an act passed by U.S. Congress in 2002 to 2 protect investors from the possibility of fraudulent accounting activities by corporations. 3 The Sarbanes-Oxley Act mandated strict reforms to improve financial disclosures from 4 corporations and prevent accounting fraud. 5 IS IT CREDIBLE THAT BY 2009 WHEN IT WAS ESTIMATING THE BT Q. 6 COSTS THAT AMERICAN WATER WORKS WOULD NOT KNOW THAT IT 7 WAS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH SOX? The SOX was passed in 2002, and by 2009, virtually all affected companies, 8 A. 9 including American Water Works, should have known that SOX compliance would be 10 necessary. For the Company to now be citing a requirement to comply with SOX, a law 11 passed in 2002, as reasons for incurring BT costs that are substantially in excess of the 12 2009 American Water Works estimates strains credibility. HAS MAWC ADEQUATELY EXPLAINED THE SUBSTANTIAL BT COST 13 Q. 14 **OVERRUNS?** 15 A. No. The Company has failed to explain why costs associated with compliance of the 16 2002 SOX law were not part of the \$280 million American Water Works total BT cost 17 estimate from 2009. 18 Q. WHAT DOES MR. PETRY STATE WITH RESPECT TO THE ALLOCATION 19 OF BT COSTS TO MAWC? 20 A. At page 18 of his rebuttal testimony, he apologizes for an incorrect discovery response 21 that he states "inadvertently led OPC to think that the BT assets were designed for both 22 regulated and non-regulated companies use. MAWC apologizes for this error and has

- supplemented/corrected its response."¹⁰ However, Mr. Petry's rebuttal testimony fails to identify to what erroneous response he is referring.
- 3 Q. ARE THE UNREGULATED AFFILIATES USING PORTIONS OF THE
- 4 AMERICAN WATER WORKS BT SYSTEMS?
- A. Yes. The unregulated subsidiaries of American Water Works are permitted to use some
 BT applications.
- 7 Q. HAS MAWC DEMONSTRATED THAT THE HEAVY ALLOCATION OF BT
- 8 COSTS TO THE UTILITIES SUCH AS MAWC IS APPROPRIATE?
- 9 A. No. The vast majority of the American Water Works BT cost is being charged to the 10 regulated utilities such as MAWC where the costs can be passed onto ratepayers. Also, 11 no BT costs are allocated to and retained by the parent company, American Water Works, 12 which is using the BT systems. The lack of any allocation of BT costs to the parent 13 company also contributes to the regulated utilities bearing more than an appropriate share 14 of the total BT costs. The unregulated affiliates are being allowed to selectively use 15 systems and avoid the brunt of the substantial initial investment in BT costs.
- 16 Q. IS THE CHARGING OF THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS BT COSTS TO
 17 THE REGULATED UTILITES SUCH AS MAWC TRANSPARENT?
- A. No. The amount of American Water Works BT cost that MAWC has requested to be included in rate base is identifiable. In addition to that, there are other BT related costs which are charged or allocated to MAWC through the affiliated Service Company, including costs for BT related assets that are leased to the Service Company by another

¹⁰ See, e.g., Petry rebuttal page 18, lines 20-23.

1 affiliate, Laurel Oak Properties, which make identifying the total cost of the American 2 Water Works BT that is being allocated and charged to MAWC and requested by MAWC 3 to be recovered from Missouri ratepayers a challenge. 4 Q. **PLEASE** SUMMARIZE **YOUR** SURREBUTTAL RECOMENDATIONS 5 CONCERNING BT COSTS. The concerns identified in my direct testimony about BT cost overruns and allocations 6 A. 7 still remain. I also recommend that the BT costs are allowed for MAWC continue to be 8 depreciated using the current 20-year life. 9 **B**. The Deduction for Domestic Production Activities ("DPAD") under §199 of the Internal Revenue 10 WHAT DOES MAWC WITNESS CARL MEYERS STATE ABOUT THE 11 Q. DEDUCTION FOR DOMESTIC PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES UNDER §199 OF 12 THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE? 13 At page 2 of his rebuttal testimony, MAWC witness Mr. Meyers states the DPAD cannot 14 A. be taken on the American Water Works consolidated federal income tax return. He refers 15 to the DPAD as "fictional". 11 He also claims the reason for "imputing" the DPAD is 16 17 unhappiness that American Water Waters did not elect to take bonus depreciation on its tax return.¹² 18 19 Q. HOW ARE MAWC'S FEDERAL INCOME TAXES BEING COMPUTED FOR

11 See, e.g., Meyers rebuttal, page 2, line 21.

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RATEMAKING PURPOSES IN THE CURRENT RATE CASE?

¹² See, e.g., Meyers Rebuttal Testimony, page 3, lines 7-18.

- 1 A. MAWC's income tax expense is being computed on a "stand-alone" basis in the current
- 2 MAWC rate case. All of the parties' presentation (MAWC's, Staff's, and OPC's)
- 3 calculate MAWC's income tax expense using their proposed allowed revenues, operating
- 4 expenses, and deductions.

5 Q. IS IT CONSISTENT TO COMPUTE THE DPAD ON A "SEPARATE RETURN"

BASIS FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES?

- 7 A. Yes. For its Missouri rate filings, including the current rate case, MAWC has used a
- 8 stand-alone calculation for income tax expense. The stand-alone calculations reflected in
- 9 MAWC's filing use the test year, which is the year ended December 31, 2014 adjusted for
- pro forma revenue and expense adjustments but did not reflect deductions that MAWC
- would be able to claim and use on a stand-alone basis, such as the DPAD under Section
- 12 199 of the Internal Revenue Code. A stand-alone income tax calculation for the Section
- 199 DPAD is presented in my December 23, 2015 Direct Testimony in Schedule RCS-7.
- 14 As shown there, on a stand-alone basis, using adjusted test year amounts, MAWC would
- 15 qualify for the DPAD and it should therefore be reflected for ratemaking purposes in the
- 16 current MAWC rate case.

17 Q. IS THE DPAD "FICTIONAL"?

- 18 A. No. The DPAD is calculated on IRS Form 8903 using the calculation set forth in
- Schedule RCS-7 attached to my December 23, 2015 Direct Testimony, as explained in
- 20 that testimony.

IS THE DPAD ADJUSTMENT TO FEDERAL INCOME TAX EXPENSE BEING 1 Q. 2 MADE IN THIS CASE BECAUSE AMERICAN WATER WORKS FAILED TO 3 HAVE MAWC ELECT BONUS DEPRECIATION IN 2011 OR 2013? 4 No. The DPAD adjustment is being made in the current MAWC rate case because it is a A. 5 legitimate tax deduction to which MAWC is entitled on the "stand-alone" income tax 6 calculation basis that is being used to compute MAWC's income tax expense in the 7 current rate case. Put another way, MAWC's income taxes in the current rate case are 8 calculated on a "stand-alone" (separate return) basis. The calculation uses revenues, 9 expenses, and deductions that are directly from the amounts being used to determine 10 MAWC's revenue requirement. The income tax calculation on a "stand-alone" (separate 11 return) basis reflects no benefits from the American Water Works consolidated federal 12 income tax return and should in turn reflect no detriments from MAWC being associated 13 with the American Water Works consolidated federal income tax return. 14 Q. AT PAGES 3-4 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. MEYERS DISCUSSES 15 TAX **NORMALIZATION** REQUIREMENTS. **ARE THOSE** TAX NORMALIZATION REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE DPAD? 16 17 A. No. There are tax normalization requirements that apply to accelerated tax depreciation, 18 including bonus tax depreciation. The tax normalization requirements do not apply to the 19 DPAD. Reflecting the DPAD in the current MAWC rate case does not violate any tax 20 normalization requirements.

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Q. HAS THE §199 DEDUCTION ISSUE BEEN MADE TO INCOME TAX EXPENSE

IN THE CONTEXT OF A RATE CASE INVOLVING AN AMERICAN WATER

UTILITY OPERATING AFFILIATE?

Yes. The issue of the reduction to current income tax expense based on calculating the §199 deduction on a "separate return" basis was one of the issues involving income tax expense in a California-American Water Company ("Cal-Am") rate case, A.10-07-007. In that case, Cal-Am had reflected the §199 deduction on a "separate return" basis for purposes of computing current federal income tax expense for ratemaking purposes in conjunction with the use of a forecast 2012 test year. The California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") Department of Ratepayer Advocates ("DRA") also computed a §199 deduction on a "separate return" basis for purposes of computing current federal income tax expense for ratemaking purposes in conjunction with the use of a forecast 2012 test year. Both the Cal-Am and the DRA calculations reflected that Cal-Am would have positive federal taxable income for ratemaking purposes for the 2012 test year being used in that case. In rebuttal, Cal-Am claimed to have large net operating losses and would therefore not have net positive taxable income and would therefore not be eligible to claim the §199 deduction on a separate return basis. The §199 deduction issue, as well as various other issues surrounding income taxes, were contested by the DRA and by

TURN.¹³ The income tax issues in the Cal-Am general rate case, including the §199 1 deduction, were addressed in the CPUC's final decision¹⁴ that held: 2 3 "The issue here is which of Cal-Am's tax positions should be used to 4 determine whether the DPAD is applicable. In this case, because Cal-5 Am's tax position for ratemaking purposes resulted in income tax, it is reasonable to apply the DPAD to reduce the income tax obligation for 6 7 ratemaking purposes." 8 It is the same issue for MAWC. The DPAD should be reflected for ratemaking purposes 9 on a separate-return basis. *C*. The American Water Works Decision to Not Have Missouri 10 11 American Water Company Claim Bonus Tax Depreciation in 2011 and 2013 12 13 WHAT IS THE CONCERN ABOUT THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS Q. DECISION TO NOT HAVE MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER COMPANY 14 CLAIM BONUS TAX DEPRECIATION IN 2011 AND 2013? 15 The concern is that the parent company, American Water Works, is making decisions at a 16 A. 17 corporate level for reasons that favor stockholders over Missouri ratepayers. 18 consequences on MAWC ratepayers from the failure to claim bonus tax depreciation in 2011 and 2013 could have far-reaching consequences on MAWC customers, such as 19 20 higher rate base for MAWC for an extended period. Higher rate base for MAWC, other 21 things being equal, also benefits American Water Works shareholders due to the higher 22 returns (profits) garnered at Missouri ratepayer expense. Bonus tax depreciation typically

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¹³ TURN stands for The Utility Reform Network.

¹⁴ Excerpts from the CPUC's Decision 12-06-016 (June 7, 2012) in A.10-07-007 on the DPAD have been attached to my December 23, 2015 Direct Testimony in Schedule RCS-2.

1		results in much higher tax deductions. For ratemaking purposes, tax depreciation is
2		normalized, which over time results in higher Accumulated Deferred Income Tax (ADIT)
3		balances. Other things being equal, claiming bonus tax depreciation results in higher
4		ADIT balances and lower utility rate base since ADIT related to differences between
5		accelerated tax depreciation and book depreciation is a large source of non-investor
6		supplied cost-free capital deducted from rate base for ratemaking purposes.
7	Q.	DOES MR. MEYERS ADMIT THAT THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE
8		ALLOWS FLEXIBILITY TO OPT IN AND OUT OF BONUS TAX
9		DEPRECIATION AT THE LEGAL ENTITY LEVEL?
10	A.	Yes. At page 5 of his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Meyers concedes that the Internal Revenue
11		Code allows flexibility to opt in and out of bonus depreciation at the legal entity level
12		This means Missouri American Water Company could have claimed bonus tax
13		depreciation in 2011 and 2013, notwithstanding other American Water Works affiliates
14		were opting out (i.e., were making decisions at the legal entity-level to not claim bonus
15		tax depreciation in those years, based on their own separate-return based circumstances).
16	Q.	FOR WHAT REASONS DOES MR. MEYERS STATE THAT THE PARENT
17		COMPANY, AMERICAN WATER WORKS, DETERMINED THAT MISSOURI
18		AMERICAN WATER "OPTED OUT" OF 2011 AND 2013 BONUS TAX
19		DEPRECIATION?
20	A.	No analysis was apparently done at a MAWC stand-alone level, based on MAWC's
21		stand-alone taxable income for those years. Rather, concerns about the American Water

1		Works consolidated net operating loss carryforward, and the American Water Works
2		charitable contribution carryforward are cited for the decision. ¹⁵
3	Q.	WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW CHARITIBLE
4		CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TREATED FOR MISSOURI RATEMAKING
5		PURPOSES?
6	A.	My understanding, affirmed by the testimony of OPC witness Charles Hyneman, is
7		charitable contributions are not allowed for Missouri ratemaking purposes.
8	Q.	WHAT IMPACT WOULD CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE ON THE
9		AMOUNT OF INCOME TAX EXPENSE FOR MAWC FOR MISSOURI
10		RATEMAKING PURPOSES?
11	A.	There should be no impact. Because MAWC's income tax expense for Missouri
12		ratemaking purposes is determined on a stand-alone (separate-return) calculation and is
13		based on revenue and expenses that are allowed for ratemaking purposes, the existence of
14		charitable contributions at MAWC or at the parent company, American Water Works,
15		should have no impact on MAWC's income tax expense allowance for ratemaking
16		purposes.
17	Q.	SHOULD THE IMPACT OF PARENT COMPANY CONSOLIDATED
18		CHARITABLE DEDUCTIONS BE DRIVING DECISIONS THAT COULD
19		DETRIMENTALLY AFFECT MAWC RATEPAYERS?
20	A.	No. The impact of parent company consolidated charitable contributions should not be
21		the driving decisions to opt out of bonus tax depreciation at the MAWC legal entity level.

¹⁵ See, e.g., Meyers Rebuttal, page 5.

1		The American Water Works decision to have MAWC opt out of (i.e., not claim) bonus
2		tax depreciation in 2011 and 2013 is expected to have long-term, detrimental
3		consequences for MAWC ratepayers in that, over time, MAWC's ADIT balances that
4		offset rate base will be lower than they otherwise would be had MAWC claimed the full
5		amounts of bonus depreciation that it could have in those years.
6	Q.	ARE YOU RECOMMENDING ANY DIRECT REMEDY IN THIS CASE FOR
7		THE PARENT COMPANY DECISIONS TO HAVE MAWC OPT OUT OF (I.E.,
8		NOT CLAIM) BONUS TAX DEPRECIATION IN 2011 AND 2013?
9	A.	No direct or indirect remedy is being recommended by me for those parent company
10		decisions. This matter is only being brought to the PSC's attention because of the
11		apparent detrimental long-term impact on MAWC ratepayers in the form of higher
12		MAWC rate base due to lower ADIT balances and to call attention to the reasoning
13		American Water Works has offered for those decisions. These decisions focused not on
14		MAWC's stand-alone tax situation but only on the American Water Works consolidated
15		net operating loss ("NOL") and charitable contribution carryforwards.
16	Q.	IS THE REFLECTION OF THE DPAD SOME TYPE OF INDIRECT CURE FOR
17		THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS PARENT COMPANY DECISIONS TO
18		HAVE MAWC OPT OUT OF (I.E., NOT CLAIM) BONUS TAX DEPRECIATION
19		IN 2011 AND 2013?
20	A.	No. The DPAD deduction should be reflected for calculating MAWC's income tax
21		expense allowance on a separate return basis for ratemaking purposes on its own merits,
22		as I have explained in my direct testimony and above. The DPAD deduction is not a cure

1		for parent company decisions to have MAWC opt out of 2011 and 2013 bonus tax
2		depreciation, which is expected to have long-term detrimental consequences for MAWC
3		ratepayers in the form of higher MAWC rate base due to lower ADIT balances.
4		III. COST OF SERVICE/RATE DESIGN ISSUES
5	Q.	WHAT PORTIONS OF MAWC'S REBUTTAL WILL YOU ADDRESS
6		CONCERNING COST OF SERVICE/RATE DESIGN ISSUES?
7	A.	I address MAWC witness Mr. Herbert's rebuttal testimony on selected issues.
8 9	Q.	A. MAWC Proposed State-Wide Customer Charges AT PAGE 5 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. HERBERT CLAIMS THAT
10		THERE IS LITTLE DIFFERENCE IN THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH
11		CUSTOMER COSTS. HE PROPOSES, IF THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL FOR
12		STATE-WIDE CUSTOMER CHARGES IS NOT ACCEPTED, HE PROPOSES
13		IDENTICAL CUSTOMER CHARGES FOR WATER DISTRICTS 1, 2 AND 3.
14		DO YOU AGREE WITH THAT PROPOSAL?
15	A.	No. Mr. Herbert has failed to justify his proposal for no differences in customer charges.
16		Additionally, his recommended specific customer charges are based on MAWC's
17		requested revenue requirement, which is believed to be excessive.
18	Q.	WHAT IS MR. HERBERT'S BASIS FOR RECOMMENDING UNIFORM
19		CUSTOMER CHARGES STATE-WIDE?
20	A.	Page 5 of his rebuttal testimony states that:
21 22		All customers have a similar service line and meter, all have their meter read for billing either monthly or quarterly, all are billed from a

centralized billing facility, and all receive customer service from a shared call center. Since there is no compelling difference in customers' individual facilities, billing cost, and other customer-related costs, there also should be no difference in customer charges.

A.

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Q. HAS MR. HERBERT PROVEN THOSE ASSERTIONS?

A. No. His points about customers being billed from a centralized facility and receiving customer service from a shared call center and therefore should receive the same percustomer charges for those functions are contradicted by the allocations of affiliated Service Company costs to the MAWC districts that have been used by MAWC in this rate case. Mr. Herbert has not demonstrated that all MAWC water utility customers have a similar service line and meter. Also, he has not demonstrated that there is the same cost for customers who have their meter read for billing monthly versus customers who have their meter read for billing monthly versus customers who have

15 Q. WHAT AFFILIATED SERVICE COMPANY COSTS FOR CENTRALIZED 16 CUSTOMER SERVICE FUNCTIONS ARE CHARGED TO MAWC?

Data request OPC 5037 requested that the Company provide copies of the monthly invoices from the affiliated Service Company to MAWC. MAWC's response to that data request provided a breakout of the various cost centers which reflect the activities associated with the centralized customer service functions. The centralized customer service functions provided to MAWC from the affiliated Service Company are listed by Service Company cost center in the table below:

Customer Service Center								
Cost								
Center	Description							
	SC-FRCC							
335304	COE - CR - Areal - LW							
335303	CORP - CR - Areal - MainWB							
335204	COE - CR - Area2 - LX							
335203	CORP - CR - Area2 - Main BV							
	SC-Pensacola Call Center							
337076	CCP - Quality & Rprtg							
337070	CCP - Call Handling							
337005	CCP - Administration							
337073	CCP - Oper & Spprt							
337075	CCP - Education & Dev							
	SC-Alton Call Center							
334005	CCA - Administration							
334070	CCA - Call Handling							
334071	CCA - Billing							
334072	CCA - Collections							
334073	CCA - Oper & Perform							
334074	CCA - Businss Srvcs							
334075	CCA - Education & Dev							
334076	CCA - Quality & Rprtg							
Source: C	PC 5037							

Amounts associated with the affiliated Service Company cost centers identified in the table above for centralized customer service functions are included in the \$29.989 million of test year affiliate "support services" costs that were charged to MAWC by AWWSC during the test year.¹⁶

Q. HOW HAVE THE COSTS FOR THE CENTRALIZED CUSTOMER SERVICE FUNCTIONS THAT ARE CHARGED TO MAWC BY THE AFFILIATED SERVICE COMPANY BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE MAWC DISTRICTS IN MAWC'S FILING?

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¹⁶ See the response to OPC 5036.

The costs for the centralized customer service functions that are provided to MAWC by the affiliate, American Water Works Service Company, that are part of the \$29.989 million test year recorded (and \$28.682 million Company pro forma adjusted) "support services" costs that are allocated to the MAWC utility districts in MAWC's filing using a Company-proposed "hybrid allocation" that is based on three factors: (1) total customers; (2) net plant; and (3) total employees. This "hybrid" allocation is referred to as the "Massachusetts Formula Calculation." Because the amounts of net plant and employees vary among the districts on a per-customer basis, MAWC's own proposed allocation to the districts of the centralized customer service functions that are provided to MAWC by the affiliated Service Company results in differing amounts on a per-customer basis. If MAWC truly believes that the centralized customer service functions provided to it by AWWSC should have a different allocation that results in uniform amounts per residential customer, MAWC should have proposed that as a revised allocation of the affiliated Service Company costs when it originally filed its rate case. Instead, MAWC has used the three-factor Massachusetts Formula Calculation for allocating those Service Company costs among the districts, which, because of the use of the three factors in the allocation, results in varying amounts of cost per customer. Mr. Herbert's proposal for uniform, identical costs per customer for such costs, which is presented in his rebuttal

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¹⁷ See, e.g., MAWC's "Support Services Expense Workpapers," Schedule CAS-13 Support, and MAWC's proposed allocations of affiliated Service Company costs using the "Hybrid Massachusetts Formula Calculation" which is based on the three factors; (1) total customers, (2) net plant, and (3) total employees. The Excel files provided by MAWC for those workpapers contain the details of the Company's allocation among the districts of affiliated Service Company costs.

- testimony, is thus contradicted by, and is inconsistent with, the MAWC-proposed allocation of affiliated Service Company costs to the MAWC districts in MAWC's original filing.

 4 Q. WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND FOR MAWC'S REQUESTED STATE-WIDE
- 4 Q. WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND FOR MAWC'S REQUESTED STATE-WIDE
 5 PROPOSAL FOR UNIFORM CUSTOMER CHARGES?
- 6 A. I recommend this proposal by MAWC, which is presented in MAWC witness Mr. 7 Herbert's rebuttal testimony, be rejected in the current rate case for lack of support. Mr. Herbert has failed to demonstrate costs associated with the centralized customer service 8 9 functions have not been appropriately allocated among the districts in the Company's 10 own revenue requirement and per-district cost of service studies. Moreover, if MAWC 11 believes its allocation of centralized customer service functions that are provided to 12 MAWC by the affiliated Service Company are truly no longer appropriate, it can propose 13 a different allocation method for such costs in its next rate case. Trying to "back door" a 14 different allocation of such costs to the MAWC districts for the first time in a revised rate design proposal for uniform customer service charges, as Mr. Herbert proposes in his 15 16 rebuttal testimony, is not appropriate for the reasons explained above, and should 17 therefore be rejected.
- 18 B. MIEC Witness Mr. Collins' Proposed Allocation of Power Costs for the St. Louis Metro District
- Q. WHAT DOES MAWC WITNESS MR. HERBERT STATE WITH RESPECT TO

 MIEC WITNESS MR. COLLINS' PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF POWER

 COSTS FOR THE ST. LOUIS METRO DISTRICT?

1 A. MAWC witness Mr. Herbert addresses the proposed reallocation of power costs for the 2 St. Louis Metro District at pages 6-8 of his rebuttal testimony. At page 7, he states: 3 In my analysis of power bills, the difference between the minimum 4 demand charge for the lowest demand month and the demand charges for 5 the remaining months results in approximately 4.5% of the total purchased 6 power expense attributable to the extra demand. Therefore, I would 7 support a refinement to my cost allocation that would allocate 4.5% of 8 purchased power costs to the extra capacity function; however, this 9 refinement would result in a very minor revision to my study. 10 11 Q. IS THAT REFINEMENT ADJUSTMENT NECESSARY? 12 A. No, it is not. While the refinement appears to have some merit, Mr. Herbert indicates that 13 it would result in a very minor revision to the COSS results and reducing the Rate J cost 14 of service by \$24,160 or 0.35%, a very small and insignificant amount. Thus, while I would not object to this refinement, it appears to be immaterial and unnecessary. 15 *C*. District Cost Differences /MAWC Proposal for State-Wide Rate 16 **Consolidation** 17 AT PAGES 10-11, MR. HERBERT SUGGESTS THAT CUSTOMERS ARE 18 Q. 19 CONCERNED ABOUT THE VALUE OF SERVICE. HE CLAIMS "THE 20 CUSTOMERS' PERCEPTION WOULD BE THAT WATER SERVICE HAS THE SAME VALUE SO THE PRICE SHOULD BE THE SAME." PLEASE RESPOND. 21 22 A. This assertion by Mr. Herbert does not appear to be supported by any customer surveys 23 or empirical information. In previous MAWC rate cases, the cost of the utility service 24 was quite important to customers, leading to the continued use of district-specific pricing

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in recent MAWC rate cases. Cost is an important consideration, as well as receiving water that is under sufficient pressure and meets the water quality standards.

Also, the "value of service" concept has limitations. A gallon of non-leaded gasoline at the specified octane content is standardized across geographic areas, such as a state. Presumably, under Mr. Herbert's theory, any customer buying the same quality of gasoline anywhere in Missouri would, like his concept for the value of the water utility service being provided by MAWC, perceive the same "value" and thus would likewise be willing to pay the same price for the same quality of gasoline. However, it can be observed many customers are not willing to pay the same price for the same quality of gasoline in a state. Also, even though it is a standardized product, the price varies by location and other factors such as the cost of providing service, etc. Accordingly, Mr. Herbert's attempt to use a "value of service" concept as justification for imposing statewide water utility rates for MAWC is lacking in merit and should be rejected.

MR. HERBERT ALSO STATES AT PAGES 11-12 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY THAT DISTRICT SPECIFIC PRICING DOES NOT ELIMINATE INEQUITIES OR SUBSIDIES WITHIN A DISTRICT. IS THAT ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR UNIFORM STATE-WIDE RATES?

No. This is a "straw man" diversion and is not related to any proposal being made by any party in the current MAWC rate case. No party in this case is proposing such micro-level sub-district rates. No party is attempting to develop rates that are so granulated as to have micro rates within each district. The fact that individual "micro" customer rates are not being developed, or that no one is proposing that, is not justification for imposing

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1 uniform state-wide rates on customers in districts where the cost of service is 2 demonstrably different. The dispute in the current MAWC case is on consolidation of districts into rate zones and the MAWC proposal for uniform state-wide rates. Thus Mr. 3 4 Herbert's criticism relating to a theoretical development of in-district "micro" rates is 5 misdirected. This rebuttal by Mr. Herbert should therefore have no impact on the valid concerns about the MAWC proposals for district consolidation and state-wide pricing 6 7 that have been raised. AT PAGE 12-13 OF HIS REBUTTAL TESTIMONY, MR. HERBERT CLAIMS 8 Q. 9 THAT ONE OF YOUR COMPARISONS ON PAGE 35 OF YOUR DIRECT 10 TESTIMONY WHICH SHOWS CERTAIN COMPONENTS OF THE COST OF SERVICE IS "NOT A PROPER DETERMINATION OF COST OF SERVICE" 11 12 BECAUSE IT DOES NOT SUM ALL COMPONENTS. PLEASE RESPOND. 13 The table on page 35 shows that rate base and depreciation expense per residential A. 14 customer vary considerably from district to district. The table shows those components 15 of the cost of service and was not intended to present a comparison of total cost of 16 service, but rather to point out certain costs which vary substantially on a per-residential 17 customer between districts. I have noted the total cost of service also varies considerably 18 by district. 19 Mr. Herbert's Schedule PRH-6 presents a listing of amounts and customer counts, 20 and a calculation of average costs, but it does not show dollar or percentage differences

errors of the average costs for the Mexico and Brunswick districts.

between the districts. Mr. Herbert's Schedule PRH-6 also contains significant calculation

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1 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE CACULATION ERRORS ON MR. HERBERT'S 2 SCHEDULE PRH-6.

The amounts reflected on Mr. Herbert's rebuttal Schedule No. PRH-6 for the "Cost per Residential Customer" for the Brunswick and Mexico water districts are significantly misstated. For all of the other MAWC districts listed on Mr. Herbert's rebuttal Schedule PRH-6, the per-residential customer amounts are derived by dividing the residential cost of service amounts by the residential customer counts listed there. Those amounts are in turn based on Mr. Herbert's originally filed class cost of service studies in this proceeding. As shown in the table below (and on my Schedule RCS-21, attached to my surrebuttal testimony), dividing the cost of service amount listed by Mr. Herbert on his rebuttal Schedule PRH-6 by the number of customers listed there by Mr. Herbert produces a cost per residential customer for the Brunswick and Mexico Districts of \$937.23 and \$578.35, respectively. However, Mr. Herbert's rebuttal Schedule No. PRH-6 shows a cost per residential customer of \$702.92 for the Brunswick District and \$433.76 for the Mexico District:

Description	Br	unswick	N	Jexico
Residential Cost of Service	\$	309,286	\$2	,479,962
Residential Customer Counts		330		4,288
Cost Per Residential Customer	\$	937.23	\$	578.35
Cost Per Residential Customer per Schedule No. PRH-6	\$	702.92	\$	433.76
Difference	\$	234.31	\$	144.59
Source: MoPSC 0218				

As shown in the above table, the calculated costs per residential customer for MAWC's Brunswick and Mexico Districts are \$937.23 and \$578.35, respectively, and were

understated on Mr. Herbert's rebuttal Schedule PRH-6 by \$234.31 and \$144.59

respectively. This calculation error appears to have influenced the conclusion in his

rebuttal testimony that the costs per residential were similar among the listed districts.

Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT IS SHOWN ON SCHEDULE RCS-21.

A. On Schedule RCS-21 I have replicated Mr. Herbert's Schedule PRH-6 and have added subtotals for the district groupings, and also show dollar and percentage differences for the cost of service, by district and for the district groupings. As shown on Schedule RCS-21, using Mr. Herbert's amounts, the per-residential customer cost of service for a number of districts varies substantially from the group averages and from the statewide average. The per-residential cost for the MAWC water districts is sufficiently variable to warrant continuation of the present policy of having district-specific rates. The demonstrated per-residential cost of service differences among the MAWC water districts provides an important reason for rejecting MAWC's proposal for state-wide uniform rates for water utility service.

Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

17 A. Yes, it does.

Line			Residential Cost of	Residential	Cost per Residential			Difference Group A		Difference from Overall Average			
No.	Description		Service	Customers	Customer (C)		Dollars		Percentage	Dollars		Percentage	
			(A)	(B)				(D)	(E)		(F)	(G)	
	Zone 1												
1	St. Louis Metro	\$	171,271,008	355,437	\$	481.86	\$	5.84	1.23%	\$	(133.24)	-21.66%	
2	Joplin	\$	9,931,121	20,653	\$	480.86	\$	4.84	1.02%	\$	(134.24)	-21.82%	
3	St. Joseph	\$	12,055,110	28,813	\$	418.39	\$	(57.62)	-12.11%	\$	(196.71)	-31.98%	
4	Warrensburg	\$	2,709,324	6,613	\$	409.70	\$	(66.32)	-13.93%	\$	(205.40)	-33.39%	
	Maplewood/Riverside/Stonebridge/Saddlebrooke/Emera												
5	ld Pointe	\$	772,347	1,702	\$	453.79	\$	(22.23)	-4.67%	\$	(161.31)	-26.23%	
6	Tri-States	\$	1,351,806	2,925	\$	462.16	\$	(13.86)	-2.91%	\$	(152.94)	-24.86%	
7	Subtotal/Average	\$	198,090,716	416,143	\$	476.02	- -			\$	(139.08)	-22.61%	
	Zone 2												
8	Mexico	\$	2,479,962	4,288	\$	578.35	a \$	(109.08)	-15.87%	\$	(36.75)	-5.97%	
9	Platt County	\$	5,502,950	5,335	\$	1,031.48	\$	344.05	50.05%	\$	416.38	67.69%	
10	Jefferson City	\$	4,832,155	9,019	\$	535.78	\$	(151.65)	-22.06%	\$	(79.32)	-12.90%	
11	Subtotal/Average	\$	12,815,067	18,642	\$	687.43	- -			\$	72.33	11.76%	
	Zone 3												
12	Brunswick	\$	309,286	330	\$	937.23	b \$	313.73	50.32%	\$	322.13	52.37%	
13	Spring Valley/Lake Manor	\$	88,241	134	\$	658.51	\$	35.01	5.62%	\$	43.42	7.06%	
14	Ozark Mountain/ LTA	\$	248,370	499	\$	497.74	\$	(125.77)	-20.17%	\$	(117.36)	-19.08%	
15	Rankin Acres/Whitebranch	\$	92,954	222	\$	418.71	\$	(204.79)	-32.85%	\$	(196.39)	-31.93%	
16	Subtotal/Average	\$	738,851	1,185	\$	623.50	_	, ,		\$	8.40	1.37%	
17	Total/Average	\$	16,263,242	26,440	\$	615.10	=						

Notes and Source

Cols A-C: MAWC witness Herbert Rebuttal Testimony Schedule No. PRH-6, page 1 of 2

a: MAWC witness Herbert's Schedule No. PRH-6, page 1 of 2 shows \$433.76 for this amount. MAWC acknowledged this is an error and confirmed that the amount shown above is correct b: MAWC witness Herbert's Schedule No. PRH-6, page 1 of 2 shows \$702.92 for this amount. MAWC acknowledged this is an error and confirmed that the amount shown above is correct

Line			Residential Cost of	Residential	Cost per Residential				Differen Group A		Difference from Overall Average			
No.	Description		Service	Customers	Customer				Dollars	Percentage	Dollars		Percentage	
			(A)	(B)	(C)				(D)	(E)		(F)	(G)	
	Water District 1													
1	St. Louis Metro	\$	171,271,008	355,437	\$	481.86		\$	(2.44)	-0.50%	\$	(3.60)	-0.74%	
2	Mexico	\$	2,479,962	4,288	\$	578.35		\$	94.05	19.42%	\$	92.89	19.14%	
3	Jefferson City	\$	4,832,155	9,019	\$	535.78	a	\$	51.47	10.63%	\$	50.32	10.37%	
4	Subtotal/Average	\$	178,583,125	368,744	\$	484.30					\$	(1.16)	-0.24%	
	Water District 2													
5	St. Joseph	\$	12,055,110	28,813	\$	418.39		\$	(99.83)	-19.26%	\$	(67.07)	-13.81%	
6	Platt County	\$	5,502,950	5,335	\$	1,031.48		\$	513.26	99.04%	\$	546.02	112.48%	
7	Brunswick	\$	309,286	330	\$	937.23	b	\$	419.01	80.85%	\$	451.77	93.06%	
8	Subtotal/Average	\$	17,867,346	34,478	\$	518.22					\$	32.77	6.75%	
	Water District 3													
9	Joplin	\$	9,931,121	20,653	\$	480.86		\$	16.88	3.64%	\$	(4.60)	-0.95%	
10	Warrensburg	\$	2,709,324	6,613	\$	409.70		\$	(54.28)	-11.70%	\$	(75.76)	-15.61%	
	Maplewood/Riverside/Stonebridge/Saddlebrooke/Emera													
11	ld Pointe	\$	772,347	1,702	\$	453.79		\$	(10.18)	-2.20%	\$	(31.67)	-6.52%	
12	Tri-States	\$	1,351,806	2,925	\$	462.16		\$	(1.82)	-0.39%	\$	(23.30)	-4.80%	
13	Spring Valley/Lake Manor	\$	88,241	134	\$	658.51		\$	194.54	41.93%	\$	173.06	35.65%	
14	Ozark Mountain/ LTA	\$	248,370	499	\$	497.74		\$	33.76	7.28%	\$	12.28	2.53%	
15	Rankin Acres/Whitebranch	\$	92,954	222	\$	418.71		\$	(45.26)	-9.76%	\$	(66.75)	-13.75%	
16	Subtotal/Average	\$	15,194,163	32,748	\$	463.97					\$	(21.48)	-4.43%	
17	Total/Average	\$	211,644,634	435,970	\$	485.46	•							

Notes and Source
Cols A-C: MAWC witness Herbert Rebuttal Testimony Schedule No. PRH-6, page 2 of 2

a: MAWC witness Herbert's Schedule No. PRH-6, page 1 of 2 shows \$433.76 for this amount. MAWC acknowledged this is an error and confirmed that the amount shown above is correct b: MAWC witness Herbert's Schedule No. PRH-6, page 1 of 2 shows \$702.92 for this amount. MAWC acknowledged this is an error and confirmed that the amount shown above is correct