

Exhibit No.:	
Issues:	Effects of Enacted State and Federal Tax Legislation on Income Taxes and Deferred Income Taxes
Witness:	John R. Wilde
Exhibit Type:	Direct
Sponsoring Party:	Missouri-American Water Company
Case No.:	WR-2020-0344 SR-2020-0345
Date:	June 30, 2020

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**CASE NO. WR-2020-0344
CASE NO. SR-2020-0345**

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

JOHN R. WILDE

ON BEHALF OF

MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

AFFIDAVIT

I, John R. Wilde, under penalty of perjury, and pursuant to Section 509.030, RSMo, state that I am Vice President – Tax Compliance and Strategy for American Water Works Service Company, that the accompanying testimony has been prepared by me or under my direction and supervision; that if inquiries were made as to the facts in said testimony, I would respond as therein set forth; and that the aforesaid testimony is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

John R. Wilde
John R. Wilde

June 30, 2020
Dated

**DIRECT TESTIMONY
JOHN R. WILDE
MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
CASE NO. WR-2020-0344
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>I. INTRODUCTION</u>	1
<u>II. CURRENT INCOME TAXES</u>	3
<u>III. DEFERRED INCOME TAXES</u>	3
<u>IV. ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAX – RATE BASE REDUCTION</u>	16

DIRECT TESTIMONY

JOHN R. WILDE

I. INTRODUCTION

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is John R. Wilde and my business address is 1 Water Street, Camden, New Jersey
3 08102.

4 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

5 A. I am employed by American Water Works Service Company, Inc. (“AWWSC”). My title
6 is Vice President – Tax Strategy and Compliance, and I oversee the tax function for
7 American Water Works Company, Inc. (“American Water” or “AWW”) and its
8 subsidiaries.

9 **Q. Please summarize your educational background and business experience.**

10 A. I graduated from Saint Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin in 1984 with a Bachelor of
11 Business Administration Degree in Accounting. I have a graduate certificate in state and
12 local taxation, as well as a Master of Science Degree in Taxation from the University of
13 Wisconsin-Milwaukee. I have over 35 years of experience as a tax and accounting
14 professional serving utilities with regulated operations in multiple states. For the fifteen
15 years before my employment with AWWSC, I was the head of the tax function for WEC
16 Energy Group, Inc., formerly Integrys Energy Group, Inc., which included six utilities with
17 operations in four states.

18 **Q. What are your current employment responsibilities?**

19 A. My duties include management and oversight of the corporate tax function for AWW and

1 its consolidated subsidiaries including Missouri-American Water Company (“MAWC” or
2 the “Company”).

3 **Q. Have you previously testified before a regulatory body?**

4 A. Yes. I have previously testified before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
5 (“FERC”), the California Public Utilities Commission, the Illinois Commerce
6 Commission, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, the Kentucky Public Service
7 Commission, the Michigan Public Service Commission, the Missouri Public Service
8 Commission (the “PSC” or the “Commission”), the Minnesota Public Utilities
9 Commission, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the Tennessee Public Utility
10 Commission, the Virginia State Corporation Commission, the Public Service Commission
11 of West Virginia, and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

12 **Q. What is the purpose of your Direct Testimony in this proceeding?**

13 A. The purpose of my Direct Testimony is to support and explain the impact of state and
14 federal tax legislation enacted since the Company’s last base rate case on the current and
15 deferred income taxes calculated in the Company’s filing. Specifically, I will discuss
16 provisions of Missouri SB 884 enacted into law on June 1, 2018 (“MO SB 884”), and the
17 federal Tax Cuts and Job ACT (“TCJA”) enacted into law on December 22, 2017.

18 **Q. Can you summarize the provisions of MO SB 884 affecting current and deferred
19 income taxes in the filing?**

20 A. Yes. Effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020, MO SB 884 reduces
21 the Company’s state income tax rate from 6.25% to 4.00%.

1 **Q. Can you summarize the provisions of the TCJA affecting current and deferred**
2 **income taxes in the filing?**

3 A. Yes. The following four provisions of the TCJA will have an effect on current and deferred
4 income taxes calculated for this filing: (1) effective for tax years beginning on or after
5 January 1, 2018, the TCJA reduced the Company's federal income tax rate from 35 percent
6 to 21 percent; (2) the TCJA provides that the tax normalization rules must be applied by
7 the Company in including the excess accumulated deferred income taxes ("EADIT") due
8 to the TCJA tax rate reduction in its deferred income tax calculations; (3) beginning
9 September 27, 2017, the Company's ability to take advantage of bonus tax depreciation
10 was phased out; and (4) with very limited exceptions, Contributions in Aid of Construction
11 (CIAC) received by the Company after December 22, 2017 are taxable.

12 **II. CURRENT INCOME TAXES**

13 **Q. What is the federal and state tax rate used to calculate current tax expense in the**
14 **filing?**

15 A. The Company used the 21% federal corporate income tax rate enacted as part of the TCJA,
16 and the 4% Missouri corporate income tax rate enacted as part of MO SB 884. The federal
17 benefit of the state income tax deduction is .84%, and the state benefit of federal income
18 tax deduction is .3199%. This sums to the federal and state effective tax rate of 23.8401%
19 used in this filing to calculate current income taxes.

20 **III. DEFERRED INCOME TAXES**

21 **Q. Please discuss the concept of deferred income taxes ("DIT") and accumulated**
22 **deferred income taxes ("ADIT").**

23 A. Generally speaking, ADIT is the product of accumulated book to tax timing (temporary)

1 differences related to like assets and liabilities of the Company. A book to tax temporary
2 difference accumulates and reverses as a balance based on the difference in timing between
3 the tax period when an item of income or expense related to the underlying asset or liability
4 is recognized on the Company's books and provided for in customer rates, and the tax
5 period when an item of income or expense is recognized on a state or federal tax return
6 filed by the Company. As the book to tax difference in the basis of an asset or liability
7 accumulates, ADIT is recorded as a debit or credit to the balance sheet with an offsetting
8 debit or credit to DIT on the income statement. DIT is as a component the Company's cost
9 of service, and the ADIT related to assets and liabilities included in rate base is a
10 component of rate base. ADIT is classified as either deferred income tax liabilities or
11 deferred income tax assets. A deferred tax liability ("DTL"), *i.e.*, a future tax liability,
12 occurs when the Company realizes the tax benefit before it is recognized on its books.
13 When this happens, the Company generally reduces rate base because the funds are not
14 considered investor-supplied. It is important to note that while the funds made available
15 by DTLs are not investor-supplied, neither are they customer-supplied. They are in fact
16 provided by the government – in concept like an interest-free loan – by deferral of tax
17 collections that would otherwise be due. Conversely, a deferred tax asset ("DTA"), *i.e.* a
18 future tax benefit, occurs when MAWC realizes the tax benefit after it recognizes the item
19 on its books. DTAs are therefore part of the interest free loan balance as an amount due
20 from the government All deferred tax balances, whether they are assets or liabilities,
21 reverse over time and converge to zero over the life of the underlying asset or liability
22 balance giving rise to the deferred tax balance. Most utilities, including the Company,
23 carry a net deferred tax liability.

1 **Q. Did the corporate income tax reductions enacted as part of the TCJA and MO SB 884**
2 **affect MAWC’s ADIT balances for financial accounting purposes?**

3 A. Yes. At December 31, 2017, MAWC had a net federal ADIT liability balance that was the
4 product of the temporary book to tax difference accumulated as of that date multiplied by
5 the effective tax rate computed using an enacted federal tax rate of 35%. At December 31,
6 2018, MAWC had a state ADIT liability balance that was the product of the temporary
7 book to tax difference accumulated as of that date multiplied by the effective tax rate
8 computed using an enacted state tax rate of 6.25%. Therefore, pursuant to ASC 740
9 (Accounting for Income Taxes), the respective ADIT balances were re-computed as of each
10 date using the newly enacted federal tax rate of 21% and state tax rate of 4.0%, reducing
11 the respective ADIT as of each date, and pursuant to ASC 980 (Accounting for Regulated
12 Operations) the relevant portion of the reduction of ADIT liability balance was offset by
13 an increase to a regulatory liability representing net excess ADIT (EADIT).

14 **Q. How were the corporate income reductions enacted as part of the TCJA and MO SB**
15 **884 treated for regulatory accounting purposes with respect to the ADIT balance**
16 **included in rate base and DIT included in cost of service?**

17 A. The treatment of the EADIT balance that resulted from the recently enacted changes in
18 federal and state tax rates was deferred pending resolution of the Company’s next rate case,
19 *i.e.*, this filing. Therefore, the EADIT balance included in ADIT and rate base will remain
20 unchanged until the amortization of the EADIT into DIT begins as of June, 01 2021.

21 **Q. Has the Company determined the estimated EADIT reserve balance that resulted**
22 **from the TCJA reduction of the federal corporate income tax rate and the MO SB**
23 **884 reduction of the state corporate income tax rate?**

1 A. Yes. The estimated EADIT reserve balance that resulted from the state and federal
2 reductions in the Corporate income tax rate is \$148,103,888, of which \$150,978,768 is
3 attributable to utility plant investments (plant related), and (\$2,874,880) is attributable to
4 other aspects of utility operations (non-plant related). These EADIT balances are shown
5 on Schedule JRW-1 attached to this Direct Testimony.

6 **Q. Could these estimates change?**

7 A. Yes. While these estimates are based on actual tax positions taken on tax returns for tax
8 years before the dates the legislation was enacted, the IRS may issue guidance that would
9 cause MAWC to propose adjustments affecting the amount of EADIT accrued prior to the
10 date of enactment. Similarly, the IRS may audit returns for those years and propose
11 adjustments that would change the amount of accrued EADIT. Therefore, the underlying
12 tax positions and EADIT balances are subject to change through the statute of limitations
13 period, which is three years after the date the Company files its income tax return. In
14 addition, Congress could enact another change in the tax rate during the life of the
15 underlying property. This is in part why I state above the EADIT will be realized over the
16 life of the underlying property.

17 **Q. Will the excess ADIT reserve be credited to customers?**

18 A. Yes. The EADIT will be credited or flowed back to customers through rates over time. It
19 is important to note, however, that the EADIT is not ready cash that is sitting in a bank
20 account. These moneys are already invested in plant, and customers have received the
21 benefit of those deferred taxes through the deduction of the net ADIT balance from rate
22 base. To flow EADIT back to customers will require cash from some other source –
23 perhaps a combination of internally generated funds, debt issuance or equity infusions or

1 issuances. In any event, the flowback of EADIT will put strains on cash flow and,
2 depending on the rate of the flowback, could raise the cost of capital for the Company. The
3 Direct Testimony of MAWC witness Ann Bulkley discusses the financial impacts of the
4 TCJA, including the requirement to flowback EADIT, on American Water and other
5 utilities.

6 **Q. Does the TCJA place any restrictions on the rate that the EADIT reserve is flowed**
7 **back to customers?**

8 A. Yes. The TCJA requires that federal EADIT generally associated with property, and
9 specifically connected to the accelerated depreciation of property, be amortized into
10 customer rates in a precisely-prescribed manner designed to match the amortization period
11 with the remaining life of the underlying assets—a process referred to as “normalization.”
12 The portion of the EADIT reserve subject to the normalization rules is sometimes known
13 as “protected” EADIT. Under the TCJA’s normalization requirement, protected EADIT
14 may be amortized by a corresponding reduction in the revenue that the utility collects from
15 customers *no more rapidly* than the reserve would be reduced using the average rate
16 assumption method (“ARAM”) to compute depreciation.¹ “Unprotected” EADIT – that is,
17 excess ADIT that is not subject to the IRS normalization rules – may be amortized over
18 any reasonable period selected by the governing state commission.

19 **Q. Has the IRS indicated that it will issue additional guidance with respect to**
20 **normalization requirements for EADIT?**

¹ The TCJA recognizes that utilities that compute depreciation using composite methods may not have the records necessary to compute depreciation using ARAM. If qualified, those utilities may refund the EADIT using an alternate method commonly referred to as the reverse South Georgia method (“RSGM”) to compute depreciation. MAWC has the ability to use ARAM due to modifications of American Water’s PowerTax and PowerPlant systems completed in 2019.

1 A. Yes. On May 7, 2019, the IRS released its Notice 2019-33, announcing its intention to
2 issue guidance under section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code to clarify the normalization
3 requirements for excess tax reserves resulting from the TCJA’s corporate tax rate decrease.
4 The Notice set forth the general normalization requirements for the reserves mandated by
5 the TCJA and also requested comment on the need for, or desirability of, the issuance of
6 specific guidance on a variety of situations.

7 **Q. Has MAWC broken down its balances into so-called “protected” and “unprotected”**
8 **EADIT?**

9 A. Yes. Subject to certain limitations due to lack of specific IRS tax guidance, the information
10 has been provided. Schedule JRW-1 contains a column that provides this information.
11 Based on available tax guidance, the inventory indicates the EADIT balances that should
12 be treated as protected for tax purposes (that is, subject to tax normalization), and which
13 should be treated as unprotected for tax purposes. “Protected” line items are identified as
14 “Protected”; “Unprotected” line items are identified as such; and line items for which
15 additional guidance is needed and expected to be issued in the future are labeled
16 “Uncertain.”

17 The balance labeled “Method / Life” is the EADIT related to differences generated
18 by applying book depreciation methods and lives versus tax depreciation methods and
19 lives. IRS guidance is clear that this balance is to be treated as subject to tax normalization,
20 and the Company accordingly has coded it as “Protected.”

21 The negative balance labeled “Cost of Removal” is the EADIT related to the
22 difference between how cost of removal is accounted for book purposes versus tax
23 purposes. There is conflicting IRS guidance with respect to whether this item should be

1 treated as “protected” or “unprotected,” and various commenters have requested guidance
2 with respect to its treatment in response to IRS Notice 2019-33. The Company has
3 indicated the need for additional guidance with the notation “Uncertain.”

4 The balance labeled “Repairs” is the EADIT related to a book/tax difference arising
5 from the Company’s method of accounting for tax repairs deductions. The IRS has
6 indicated that applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code do not require
7 normalization of this EADIT, and, therefore, it has been labeled “Unprotected” in Schedule
8 JRW-1.

9 The negative balance labeled “Taxable CIAC” is the EADIT related to the taxes
10 paid by the Company on CIAC. This balance is subject to normalization and thus is labeled
11 “Protected.”

12 The balance labeled “All Other Federal” is not subject to normalization and
13 therefore has been designated “Unprotected.”

14 The negative balance labeled “Federal Benefit of State” is the state tax deduction
15 taken in the federal tax calculation. Similarly, the positive balance labeled “State benefit
16 of Federal” is the 50% federal tax deduction taken in the state tax calculation. These
17 balances are not subject to normalization and thus have been coded “Unprotected.”

18 The balanced labeled “State” is the excess ADIT created by MO SB 884. This
19 balance is not subject to normalization and thus has been coded “Unprotected.”

20 The negative balance labeled “Federal Net Operating Loss Carryover” is related to
21 the federal net operating loss carryforward as of December 31, 2017, and while the IRS
22 has consistently indicated that a taxpayer subject to the tax normalization rules must
23 determine what portion of that balance is related to having claimed protected items and
24 thus is also protected, MAWC is unaware of IRS guidance specific to a rate change like

1 what occurred in the context of the TCJA, and various commenters have requested
2 guidance with respect to its treatment in response to IRS Notice 2019-33. Therefore, the
3 Company coded this balance as “Uncertain” to indicate that more guidance is needed.

4 The negative balance labeled “State Net Operating Loss Carryover” is related to
5 the state net operating loss carryforward as of December 31, 2019. This balance is not
6 subject to normalization and thus has been coded “Unprotected”.

7 All other plant-related balances (Plant Customer Advances, Plant CWIP, CIAC
8 WIP, Plant 481, and CAC Reserve) are not subject to the normalization requirements and
9 thus are designated “Unprotected.” While the Company has labeled plant related EADIT
10 balances as “protected” or “unprotected” in recognition of the fact that this Commission
11 has ordered other utilities to use flow through method of accounting be used to account for
12 unprotected plant related EADIT balances, MAWC has proposed the amortization of, and
13 has accounted for, all plant related EADIT balances using a normalized method accounting,
14 consistent with the normalized method of accounting that established these ADIT balances
15 in prior cases, and consistent with the normalized method of accounting that other MO
16 utilities continue to use for ADIT.

17 Finally, the negative balance for non-plant related EADIT is not subject to
18 normalization and therefore is designated “Unprotected.”

19 **Q. How does the Company propose to flow its EADIT reserves to customers?**

20 A. The Company proposes to use ARAM to determine the amortization and normalization
21 period for all federal EADIT related to plant-in-service (“Protected,” “Unprotected,” and
22 “Uncertain”) as of the date of the enactment of the TCJA. The Company proposes a 20
23 year period to amortize the EADIT related to non-plant items (the “Non-Plant Other”

1 regulatory asset balance on Schedule JRW-1). In both cases, the
2 normalization/amortization was computed beginning January 1, 2018, the effective date of
3 the TCJA. For the period from January 1, 2018 until the start of the credit on June 1, 2021
4 (the “catchup” period), the normalization/amortization was treated as deferred. The
5 Company proposes to amortize and flow through the deferred “catchup” period EADIT
6 amortization over a five-year period, from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2026. The
7 Company proposes the same treatment for the state EADIT as of the enactment of MO SB
8 884. As shown on Schedule JRW-1, the ongoing normalization/amortization will produce
9 an annual credit of \$3,932,609, and the amortization of the catchup period balance will
10 produce an annual credit of \$1,494,552 for five years. The total EADIT amortization for
11 the rate year of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 will thus be \$5,427,161.

12 **Q. Why does MAWC propose to use ARAM to normalize all EADIT related to plant in**
13 **service (Unprotected and Uncertain as well as Protected), when the IRS**
14 **normalization rules only require ARAM to be used for Protected EADIT?**

15 A. It is the long-term best interest of MAWC’s customers to use ARAM to normalize both
16 “protected” and “unprotected” plant-related EADIT, for several reasons. First, using
17 ARAM to normalize all EADIT related to plant in service promotes inter-generational
18 equity. All of the plant-related EADIT are unrealized permanent tax benefits that accrued
19 as a result of the Company making investments in plant in service and claiming tax
20 deductions in excess of book at a time when the federal corporate income tax rate was 35%,
21 that will be realized as the reverse at an enacted rate that is currently assumed to be 21%.
22 Now, however, as a result of the TCJA, the tax benefits will reverse as book depreciation
23 is recovered as a cost from customers when the tax rate will be 21%. These unrealized

1 permanent benefits, which relate to the deduction of costs not yet recovered in rates from
2 customers, should be returned ratably to those same customers who will be required to pay
3 the costs of the plant to which the benefits relate as those tax benefits are realized. The use
4 of ARAM closely aligns the normalization of these benefits to the investments that gave
5 rise to the benefits, and thus to the customers who will bear the costs of those investments
6 over their lives. Second, the use of ARAM reduces the total cost of capital recovered from
7 customers over the underlying useful life of the plant in service investment. Third, the use
8 of ARAM also will add to the stability of cost of service rates over the useful life of the
9 property. Alternatively, severing the amortization of unprotected EADIT balances from
10 the related plant in service would distribute a tax benefit to customers that is
11 disproportionate to the cost to which the benefit relates, and thus benefit customers during
12 the abbreviated amortization period to the detriment of customers who continue to pay for
13 these investments over the property's remaining useful life. Using a shorter period to
14 amortize unprotected plant-related EADIT also would increase the cost of service
15 recovered from customers over the life of the property.

16 **Q. Please explain further how using ARAM to normalize EADIT promotes inter-**
17 **generational equity.**

18 A. The normalization concept prevents the inter-generational inequity that can occur when the
19 flow-through method is used. If MAWC uses an immediate or close-to-immediate flow-
20 through method, current customers receive the entire refund and benefit disproportionately.
21 This occurs even if tax rates change again before the timing difference reverses. For
22 example, assume an EADIT balance has been generated with respect to the tax benefits
23 associated with an asset with a book depreciation life of 35 years. If a shorter flow-through

1 method is used for the EADIT, customers who take service during the flow-through period
2 realize 100% of the benefit from the TCJA, whereas the customers paying for the asset
3 during the remainder of its life realize none of the benefit. The asset giving rise to the
4 benefit, however, will serve all of them. What is also inequitable for those later customers
5 is the accelerated increase in rate base. The entirety of the EADIT will have already been
6 returned over the flow-through period, resulting in a larger rate base and thus a greater
7 revenue requirement for the remainder of the life of the asset giving rise to the benefit.
8 Future customers are unfairly penalized, and doubly so, because they may not receive any
9 refund, and yet pay for the cost of the utility asset over its remaining useful life. Even
10 worse, if tax rates are raised in the future, future generations will have to pay for the
11 deficient ADIT because any prior excess will have been refunded to prior customers.
12 Normalization ensures that tax benefits are spread to all customers who benefit from the
13 Company's long-lived assets and not just current customers. MAWC therefore believes
14 that the normalization concept should be applied to all plant-related EADIT (including state
15 EADIT) and its amortization should be calculated pursuant to ARAM without regard to its
16 status as protected or unprotected.

17 **Q. Why did the Company use a 20-year period to amortize non-plant-related EADIT**
18 **balances?**

19 A. A 20-year amortization period is consistent with the life of the underlying assets and
20 liabilities, thus it is intended to normalize the EADIT tax benefit over the underlying life
21 of the assets and liabilities to which it related. These EADIT balances are related to
22 deductions claimed with respect to two primary types of assets and liabilities: regulated
23 deferred assets and liabilities, and assets and liabilities related to providing employee

1 benefit programs. The vast majority of the EADIT balance that falls into these categories
2 would be associated with assets and liabilities that will reverse over periods greater than
3 20 years. Thus, it is reasonable to match the reversal or recovery period of the incurred
4 costs that gave rise to the EADIT to the period the EADIT is amortized.

5 **Q. Are current customers harmed by normalizing or amortizing EADIT over longer**
6 **rather than shorter periods?**

7 A. No. First, rate base is the sum of plant, less accumulated book depreciation, and less ADIT.
8 EADIT is a component of the ADIT in rate base, and thus, until EADIT is flowed-back to
9 customers, it provides customers with a return equal to the utility's weighted average cost
10 of capital. Second, as I have explained, EADIT is simply a portion of a temporary benefit
11 that was made permanent by the federal government's passage of the TCJA; the cost that
12 gave rise to the benefit was a component of plant in service and relates specifically to the
13 portion of plant in service that has not yet been paid for, consumed or used by current
14 customers. The permanent nature of the benefit is still dependent on future events, such as
15 a 21% federal tax rate remaining the enacted rate for the 35 years or more over which the
16 underlying temporary differences will reverse and the benefit of the lower tax rate will be
17 realized. The customers who will pay for and use the investment should receive the benefit
18 that arose when the utility put the asset in place.

19 Rates are intended to provide a utility with the opportunity to earn an adequate
20 after-tax return on the portion of the utility's investment in plant that is financed with
21 equity. The after-tax return is grossed up to produce its pre-tax equivalent. That amount
22 is the same regardless whether a portion of the tax will be deferred or not. The tax code
23 allows some or all of the tax that would be otherwise be due on pre-tax earnings to be

1 deferred as an incentive to the utility to invest, and in some cases Congress has explicitly
2 acted to prevent flow through of a tax benefit intended to be an investment incentive and
3 not a rate subsidy. A prime example of Congress’s protection of certain tax incentives to
4 utilities is the tax normalization rules applicable to ADIT and EADIT.

5 **Q. Have any other public utility commissions approved the amortization of unprotected**
6 **plant-related EADIT balances pursuant to ARAM?**

7 A. Yes. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has approved a settlement providing
8 that the utility, Duquesne Light Company, will flow back unprotected EADIT related to
9 prior tax repairs and other deductions pursuant to ARAM.¹ Duquesne Light Company
10 described this settlement term and the reason the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer
11 Advocate did not oppose it in its publicly-filed Statement in Support of the Joint Petition
12 for Settlement as follows:

13 Under the TCJA, certain excess deferred taxes must be returned to
14 customers over the life of the property, with the unreturned or unamortized
15 amounts deducted from rate base, thereby benefiting customers (the
16 Average Rate Assumption Method or ARAM). While other excess deferred
17 taxes are not subject to this requirement, and OCA proposed accelerated
18 return of such amounts, the Company demonstrated in its rebuttal that
19 accelerated return would increase rates by over \$52 million. ... In
20 surrebuttal, OCA withdrew the adjustment. ... The Settlement provision
21 affirms that all EDIT related to plant will be returned under the ARAM
22 procedure and that unamortized balances will be deducted from rate base in
23 future base rate proceedings, thereby benefiting customers.²
24

¹ *Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Duquesne Light Company*, Docket No. R-2018-3000124 *et al.*, 2018 WL 6931959 at *8, *22 (Pa. Pub. Util. Comm’n Dec. 20, 2018).

² *Pennsylvania Pub. Util. Comm’n v. Duquesne Light Co.*, Docket No. R-2018-3000124 (Pa. Pub. Util. Comm’n), Duquesne Light Company’s Statement in Support of Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement Stipulation ¶ 6 at 11 (filed Sept. 14, 2018) (record citations omitted). Duquesne Light Co.’s Statement in Support was filed as Appendix G to the parties’ Joint Petition for Approval of Settlement Stipulation filed with the Pennsylvania Commission on September 14, 2018.

1 Most recently, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission approved a settlement that
2 provides that MAWC’s affiliate, Indiana-American Water Company, Inc. shall amortize
3 all of its EADIT, protected and unprotected, pursuant to ARAM.³

4 As explained above, amortizing MAWC’s unprotected plant-related EADIT over
5 an amortization period shorter than that produced by ARAM would increase the cost of
6 service recovered from customers over the life of the property. Like the settlement
7 approved by the Pennsylvania Commission in the **Duquesne Light Company** case, the
8 Company’s proposal “affirms that all EDIT related to plant will be returned under the
9 ARAM procedure and that unamortized balances will be deducted from rate base in future
10 base rate proceedings, thereby benefiting customers.” Therefore, it is in the long-term best
11 interests of the Company’s customers and should be approved.

12
13 **IV. ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAX – RATE BASE REDUCTION**

14 **Q. Does the Company reduce Rate Base by the amount of ADIT?**

15 A. Yes. ADIT represents a “loan” from the federal and state governments, which is essentially
16 a zero cost source of capital. As such it is appropriate to reduce rate base by these amounts.

17 **Q. How does the Company determine the amount of ADIT used to reduce rate base?**

18 A. In general, all plant-related ADIT that have been normalized are included as a reduction to
19 rate base. The primary source of the information for determining ADIT comes from the
20 calculation of ADIT performed in PowerTax, which is the tax module in the software
21 accounting suite developed and sold by PowerPlan Consultants Inc. (“PowerPlan”).

³ *In re: The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission’s Investigation into the Impacts of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 and Possible Rate Implications under Phase 1 and Phase 2 for Indiana American Water Company, Inc., Cause No. 45032 S4, slip op. (Ind. Util. Regulatory Comm’n June 24, 2020).*

1 **Q. Please describe what the ADIT balance generated by PowerTax represents and what**
2 **other amounts or adjustments are made to get to the rate base reduction for ADIT**
3 **used in MAWC’s rate filing.**

4 A. PowerTax tracks the ADIT on “in service” Property Plant and Equipment. It was set up
5 with ADIT calculated at the most recent pre-TCJA income tax rates. Therefore, the ADIT
6 tracked by PowerTax includes in the ADIT balance the EADIT produced by the TCJA’s
7 tax rate reduction that has not yet been amortized pursuant to ARAM. PowerTax was
8 populated with estimated plant additions and book depreciation for relevant periods after
9 December 31, 2019. To that number, the Company adds ADIT on plant-related items such
10 as construction work in progress, customer advances for construction, etc., that are not
11 maintained in the PowerTax system. In addition, certain other non-plant related items are
12 included in rate base. Therefore, the related ADIT has been included. These items include
13 ADIT related to regulated asset/liability trackers for deferred tank painting, pension, OPEB
14 and regulated asset deferrals. Finally, because income tax rates on PowerTax items are at
15 the pre-TCJA level, there are other sources of excess and deficient ADIT that are not related
16 to the TCJA’s rate reduction. Those elements of non-TCJA-related EADIT, for which the
17 ARAM is not used, are addressed and amortized (using the Reverse South Georgia
18 Method) and, to the extent they are unamortized, are included in the ADIT balance that is
19 deducted from rate base.

20 **Q. Are there any other adjustments to ADIT that have been made?**

21 A. Yes. The Company is setting rates for a future test year, and is using supporting data for
22 that period of time to calculate its proposed rates. Under IRC normalization rules changes
23 to the ADIT during that period after new rates go in effect are subject to a proration formula

1 under Treas. Reg. § 1.167(l)-1(h)(6).

2 **Q. Can you address the effect that the phase out of bonus depreciation has on income**
3 **taxes calculated in the filing?**

4 A. Yes, as of the beginning of the test year used by the Company in this filing bonus
5 depreciation is not available to the Company. On a comparative basis, the loss of bonus
6 depreciation reduces the amount of current tax originating from existing utility operations
7 that can be deferred by investing in additional utility plant, increasing current tax
8 obligations payable to federal and state governments. This in turn reduces the DIT and
9 ADIT accruals, which is a reduction in the amount of zero cost capital available to finance
10 investments in utility plant as reflected in the increase in rate base in this proceeding.

11 **Q. Can you address the effect of CIAC not being taxable on income taxes calculated in**
12 **the filing?**

13 A. Yes, on a comparative basis, CIAC being taxable reduces the amount of current tax
14 originating from existing utility operations that can be deferred by investing in additional
15 utility plant, increasing current tax obligations payable to federal and state governments.
16 This in turn reduces DIT and ADIT accruals, which is a reduction in the amount of zero
17 cost capital available to finance investments in utility plant as reflected in the increase in
18 rate base in this filing.

19 **Q. Does the reduction in the state and federal income tax rate, the amortization of**
20 **EADIT, the loss of bonus depreciation, and the taxation of CIAC all have a similar**
21 **effect on DIT and ADIT balances as computed in the filing?**

22 A. Yes, all reduce DIT and ADIT amounts computed in the filing, decreasing the amount of

1 zero cost capital available to finance investments in utility plant and increasing the rate
2 base in this filing.

3 **Q. Would using a method and period that results in an amortization amount for plant-**
4 **related EADIT greater than that produced by using ARAM further reduce the**
5 **amount of zero cost capital available to finance investment in utility plant and further**
6 **increase rate base?**

7 A. Yes, an increase in the amortization of EADIT reduces DIT and ADIT accruals, which
8 results in a reduction in the amount of zero cost capital available to finance investments in
9 utility plant and an increase in the Company's rate base.

10 **Q. Does this conclude your Direct Testimony?**

11 A. Yes, it does.

Missouri American Water
TCJA Excess ADIT

Plant											Catchup Amortization		Annual	Total Amortization
Utility Plant in Service (PowerTax)											Jan 2018 - May 2021	Jun 2021 - May 2026		
Item	Amortization Method	Period	Categorization pursuant to Tax Normalization rules	Net Excess Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total	5 Yr amortization	June 1 2021 - May 31, 2022	June 1 2021 - May 31, 2022	
					Amortization	Amortization	Amortization	Amortization	Amortization					
Method / Life	ARAM	Asset Life	Protected	88,399,376	1,392,333	1,622,510	4,369,309	1,591,308	2,377,784	8,047,197	1,609,439	1,919,007	3,528,446	
Cost of Removal	ARAM	Asset Life	Uncertain	(3,760,653)	(1,240,398)	(765,677)	(869,689)	-	-	(2,875,764)	(575,153)	-	(575,153)	
Repairs	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	72,455,741	1,540,916	1,825,452	2,751,206	2,507,646	2,565,517	7,162,427	1,432,485	2,531,759	3,964,245	
Taxable CIAC	ARAM	Asset Life	Protected	(5,233,286)	(310,249)	(310,315)	(310,245)	(310,245)	(310,245)	(1,060,078)	(212,016)	(310,245)	(522,261)	
All Other Federal	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	11,359,061	147,891	79,450	(2,535,377)	232,303	375,954	(2,211,243)	(442,249)	292,158	(150,091)	
Federal Benefit of State	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	(10,170,006)	(95,621)	(153,178)	(339,053)	(403,050)	(503,945)	(755,790)	(151,158)	(445,090)	(596,248)	
State Benefit of Federal	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	4,244,708	-	-	85,144	103,474	129,955	128,258	25,652	114,508	140,159	
State	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	23,836,804	-	-	605,621	733,049	921,703	911,059	182,212	811,655	993,867	
Sub-Total (UPIS)				181,131,746	1,434,873	2,298,243	3,756,917	4,454,485	5,556,725	9,346,068	1,869,214	4,913,751	6,782,965	
CWIP, CAC, and other Non-UPIS Plant items														
Item	Amortization Method	Life												
Plant Customer Advances	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	(2,966,611)	(25,949)	(41,563)	(63,424)	(75,017)	(93,491)	(162,194)	(32,439)	(82,714)	(115,153)	
Plant CWIP	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	22,445	(19)	(31)	449	544	685	625	125	603	728	
CIAC WIP	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	(164,075)	(1,390)	(2,226)	(3,501)	(4,144)	(5,166)	(8,844)	(1,769)	(4,570)	(6,339)	
Plant 481	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	940,523	8,818	14,123	20,193	23,847	29,701	53,070	10,614	26,286	36,900	
Federal Net Operating Loss Carryover	ARAM	Asset Life	Uncertain	(22,818,613)	(213,929)	(342,650)	(489,925)	(578,564)	(720,597)	(1,287,572)	(257,514)	(637,744)	(895,258)	
State Operating Loss Carryover	ARAM	Asset Life	Unprotected	(5,166,647)	-	-	(103,909)	(125,772)	(158,140)	(156,314)	(31,263)	(139,259)	(170,522)	
Sub-Total (Non-UPIS)				(30,152,978)	(232,470)	(372,348)	(640,118)	(759,106)	(947,008)	(1,561,229)	(312,246)	(837,398)	(1,149,644)	
Sub-Total Plant				150,978,768	1,202,403	1,925,895	3,116,799	3,695,379	4,609,717	7,784,839	1,556,968	4,076,353	5,633,321	
Non-Plant Other	Normalizaton	20 Years	Unprotected	(2,874,880)	(54,221)	(54,221)	(143,744)	(143,744)	(143,744)	(312,080)	(62,416)	(143,744)	(206,160)	
Total				148,103,888	1,148,182	1,871,674	2,973,055	3,551,635	4,465,973	7,472,759	1,494,552	3,932,609	5,427,161	