Exhibit No.:

Issue: Acquisition Incentive
Witness: Kimberly K. Bolin

Sponsoring Party: MoPSC Staff

Type of Exhibit: Surrebuttal Testimony
Case No.: WA-2019-0185

Date Testimony Prepared: September 4, 2019

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION COMMISSION STAFF DIVISION AUDITING

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF

KIMBERLY K. BOLIN

OSAGE UTILITY OPERATING CO., INC.
CASE NO. WA-2019-0185

Jefferson City, Missouri September 2019

1 SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY 2 **OF** 3 KIMBERLY K. BOLIN 4 OSAGE UTILITY OPERATING CO., INC. 5 6 CASE NO. WA-2019-0185 7 Q. Please state your name and business address. 8 Kimberly K. Bolin, P.O. Box 360, Suite 440, Jefferson City, MO 65102. A. 9 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity? 10 A. I am a Utility Regulatory Auditor for the Missouri Public Service Commission 11 ("Commission"). 12 Q. Please describe your educational background and work experience. 13 A. I graduated from Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Missouri, 14 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, major emphasis in Accounting, in 15 May 1993. Before coming to work at the Commission, I was employed by the Missouri 16 Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC") as a Public Utility Accountant from September 1994 to 17 April 2005. I commenced employment with the Commission Staff ("Staff") in April 2005. 18 Q. What was the nature of your job duties when you were employed by OPC? 19 A. I was responsible for performing audits and examinations of the books and 20 records of public utilities operating within the state of Missouri. 21 Q. Have you previously filed testimony before this Commission? 22 Yes, numerous times. Please refer to Schedule KKB-s1, attached to this Α. 23 Surrebuttal Testimony, for a list of the major audits in which I have assisted and filed 24 testimony with OPC and with Staff.

- Q. What knowledge, skill, experience, training and education do you have in the areas of which you are testifying as an expert witness?
- A. I have received continuous training at in-house and outside seminars on technical ratemaking matters both when employed by OPC and since I began my employment with Staff. I have been employed by Staff or by OPC as a Regulatory Auditor for over 20 years and have submitted testimony on ratemaking matters numerous times before the Commission. I have also been responsible for the supervision of other Staff in rate cases and other regulatory proceedings.
- Q. Did you participate in Staff's review of the application filed by Osage Utility Operating Company, Inc. ("OUOC") and sponsor sections of Staff's Memorandum in Case No. WA-2019-0185?
- A. Yes, I did. I sponsored the Rate Base and Request for Acquisition Incentives sections of Staff's Memorandum.
 - Q. Please summarize your testimony in this proceeding.
- A. In this testimony, I address the rebuttal testimony of the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC") witness Keri Roth concerning OUOC's request for an acquisition incentive.
- Q. On page 7 of OPC witness Roth's rebuttal testimony she expresses concerns with OUOC's Asset Valuation Report for the Reflections system. Why is Staff relying on this document for valuing the Reflections system?
- A. Staff relied upon the Asset Valuation Report because OUOC did not have available any financial records which would better support the net book value of the Reflections System. In previous acquisition cases, Staff and other parties have relied on

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26 27 estimates for the purpose of valuing rate base where there are no records available for review especially for systems that are non-regulated.

- In the next general rate proceeding will Staff and other parties have an O. opportunity to examine the assets and further review the OUOC's Asset Valuation Report, and can a different amount be determined for the rate base from what Staff is currently recommending at that time?
- Yes. The rate base and the revenue requirement impact of the acquisition premium provided by Staff in this case are estimates to be used for informational purposes only, and are subject to change in the next general rate proceeding. Many factors can impact these calculations, such as the return on equity, rate base values, and the assumed amortization period of the incentive.
- Q. Does the Commission have to establish the amount of the acquisition incentive which will be recovered from ratepayers in this proceeding or can the Commission decide the amount of acquisition incentive, if any, that will be recovered in the next general rate case?
- A. The Commission can decide the amount of the acquisition incentive to include in rates in OUOC's next general rate case. Per 20 CSR 4240-10.080(2):

An application for an acquisition incentive must be filed at the beginning of a case seeking authority under sections 393.190 or 393.170, RSMo. If the commission determines the request for an acquisition incentive is in the public interest, it shall grant the request. The commission may apply an acquisition incentive in the applicant's next general rate case proceeding following acquisition of a nonviable utility if the commission determines it will not result in unjust or unreasonable rates.

Thus the Commission may grant an acquisition adjustment in this case, but in the next rate preceding the Commission could determine to either allow or not allow recovery of some or all of the acquisition incentive once all relevant rate factors for the OUOC are reviewed.

Q. On pages 8 through 12 of OPC witness Roth's rebuttal testimony, she provides examples of CSWR LLC¹ purchasing other "failing" or "troubled" systems as evidence that the OUOC has not met its burden of proof in requesting an acquisition incentive. Does Staff agree that CSWR's history of purchasing "failing" or "troubled" systems in the past disqualifies OUOC from requesting and being granted an acquisition incentive at this time?

A. No, just because a company has purchased other distressed systems does not mean that it will necessarily purchase every distressed system, no matter the circumstances. OUOC witness Josiah Cox has stated on pages 25 through 26 of his direct testimony that the acquisition of the properties "is unlikely to occur without the probability of obtaining a rate of return premium and acquisition adjustment."

Q. On page 13 of OPC witness Roth's rebuttal she states, "The fact that there were multiple bidders for the system, willing to purchase the system at a lower price, is a clear indication that the sale would have occurred without the probability of obtaining an acquisition adjustment." How long has Osage Water Company ("OWC") been under the guidance of a receiver?

A. OWC was placed into permanent receivership on October 21, 2005, approximately 14 years ago and the receiver was unable to finalize any sale of the assets during that entire historical time period until now.

Q. On page 12 of OPC witness Roth's rebuttal testimony she asserts that the purchase price of OWC causes OPC concern. Was the purchase price reached through an arm's-length transaction?

¹ CSWR LLC (formerly known as First Round CSWR, LLC) is OUOC's parent company.

A.

Yes, it does.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Osage

Utility Operating Company, Inc. to Acquire) Case No. WA-2019-0185 Certain Water and Sewer Assets and for a) Certificate of Convenience and Necessity)
,
AFFIDAVIT OF KIMBERLY K. BOLIN
STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss. COUNTY OF COLE)
COMES NOW KIMBERLY K. BOLIN and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing <i>Surrebuttal Testimony</i> ; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.
Further the Affiant sayeth not. KIMBERLY K. BOLIN
JURAT
Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this day of
September 2019.
D. SUZIE MANKIN Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: December 12, 2020 Commission Number: 12412070

Company Name	Case Number	<u>Testimony/Issues</u>	Contested or Settled
Spire Inc.	GO-2019-0115 and GO-2019- 116	Staff Direct Report – Blanket Work Orders and Current Income Taxes	Contested
Empire District Electric Company and Liberty Utilities	AO-2018-0179	<u>Direct</u> – Moneypool <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Moneypool	Contested
Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc.	WM-2018-0116 and SM-2018- 0117	<u>Direct</u> – Rate Base, Roy L Utilities	Settled
Spire Missouri Inc.	GO-2016-0332, GO-2016-0333, GO-2017-0201, GO-2017-0202 GO-2018-0309 and GO-2018- 0310	<u>Direct</u> – Removal of Plastic Main and Service Line Replacement Costs	Contested
Missouri-American Water Company	WR-2017-0285	Cost of Service Report – Pension/OPEB Tracker, FAS 87 Pension Costs, FAS 106 OPEBs Costs, Franchise Taxes Rebuttal – Defined Contribution Plan, Cloud Computing, Affiliate Transaction Rule (Water Utility) Surrebuttal – Rate Case Expense	Settled
Missouri-American Water Company	WO-2018-0059	<u>Direct</u> – ISRS Overview, Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes, Reconciliation	
Missouri Gas Energy and Laclede Gas Company	GO-2016-0332 and GO-2016- 0333	Rebuttal – Inclusion of Plastic Main and Service Line Replacements	Contested
Empire District Electric Company/Liberty Utilities	EM-2016-0213	Rebuttal – Overview of Transaction, Ratemaking /Accounting Conditions, Access to Records Surrebuttal – OPC Recommended Conditions, SERP	Settled
Hillcrest Utility Operating Company, Inc.	WR-2016-0064	<u>Direct</u> – Partial Disposition Agreement	Contested

CASE PARTICIPATION OF

KIMBERLY K. BOLIN

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<u>Company Name</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Testimony/Issues</u>	Contested or Settled		
Empire District Electric Company	ER-2016-0023	Requirement Report – Riverton Conversion Project and Asbury Air Quality Control System Direct – Overview of Staff's Revenue Requirement Report and Overview of Staff's Rate Design Filing	Settled		
Missouri-American Water Company	WR-2015-0301	Report on Cost of Service – Corporate Allocation, District Allocations Rebuttal – District Allocations, Business Transformation Surrebuttal – District Allocations, Business Transformation, Service Company Costs	Settled		
Empire District Electric Company	ER-2014-0351	Direct – Overview of Staff's Filing Rebuttal - ITC Over-Collection, Cost of Removal Deferred Tax Amortization, State Flow-Through Surrebuttal – Unamortized Balance of Joplin Tornado, ITC Over-Collections, Cost of Removal Deferred Tax Amortization, State Flow-Through, Transmission Revenues and Expenses	Settled		
Brandco Investments/ Hillcrest Utility Operating Company, Inc.	WO-2014-0340	Rebuttal – Rate Base and Future Rates	Settled		
Lake Region Water & Sewer	WR-2013-0461	Direct – Overview of Staff's Filing Report on Cost of Service – True-Up, Availability Fees, Sewer Operating Expense, Sewer Equipment Maintenance Expense Surrebuttal – Availability Fees True-Up Direct – Overview of True-Up Audit True-Up Rebuttal – Corrections to True-Up	Contested		

CASE PARTICIPATION OF

KIMBERLY K. BOLIN

Company Name	Case Number	Testimony/Issues	Contested
			<u>or Settled</u>
Empire District Electric	ER-2012-0345	<u>Direct</u> - Overview of Staff's Filing	Settled
Company		Report on Cost of Service – SWPA Hydro	
		Reimbursement, Joplin Tornado AAO	
		Asset, SPP Revenues, SPP Expenses,	
		Regulatory Plan Amortization Impacts,	
		SWPA Amortization, Tornado AAO	
		Amortization	
		Rebuttal – Unamortized Balance of Joplin	
		Tornado AAO, Rate Case Expense, True-	
		Up and Uncontested Issues	
		Surrebuttal – Unamortized Balance of	
		Joplin Tornado AAO, SPP Transmission	
		Expense, True-Up, Advanced Coal	
		Investment Tax Credit	
Missouri-American	WR-2011-0337	Direct – Overview of Staff's Filing	Settled
Water Company	WIE 2011 0357	Report on Cost of Service - True-Up	Settled
, ater company		Recommendation, Tank Painting Tracker,	
		Tank Painting Expense	
		Rebuttal - Tank Painting Expense,	
		Business Transformation	
		Surrebuttal – Tank Painting Tracker,	
		Acquisition Adjustment	
Missouri-American	WR-2010-0131	Report on Cost of Service -	Settled
Water Company	WIC 2010 0131	Pension/OPEB Tracker, Tank Painting	Settled
water company		Tracker, Deferred Income Taxes, FAS 87	
		Pension Costs, FAS 106 – Other Post-	
		Employment Benefits, Incentive	
		Compensation, Group Insurance and 401(k)	
		Employer Costs, Tank Painting Expense,	
		Dues and Donations, Advertising Expense,	
		Promotional Items, Current and Deferred	
		<u> </u>	
Emmina District Cos	CD 2000 0424	Income Tax Expense	Cattled
Empire District Gas	GR-2009-0434	Report on Cost of Service – Prepaid	Settled
Company		Pension Asset, Pension Tracker	
		Asset/Liability, Unamortized Accounting	
		Authority Order Balances, Pension	
		Expense, OPEBs, Amortization of Stock	
		Issuance Costs, Amortization of Accounting	
		Authority Orders	
		<u>Direct</u> – Overview of Staff's Filing	
Laclede Gas Company	GT-2009-0056	Surrebuttal Testimony – Tariff	Contested

CASE PARTICIPATION OF

KIMBERLY K. BOLIN

Company Name	Case Number	<u>Testimony/Issues</u>	Contested or Settled
Missouri-American Water Company	WR-2008-0311 & SR-2008-0312	Report on Cost of Service – Tank Painting Tracker, Lobbying Costs, PSC Assessment Direct – Overview of Staff's Filing Rebuttal – True-Up Items, Unamortized Balance of Security AAO, Tank Painting Expense, Fire Hydrant Painting Expense Surrebuttal – Unamortized Balance of Security AAO, Cedar Hill Waste Water Plant, Tank Painting Expense, Fire Hydrant Painting Expense	Settled
Missouri Gas Utility, Inc.	GR-2008-0060	Report on Cost of Service – Plant-in Service/Capitalization Policy, Plant-in Service/Purchase Price Valuation, Depreciation Reserve, Revenues, Uncollectible Expense	Settled
Laclede Gas Company	GR-2007-0208	<u>Direct</u> - Test Year and True-Up, Environmental costs, AAOs, Revenue, Miscellaneous Revenue, Gross receipts Tax, Gas Costs, Uncollectibles, EWCR, AMR, Acquisition Adjustment	Settled
Kansas City Power and Light Company	ER-2006-0314	<u>Direct</u> - Gross Receipts Tax, Revenues, Weather Normalization, Customer Growth/Loss Annualization, Large Customer Annualization, Other Revenue, Uncollectible (Bad Debt) Expense, Payroll, A&G Salaries Capitalization Ratio, Payroll Taxes, Employer 401 (k) Match, Other Employee Benefits <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Uncollectible (Bad Debt) Expense, Payroll, A&G Salaries Capitalization Ratio, Other Employee Benefits	Contested
Missouri Gas Energy	GR-2006-0204	<u>Direct</u> - Payroll, Incentive Compensation, Payroll Taxes, Employee Benefits, Lobbying, Customer & Governmental Relations Department, Collections Contract	Settled

Company Name	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Testimony/Issues</u>	Contested or Settled
Missouri Gas Energy	GU-2005-0095	Rebuttal- Accounting Authority Order Surrebuttal- Accounting Authority Order	Contested
The Empire District Electric Company	ER-2004-0570	<u>Direct</u> - Payroll	Settled
Missouri American Water Company & Cedar Hill Utility Company	SM-2004-0275	<u>Direct</u> - Acquisition Premium	Settled
Missouri Gas Energy	GR-2004-0209	<u>Direct</u> - Safety Line Replacement Program; Environmental Response Fund; Dues & Donations; Payroll; Customer & Governmental Relations Department Disallowance; Outside Lobbyist Costs <u>Rebuttal</u> - Customer Service; Incentive Compensation; Environmental Response Fund; Lobbying/Legislative Costs <u>True-Up</u> - Rate Case Expense	Contested
Osage Water Company	ST-2003-0562 / WT-2003-0563	<u>Direct</u> - Payroll <u>Rebuttal</u> - Payroll; Lease Payments to Affiliated Company; alleged Legal Requirement of a Reserve	Case Dismissed
Missouri American Water Company	WR-2003-0500	<u>Direct</u> - Acquisition Adjustment; Water Treatment Plant Excess Capacity; Retired Treatment Plan; Affiliated Transactions; Security AAO; Advertising Expense; Customer Correspondence	Settled
Empire District Electric	ER-2002-424	<u>Direct</u> - Dues & Donations; Memberships; Payroll; Security Costs <u>Rebuttal</u> - Energy Traders' Commission <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Energy Traders' Commission	Settled

Company Name	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Testimony/Issues</u>	Contested or Settled
Laclede Gas Company	GR-2002-356	<u>Direct</u> - Advertising Expense; Safety Replacement Program and the Copper Service Replacement Program; Dues & Donations; Rate Case Expense <u>Rebuttal</u> - Gas Safety Replacement Program / Deferred Income Taxes for AAOs	Settled
Missouri-American Water Company	WO-2002-273	Rebuttal- Accounting Authority Order Cross-Surrebuttal- Accounting Authority Order	Contested
Environmental Utilities	WA-2002-65	<u>Direct</u> - Water Supply Agreement <u>Rebuttal</u> - Certificate of Convenience & Necessity	Contested
Warren County Water & Sewer	WC-2002-160 / SC-2002-155	<u>Direct</u> - Clean Water Act Violations; DNR Violations; Customer Service; Water Storage Tank; Financial Ability; Management Issues <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Customer Complaints; Poor Management Decisions; Commingling of Regulated & Non-Related Business	Contested
Laclede Gas Company	GR-2001-629	<u>Direct</u> - Advertising Expense; Safety Replacement Program; Dues & Donations; Customer Correspondence	Settled
Gateway Pipeline Company	GM-2001-585	Rebuttal- Acquisition Adjustment; Affiliated Transactions; Company's Strategic Plan	Contested
Empire District Electric	ER-2001-299	<u>Direct</u> - Payroll; Merger Expense <u>Rebuttal</u> - Payroll <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Payroll	Settled
Osage Water Company	SR-2000-556/ WR-2000-557	<u>Direct</u> - Customer Service	Contested

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Testimony/Issues</u>	Contested or Settled
St. Louis County Water Company	WR-2000-844	<u>Direct</u> - Main Incident Expense	Settled
Missouri American Water Company	WR-2000-281/ SR-2000-282	<u>Direct</u> - Water Plant Premature Retirement; Rate Case Expense <u>Rebuttal</u> - Water Plant Premature Retirement <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Water Plant Premature Retirement	Contested
Laclede Gas Company	GR-99-315	<u>Direct</u> - Advertising Expense; Dues & Donations; Miscellaneous Expense; Items to be Trued-up	Contested
St. Joseph Light & Power	HR-99-245	<u>Direct</u> - Advertising Expense; Dues & Donations; Miscellaneous Expense; Items to be Trued-up <u>Rebuttal</u> - Advertising Expense <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Advertising Expense	Settled
St. Joseph Light & Power	ER-99-247	Direct- Merger Expense; Rate Case Expense; Deferral of the Automatic Mapping/Facility Management Costs Rebuttal- Merger Expense; Rate Case Expense; Deferral of the Automatic Mapping/Facility Management Costs Surrebuttal- Merger Expense; Rate Case Expense; Deferral of the Automatic Mapping/Facility Management Costs	Settled
Laclede Gas Company	GR-98-374	<u>Direct</u> - Advertising Expense; Gas Safety Replacement AAO; Computer System Replacement Costs	Settled
Missouri Gas Energy	GR-98-140	<u>Direct</u> - Payroll; Advertising; Dues & Donations; Regulatory Commission Expense; Rate Case Expense	Contested

Company Name	Case Number	Testimony/Issues	Contested or Settled
Gascony Water Company, Inc.	WA-97-510	Rebuttal- Rate Base; Rate Case Expense; Cash Working Capital	Settled
Union Electric Company	GR-97-393	<u>Direct</u> - Interest Rates for Customer Deposits	Settled
St. Louis County Water Company	WR-97-382	<u>Direct</u> - Interest Rates for Customer Deposits, Main Incident Expense	Settled
Associated Natural Gas Company	GR-97-272	<u>Direct</u> - Acquisition Adjustment; Interest Rates for Customer Deposits <u>Rebuttal</u> - Acquisition Adjustment; Interest Rates for Customer Deposits <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Interest Rates for Customer Deposits	Contested
Missouri-American Water Company	WA-97-45	Rebuttal- Waiver of Service Connection Charges	Contested
Imperial Utility Corporation	SC-96-427	<u>Direct</u> - Revenues, CIAC <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Payroll; Uncollectible Accounts Expense; Rate Case Expense, Revenues	Settled
St. Louis Water Company	WR-96-263	<u>Direct</u> -Main Incident Repairs <u>Rebuttal</u> - Main Incident Repairs <u>Surrebuttal</u> - Main Incident Repairs	Contested
Steelville Telephone Company	TR-96-123	<u>Direct</u> - Depreciation Reserve Deficiency	Settled

Company Name	Case Number	<u>Testimony/Issues</u>	Contested or Settled
Missouri-American Water Company	WR-95-205/ SR-95-206	Direct- Property Held for Future Use; Premature Retirement of Sewer Plant; Depreciation Study Expense; Deferred Maintenance Rebuttal- Property Held for Future Use; Premature Retirement of Sewer Plant; Deferred Maintenance Surrebuttal- Property Held for Future Use; Premature Retirement of Sewer Plant	Contested
St. Louis County Water Company	WR-95-145	Rebuttal- Tank Painting Reserve Account; Main Repair Reserve Account Surrebuttal- Main Repair Reserve Account	Contested