FILED March 8, 2012 Data Center Missouri Public Service Commission

Exhibit No.:

Issues:

Accounting Adjustments (Rate Base), Pension/OPEB Trackers, Income Statement Adjustments, Waste Disposal, Main Break Expense, Tank

Painting Costs

Witness:

Jeanne M. Tinsley

Exhibit Type:

Direct

Sponsoring Party: Missouri-American Water Company WR-2011-0337

Case No.:

SR-2011-0338

Date:

June 30, 2011

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO. WR-2011-0337 CASE NO. SR-2011-0038

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

JEANNE M. TINSLEY

ON BEHALF OF

MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

MAWC Exhibit No. 29 Date 2-21-12 Reporter UL File No. NR. 2011-033

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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

CASE NO. WR-2011-XXXX CASE NO. SR-2011-XXXX

AFFIDAVIT OF JEANNE M. TINSLEY

Jeanne M. Tinsley, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the witness who sponsors the accompanying testimony entitled "Direct Testimony of Jeanne M. Tinsley"; that said testimony was prepared by her and/or under her direction and supervision; that if inquires were made as to the facts in said testimony, she would respond as therein set forth; and that the aforesaid testimony is true and correct to the best of her knowledge.

Jeanne M. Tinsley

State of Missouri County of St. Louis

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to

Before me this aug day of Juve

2011.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

STACI A. OLSEN
Notary Public - Notary Seal
STATE OF MISSOURI
St. Charles County
Commission Number 09519210

My commission expires March 20, 2013

DIRECT TESTIMONY JEANNE M. TINSLEY MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY CASE NO. WR-2011-0337 SR-2011-0338

TABLE OF CONTENTS

l.	Witness Introduction	1
	Accounting Adjustments (Rate Base)	
III.	Pension/OPEB Trackers	3
IV.	Income Statement Adjustments	5
V.	Waste Disposal	6
VI.	Main Break Expense	6
VI	Tank Painting Costs.	6

DIRECT TESTIMONY

Jeanne M. Tinsley

1		I. <u>WITNESS INTRODUCTION</u>					
2	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.					
3	A.	My name is Jeanne M. Tinsley, and my business address is 727 Craig Road,					
4		St. Louis, Missouri 63141.					
5							
6	Q.	BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?					
7	A.	I am employed by American Water Works Service Company, Inc. ("Service					
8		Company") as a Financial Analyst III in Finance. The Service Company is a					
9		subsidiary of American Water Works Company, Inc. ("American Water") that					
10		provides support services to American Water's water utility subsidiaries.					
11							
12	Q.	WOULD YOU PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL					
13		BACKGROUND?					
14	A.	I graduated from Maryville University, St. Louis with a Bachelor of Science					
15		Degree in Accountancy and a Masters Degree in Business Administration.					
16							
17	Q.	PLEASE ELABORATE UPON YOUR DUTIES AS A FINANCIAL ANALYST					
18		III.					
19	A.	My responsibilities as a Financial Analyst III involve providing the following					
20		services to American Water's water utility subsidiaries in the Western					

1		Division,	including	Missouri-American	Water	Company	("MAWC"	or	
2		"Company"):							
3		1) M	Monthly financial close packages and variance analysis reporting						
4		ba	based on required Financial Statement variance thresholds;						
5		2) Pi	2) Preparation of Annual Business Plan and Operating Budget with						
6		sı	upporting fina	ancial models and dod	cumental	tion;			
7		3) Fo	Forecasting and various Ad Hoc analysis as requested from State						
8		Pi	President and Director of Finance;						
9		4) Pi	4) Preparing and presenting rate increase applications and supporting						
10		documents and exhibits in conformance with management policies,							
11		gı	guidelines and regulatory commission requirements; and,						
12		5) Pr	eparation of	Data Request respor	nses.				
13									
14	Q.	WHAT IS	S THE PURF	POSE OF YOUR TES	TIMONY	' IN THIS PE	ROCEEDING	3?	
15	A.	The purpose of my testimony is to support and explain certain pro forma							
16		accounting adjustments to pro forma Rate Base and to the statement of							
17		income.							
18									
19			II.	ACCOUNTING ADJU	STMEN	<u>TS</u>			
20				(1) RATE BAS	<u>E</u>				
21	Q.	WHAT S	CHEDULES	WILL YOU BE DISC	USSING	3?			
22	A.	I will be discussing and providing support for certain aspects of Schedules							
23		CAS-1, a	and CAS-3, v	vhich are sponsored b	y Comp	any Witness	Williams.		
24									

1	Q.	WHICH COMPONENTS OF RATE BASE WILL YOU BE SUPPORTING?
2	A.	I will be supporting Pension Liability, Other Post Employment Benefits
3		("OPEB") Contributed, and the corresponding Pension and OPEB
4		Trackers.
5		
6	Q.	PLEASE DISCUSS THE CALCULATION OF EACH OF THE ABOVE
7		MENTIONED RATE BASE COMPONENTS.
8	A.	The Company's rate base is shown on CAS-3 for each district and
9		includes the actual December 31, 2010 balance for Pension Liability,
10		OPEB Contributed to External Funds and Pension/OPEB Trackers.
11		The Pension Liability reflects the amount of pensions accrued, and
12		reduced for any payments.
13		The other post-employment benefits contributed to external funds included
14		permanent investment recognized by the Commission in Case No. WR-
15		95-205. Also included is investment for additional contributed OPEB as of
16		December 31, 2010, updated with amortizations through December 31,
17		2011.
18		The Pension and OPEB Trackers reflect the difference in the level of cost
19		recovered in rates and the actual cost indicated by the Company's
20		actuarial reports, offset by the monthly amortization of prior rate case
21		tracker balances.
22		
23		III. PENSION/OPEB TRACKERS

Q. YOU MENTIONED PENSION/OPEB TRACKERS IN YOUR TESTIMONY.

ALSO, IN THE STIPULATION IN THE LAST RATE CASE, THE COMPANY

AGREED TO CONTINUE TO TRACK PENSION AND OPEB COSTS FOR

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE LEVEL OF COST RECOVERY IN

RATES AND THE LEVEL INDICATED BY THE COMPANY'S ACTUARIAL

REPORTS. WOULD YOU DESCRIBE IN MORE DETAIL HOW THESE

TRACKERS WORK?

Yes. As the result of a stipulation in Commission Case No. WR-2007-0216, the Company agreed to track actual pension and OPEB cost in comparison to the levels included in rates. The concept behind the establishment of tracking mechanisms for pension and OPEB is to protect customers and the Company from the wide variations that can exist in expected costs at the time rates are set from what actually occurs beyond that point in time. Pension and OPEB costs are largely dependent upon market conditions and, especially in recent years, the market has experienced great volatility. Therefore, a base level of pension and OPEB expense has been established in the Company's rate proceeding. Actual costs above or below that base level are recorded monthly on the Company's books. Both excess recoveries and shortages can and have occurred. At the time of the next rate case, the cumulative excess or shortage is included in rate base and amortized over a period of five years.

Α.

Q. ARE YOU PROPOSING ANY CHANGE TO THE TRACKER MECHANISM IN THIS PROCEEDING?

Yes. When the pension and OPEB trackers were first established, it was the Company's understanding that the mechanisms applied only to Missouri direct employees. However, pension and OPEB costs that are incurred for Service Company employees and billed through the MAWC management service agreement are subject to the same volatility as MAWC direct employees. Accordingly, MAWC is proposing that the pension and OPEB costs for these Service Company employees be included in the trackers in order to provide the same level of protection to customers and the Company from volatile market conditions.

A.

A.

Q. HAVE YOU PROPOSED AN ADJUSTMENT IN THIS CASE TO INCLUDE

SERVICE COMPANY PENSION AND OPEB IN THE TRACKER

MECHANISM?

No. The Company's proposal is to include the pro forma Service Company pension expense and OPEB expense as part of the baseline in the tracker establishment in this case. We have not proposed that an adjustment be made to reflect inclusion of the Service Company in past tracker calculations.

Α.

IV. INCOME STATEMENT ADJUSTMENTS

20 Q. WHAT SCHEDULE WILL YOU BE DISCUSSING?

I will be discussing certain aspects of Schedule CAS-14, which is sponsored by Company Witness Williams. Specific operating and maintenance accounting adjustments that I will sponsor are Waste Disposal, Main Break Expense, and Tank Painting Costs.

V. WASTE	DISPOSAL
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2	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE	THE	ADJUSTMENT	то	OPERATING	EXPENSES
3		RELATED TO WASTE DISPOSAL.					

The purpose of this adjustment is to annualize the Company's expense related to waste disposal. The Company is proposing a decrease of test year Waste Disposal costs in the amount of \$153,809. The details of this adjustment can be found at Schedule CAS-14, page 9.

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VI. MAIN BREAK EXPENSE

10 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ADJUSTMENT TO OPERATING EXPENSES
11 RELATED TO MAIN BREAK EXPENSE FOR THE ST. LOUIS
12 DISTRICT.

The purpose of this adjustment is to annualize main break expense to a normalized, pro forma level based on a review of historical main breaks and the cost to repair the breaks. The Company is proposing a decrease of test year main break expense for the St. Louis District in the amount of \$48,685. The Company is proposing an increase in main break incidents in the test year from 865 to 1,077, but the unit cost for repairing main breaks has decreased. Actual test year repair cost per main break that required street repair was \$3,014. The Company is proposing a decrease in paving cost per break that requires street repair to \$2,376. The details of this adjustment can be found on Schedule CAS-14, page 13.

VII. TANK PAINTING COSTS

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ADJUSTMENT TO OPERATING EXPENSES RELATED TO TANK PAINTING COSTS.

The Company is proposing a pro forma level of tank painting costs in the amount of approximately \$1,600,000. As reflected on CAS - 14, page 18, this amount is the level of tank painting that began in 2009 and is projected to take place on an annual basis. Contracts are in the process of being developed and awarded for 2011 tank painting and should approximate this pro forma amount. Company witness Greg Weeks is presenting testimony in this proceeding that provides greater detail regarding tank painting costs. The Company's request to increase the baseline of tank painting costs in rates to \$1,600,000 represents a \$600,000 increase over the current level of cost and is commensurate with the ongoing level of tank painting expense. The Company is currently recording a Tank Painting Deferral to reflect an annual level of expense in the amount of \$1,000,000. The Company proposes to begin recording this increased tracker effective with the issuance of a Commission Order in this proceeding which would include \$1,600,000 of expense in the revenue requirement. The Tank Painting Deferral is a form of accounting treatment that allows direct auditing of tank painting expense in comparison to what is embedded in rates. Amounts actually incurred above or below the level of what exists in rates can be easily identified for possible special treatment in the Company's next rate case.

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Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

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