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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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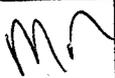
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8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
 9 ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
 10 FOR A HEARING TO DETERMINE THE
 11 FAIR VALUE OF THE UTILITY PROPERTY
 12 OF THE COMPANY FOR RATEMAKING
 PURPOSES, TO FIX A JUST AND
 REASONABLE RATE OF RETURN
 THEREON, TO APPROVE RATE
 SCHEDULES DESIGNED TO DEVELOP
 SUCH RETURN.

Docket No. E-01345A-08-0172

Arizona Corporation Commission
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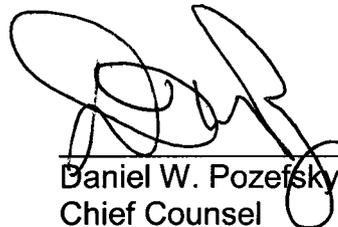
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15 The Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") hereby provides notice of filing the

16 Direct Rate Design Testimony of Ben Johnson, Ph.D. in the above-referenced matter.

17 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 9th day of January, 2009.

18

19 

20

21 Daniel W. Pozefsky
Chief Counsel

22

23

24

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2 of the foregoing filed this 9th day
3 of January, 2009 with:

3 Docket Control
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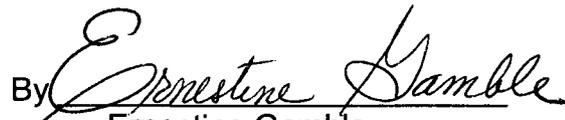
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ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-08-0172

DIRECT RATE DESIGN TESTIMONY

OF

BEN JOHNSON, PH. D.

ON BEHALF OF

THE

RESIDENTIAL UTILITY CONSUMER OFFICE

JANUARY 9, 2009

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TESTIMONY
OF BEN JOHNSON, PH.D.
On Behalf of
The Residential Utility Consumer Office
Before the
Arizona Corporation Commission

Docket No. 01345A-08-0172

Introduction

Q. Would you please state your name and address?

A. Ben Johnson, 3854-2 Killearn Court, Tallahassee, Florida.

Q. What is your present occupation?

A. I am a consulting economist and president of Ben Johnson Associates, Inc.®, an economic research firm specializing in public utility regulation.

Q. Have you prepared an appendix that describes your qualifications in regulatory and utility economics?

A. Yes. Appendix A, attached to my testimony, will serve this purpose.

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Q. Are you the same Ben Johnson that filed revenue requirements testimony on December 19th, 2008?

A. Yes, I am.

Q. Have you prepared any schedules to be filed with your testimony?

A. Yes, I have prepared Schedules BJ-15 through BJ-17. These schedules are attached to my testimony.

Q. What is the nature of your testimony in this case?

A. Our firm has been retained by the Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") to assist with RUCO's evaluation of Arizona Public Service Company's ("APS") Amended Application for a base rate increase. The purpose of my testimony is to present RUCO's cost of service and rate design recommendations in this proceeding.

Following this introduction, my testimony has five sections. In the first section, I briefly discuss the background of this phase of the proceeding. In the second section, I summarize APS' cost of service methodology and rate design proposals. In the third section, I discuss fully allocated cost of service studies, focusing on methods that are available to allocate production costs. I also critique the Company's Average and Excess Demand methodology, and recommend an alternative approach to allocating production costs. In the fourth section, I discuss factors that should be considered in developing an appropriate revenue distribution. I

1 also critique the Company's proposed rate design, and recommend an
2 alternative revenue distribution approach. In the fifth section, I discuss
3 some miscellaneous rate design issues.

4

5 **I. Background**

6

7 **Q. Can you briefly discuss the rate design aspects of APS' most recent**
8 **rate case?**

9 A. Yes. APS' current rates became effective July 1, 2007 pursuant to Decision
10 No. 69663 issued in Docket No. E-01345A-05-0816. APS conducted a cost
11 of service study with a 12 month test period ending September 30, 2005.
12 [Decision No. 69663, p. 69] The primary issue with respect to APS' cost of
13 service study was the Company's use of the Four Coincident Peak (4CP)
14 method of allocating demand-related production costs. [See, Id., p. 69]
15 APS' 4CP method allocated production and transmission demand costs to
16 customer classes using the average summer (June, July August and
17 September) coincident system peaks.

18 The Commission Staff recommended using instead a combination of
19 the Four Coincident Peak and Average Demand (4CP & Average). [Id.]
20 Staff's 4CP & Average approach used a combination of APS' peak demand
21 allocation factor and an average demand factor (which is mathematically
22 equivalent to energy). [Id.] APS opposed Staff's approach, arguing that
23 changing methodologies could subject some customers to rate shock.
24 AECC also opposed Staff's approach, arguing that average demand is

1 already included in peak demand, and therefore is counted twice in the
2 4CP and Average method.

3

4 **Q. What did the Commission conclude with regard to cost of service?**

5 A. The Commission agreed with Staff that an energy-weighting method for
6 allocating production plant would be appropriate for APS. [Id., p. 70]
7 However, because of the concerns expressed by other parties, the
8 Commission did not agree that the 4CP and Average method was the
9 appropriate solution. Instead, the Commission ordered APS, in its next rate
10 application to

11 propose an energy weighting method that addresses the
12 concerns raised in this case, and that will also consider
13 the likely cost shifting that will be necessary as we
14 determine the appropriate rate design in this case. [Id.,
15 p. 71]
16
17

18 **Q. What did the parties propose with regard to rate design in the last**
19 **rate case?**

20 A. APS proposed spreading it's requested revenue increase roughly equally to
21 the major customer classes, even though its cost of service studies
22 supported greater increases to some customer classes, including the
23 residential class. [See, Id., p. 71] Staff, AECC, the FEA and Kroger, to
24 varying degrees, all recommended moving rates closer to the cost of
25 service study results. RUCO noted that rates were moved towards cost of
26 service in the preceeding rate case (2 years prior), and that since then,
27 there had been numerous fuel-related increases. RUCO stressed the need

1 for rate stability and continuity, and therefore recommended an evenly
2 distributed rate increase. [Id.]

3

4 **Q. What did the Commission conclude regarding rate design in the**
5 **previous rate case?**

6 A. The Commission essentially approved APS' rate design recommendation,
7 with a few adjustments as proposed by other parties.

8 It is clear from the results of all cost-of-service studies
9 that there are subsidies in APS' current rate structure.
10 This means that some classes of customers are providing
11 a subsidy to others and that some customers in a class
12 subsidize others in the same class. Several parties have
13 recommended that the Commission begin to close that
14 gap, and move rates closer to the class' cost-of-service
15 now. We agree that some movement should be made in
16 that direction, but given the fact that current rates have
17 been in effect for only two years and they were designed
18 to move rates closer to cost-of-service, we do not want to
19 modify the current rate structure dramatically.
20 Accordingly, given the level of revenues that we authorize
21 herein, we will generally adopt the Company's rate
22 design as modified by Staff and with the AECC proposal
23 for transmission rate design as agreed to by APS, and the
24 voltage discounts as proposed by the FEA. [Id., p. 76]

25

26

27 **II. APS' Rate Design Proposal**

28

29 **Q. Can you now summarize APS' cost of service study in this**
30 **proceeding?**

31 A. Yes. APS conducted an embedded cost-of-service study using a test year
32 ending December 31, 2007. [Rumolo Direct, p. 15] The test year results
33 were adjusted for "known and measurable" changes, such as increased

1 labor costs, and the rate increase that went into effect during 2007.

2 Company witness Rumolo explains:

3 Other APS witnesses sponsor a number of pro forma
4 adjustments that were incorporated into the test year
5 used during the cost-of-service study. APS witnesses
6 Jason La Benz, Mr. Ewen, Mr. DeLizio and Mr. Kearns list,
7 by rate base, revenue, and expense category, the
8 monetized amount of each proposed pro forma
9 adjustment. These amounts were then functionalized,
10 classified, and allocated to the retail and wholesale
11 customer classes as part of the process in performing the
12 cost-of-service study. The adjusted test year cost-of-
13 service study reflects each of the Company's proposed
14 pro forma adjustments. [Rumolo Direct, pp. 16-17]

15
16 APS's cost study methodology is a multi-step process. First, costs
17 were grouped into major accounting categories, such as Plant in Service or
18 Operating & Maintenance ("O&M") Expense. [Id., p. 19] Second, each of
19 these accounting categories were further disaggregated into the functional
20 categories of Production, Transmission, and Distribution. Third, costs were
21 then classified as Demand, Energy, or Customer related. Finally, allocation
22 factors were used to assign the resulting disaggregated costs into the
23 federal and state jurisdictions and into the various retail customer classes.
24 [Id.]

25

26 **Q. Can you explain the "functionalization", "classification" and**
27 **"allocation" steps in a little more detail?**

28 A. Yes. "Functionalization" attributes costs to the Production, Transmission,
29 or Distribution functions. APS gives the example of the costs of building
30 and operating the Company's power plants, which are attributed to the

1 Production function. [Id., p. 18] Transmission and Distribution both
2 involve moving electricity from the production source to the end user; the
3 difference between Transmission and Distribution relate to voltage levels
4 (Transmission occurs at higher voltages) as well as distance and proximity
5 to the customer (Transmission tends to occur over longer distances, from
6 the generation source to the major populated areas, whereas Distribution
7 primarily occurs over shorter distances within the populated areas,
8 terminating at the end user's location). "Classification" involves making a
9 judgment about the causative factors that drive the magnitude of the cost.

10 [I]f a cost is driven by the amount of energy consumed, it
11 is classified as Energy; if a cost is driven by the rate at
12 which energy is consumed, it is classified as Demand; and
13 if a cost is driven by the number of customers taking
14 service on the APS system irrespective of either the
15 demand or energy utilized, it is classified as Customer.

16 [Id.]
17

18 "Allocation" involves applying factors (e.g., peak demand contribution,
19 energy or customers) to spread the costs to particular jurisdictions,
20 customer classes, and rate schedules. For example, energy costs are
21 allocated by kilowatt-hour ("kWh") consumption to different customer
22 classes. [Rumolo Direct, p. 18]
23

24 **Q. How does APS allocate production costs?**

25 A. APS used the 4CP method to allocate these costs to jurisdictions. That is,
26 production related costs were allocated to the ACC and FERC jurisdictions
27 in proportion to relative levels of usage (demand) during 4 hours -- the

1 hour with the highest level of system-wide demand during each of the
2 summer months. Unlike its filing in the prior case, within the ACC-
3 jurisdiction, APS used a different method to further allocate these costs to
4 the various retail customer classes. [Id., pp. 19-20] Mr. Rumolo explains
5 the decision to use the Average and Excess Demand method (for the sake
6 of brevity, sometimes referred to as the AED method) as follows:

7 In Decision No. 69663, the Commission directed that APS
8 use an energy-weighted method to allocate production
9 demand costs – that is, the costs associated with the
10 Company’s nuclear, coal, and gas-fired generation
11 facilities – among retail customer classes. The AED
12 method is one of the most widely accepted energy
13 weighted allocation methods. It allocates a portion of
14 production costs based on a customer class’s peak
15 demand contribution and the balance on that class’s
16 energy-based or average demand contribution. In doing
17 so, the AED allocation method considers the fact that
18 APS’s production facilities provide service during both
19 peak and non-peak hours of the year but also recognizes
20 that average demand is already included in peak demand,
21 and thus avoids double-counting of a customer’s average
22 demand when allocating costs. [Id., pp. 20-21]
23

24 While this description is accurate as far as it goes, it does not provide a
25 complete picture of the AED method, or how it differs from the average
26 and peak method which was recommended by the Staff in the prior case. I
27 will discuss this in greater depth later in my testimony.
28

29 **Q. How does APS allocate transmission costs?**

30 A. APS directly assigned transmission plant to the non-ACC jurisdictional
31 portion of the cost of service study, despite the fact that nearly all of this

1 equipment is being used to serve retail customers. [Id., p. 20] Mr. Rumolo
2 explains:

3 Consistent with the methods adopted in our last rate
4 cases, the revenue requirement for transmission services
5 was computed based on the FERC-jurisdictional rates
6 found in the APS Open Access Transmission Tariff
7 ("OATT"). ... The APS OATT provides the class rate
8 elements for each of the FERC-regulated transmission
9 and ancillary service costs. Under the requirements of
10 Decision No. 69663, the APS retail rates were re-
11 structured so the transmission component of the rates
12 reflect the OATT charges. [Id., pp. 23-24]
13

14 In this case APS is removing recovery of transmission costs from base rates
15 and instead proposing to charge retail customers for transmission through
16 a separate rate schedule, TCA-1, "that would directly incorporate by
17 reference the Company's then-effective OATT charges.". [Id., p. 24]

18 Effectively, the new TCA-1 will reflect the transmission
19 cost found in base rates today, plus the then-effective
20 adjustment that reflects the increased OATT charges.
21 When the FERC-regulated transmission rates are
22 changed, APS will refile the retail transmission rate
23 schedule TCA-1 with the new charges. The existing TCA
24 Plan of Administration will no longer be needed. [Id.]
25

26 The effect of Decision No. 69663 was to effectively let the FERC determine
27 the transmission-related portion of the retail rates, including the rate of
28 return to be earned on the transmission investment. This proposal goes a
29 step further and requires retail customers to pay rates that are effectively
30 set by the FERC. The result is that any future rate increases implemented
31 by the FERC will be reflected in retail customer bills.
32

1 **Q. How does APS allocate distribution costs?**

2 A. APS used the "non-coincident peak" ("NCP") method to allocate costs
3 associated with distribution substations and primary distribution lines.
4 Allocations of costs related to distribution transformers and secondary
5 distribution lines "are made based on the summation of the individual peak
6 loads or demands of all customers within a particular customer class
7 ("ΣNCP)." [Rumolo Direct, p. 20]

8
9 **Q. How does APS allocate fuel and purchased power costs?**

10 A. APS used a method recommended by another party in the previous rate
11 case.

12 [I]n our last rate case, an intervenor witness suggested
13 the adoption of an hourly allocation method to allocate
14 fuel and purchased power costs. ... The hourly energy
15 allocation method examines customer class hourly load
16 shapes and hourly energy prices to come up with a
17 weighted energy cost. This weighted energy cost better
18 matches each customer class's revenue responsibility
19 with costs. For example, a customer class that uses more
20 of its energy during peak summer hours should be
21 allocated higher average fuel and energy costs than a
22 customer class whose energy consumption is more off
23 peak. [Id., p. 21]

24
25

26 **Q. How does APS summarize the results of its cost of service study?**

27 A. APS notes that disparities in the achieved returns by customer class have
28 "decreased due to the rate designs implemented as a result of the rates
29 implemented by previous ACC decisions ..." However, APS claims the
30 residential class continues to provide a lower rate of return to the

1 Company than does the general service class. [Id., p. 23] Specifically, APS
2 contends that under current rates and adjusted operating expenses, "the
3 residential class rate of return is 2.85% while the general service class rate
4 of return is 5.04%. Overall, the retail rate of return on an adjusted original
5 cost rate base under current rates is 3.79%." [Id.]

6

7 **Q. Can you now summarize APS' rate design methodology?**

8 A. In designing its proposed rates, APS considered the cost of service study,
9 as well "several other factors" such as rate and revenue stability and
10 continuity. [Delizio Direct, p. 16]

11 For this reason, the major classes of customers, including
12 Residential, Street Lighting and Dusk to Dawn, have each
13 been given a percentage increase to make the classes
14 more in line with its cost of service even though strict
15 adherence to the results of the cost of service study
16 would indicate higher increases are supportable.
17 General Service and Irrigation have each been given a
18 lower increase to make the class more in line with its cost
19 of service. APS has also taken steps to disaggregate its
20 E-32 rate as required by Decision No. 69663 to make the
21 rate more in line with its cost of service. That being said,
22 the individual rate schedules have been designed to
23 depart from strict cost of service adherence as necessary,
24 so that differences in the increases that individual
25 customers will experience will be moderated to the
26 extent reasonable. [Id.]

27

28 APS' rate design results in the following revenue increases per customer
29 class.

30

Class	Revenue Increase
Residential	11.34%
General Service	9.71%
Irrigation and Water Pumping	4.46%
Outdoor Lighting	15.05%
Dusk to Dawn Lighting	17.30%

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III. Fully Allocated Embedded Costs

Q. Let's turn to the next section of your testimony. Can you provide a brief description of fully allocated embedded cost studies, and explain what they measure?

A. Certainly. Fully allocated cost of service studies divide total test-year revenues, rate base, and operating expenses among the various customer classes to estimate the rate of return earned from each class. Many of these costs are either joint or common costs not directly attributable to any one customer class; therefore, they must be allocated by a formula. This opens the door to subjective judgments, and the results of the study tend to depend heavily on the particular allocation formulas chosen by the analyst.

Because they are based upon embedded costs, these studies do not report direct cause-and-effect relationships between the consumption decisions of the class members and the costs incurred by the utility. Thus a "cost" is not necessarily the actual expense that a particular group of customers imposes on the system. Nevertheless, cost of service studies have long been used by this Commission and others regulators as a tool that can assist with the process of developing electric and gas rates. As long as their limitations are recognized, and reasonable allocation formulas are employed, fully allocated cost studies can help the Commission in determining an appropriate revenue distribution.

1 **Q. Can the judgment and arbitrariness be eliminated, if the analyst is**
2 **completely unbiased and if sufficient effort is applied to the task?**

3 A. No. The problem lies neither with the people performing the studies nor
4 with the amount of effort and resources devoted to the analysis. Rather, it
5 is inherent in the very concept of allocating embedded costs. To a large
6 degree, these costs are the result of management and engineering
7 decisions, which reflect many different considerations, are completely
8 outside the control of individual customers or customer classes, and thus
9 cannot be unambiguously traced to customers. While the goal may be to
10 insure that each customer class pays the costs that it causes, it simply isn't
11 possible to achieve this result by allocating historical accounting costs.

12 Even when the actions of particular customer classes do influence
13 such decisions, the linkage is largely indirect, and is obscured by the
14 passage of time. Admittedly, customers have influenced the production
15 plant costs incurred during the test year. But (with the partial exception of
16 fuel costs) these influences are almost entirely traceable to customer
17 actions (and subsequent management decisions) that occurred 5 to 20
18 years ago, when the generating plants were planned and constructed.
19 Hence, the cause and effect links between customers and test year costs
20 are inherently impossible to measure through the techniques used in
21 developing an embedded cost of service study. All of the various
22 alternative allocation formulas rely upon statistics relating to the test year,
23 and none of them can possibly reflect with exactness the historic
24 relationships of cause and effect that explain the embedded accounting

1 costs reflected in the test year data.

2 For these and other reasons, there is no "perfect" formula for
3 allocating production plant costs. The same is true for most of the
4 Company's other costs, including those of transmission and distribution.
5 Some cost allocation experts will sometimes imply their approach is the
6 "true" answer, and that any significantly different approach is a heresy not
7 to be condoned. I disagree with that viewpoint. There is no "correct"
8 method for allocating joint and common costs, and any attempt to locate it
9 will ultimately prove fruitless.

10 Embedded cost allocation studies are simply a technique for
11 evaluating the relative fractions of the total revenue requirement that can
12 reasonably be recovered from each class. At best, these studies provide a
13 yardstick for judging whether or not each customer class is paying an
14 appropriate share of the joint and common costs. The real question is
15 whether the yardstick is reasonably straight and true, or whether it is bent
16 to favor particular classes at the expense of others. In that sense, it is
17 meaningful to debate whether some approaches are more reasonable than
18 others.

19 Aside from the long lags that occur between when costs are planned
20 and incurred, and when they are recovered through rates, there is another
21 fundamental problem. Most of the Company's embedded costs are not
22 caused by the actions of particular customers or customer classes; rather
23 they are incurred by management based upon an evaluation of the needs of
24 the system as a whole. Thus it isn't feasible, or meaningful, to rely entirely

1 on an evaluation of causal relationships in deciding on the most reasonable
2 allocation method.

3 Consider, for example, an investment in which 10% of the cost can be
4 meaningfully traced to customer classes and the remaining 90% is
5 attributable to factors like fluctuations in the weather and fundamental
6 characteristics of the geography of the Company's service territory. It is
7 not necessarily reasonable to allocate 100% of the investment solely on the
8 basis of the 10% that is logically traceable to customers. Furthermore,
9 given the impossibility of identifying and measuring causative factors
10 precisely, even this 10% of the total cost might be misinterpreted and
11 traced to the wrong classes.

12 In evaluating the relative merits of different approaches, I believe it
13 is important for the Commission to give adequate recognition to the basic
14 product being sold by APS: electrical energy. Any allocation method that
15 slights the importance of the most fundamental measure of the Company's
16 output (kilowatt hours of electricity) should be viewed with skepticism.
17 Where there is no clear cause-and-effect relationship between customer
18 actions and costs, kWh sales provides a reasonable basis for allocation,
19 because they closely reflect the benefits received by each class from the
20 investments and expenses in question.

21
22 **Q. Can you please discuss the methods that are available for allocating**
23 **production related costs?**

24 A. There are several methods that can be used; with regard to the investment
25 in generating plants, most allocation methods use one, or a combination, of

1 the following elements: coincident peak responsibility, non-coincident peak
2 responsibility, average demand and excess demand. The most common
3 methods are those based on coincident peak or average and excess
4 demand (AED). As I explained earlier, the Company used a variant of the
5 coincident peak methodology (4CP) to allocate production costs to the ACC
6 and non-ACC jurisdictions, and the AED method to allocate retail costs
7 among the ACC customer classes.

8

9 **Q. Would you briefly explain the coincident peak allocation approach?**

10 A. Yes. There are several different versions of the coincident peak approach.
11 All of these methods allocate costs based on participation in system-wide
12 coincident peaks. That is, during the hours when the system reaches its
13 greatest demand, each load's portion of that demand is determined, and
14 this becomes the basis for allocation. One method focuses on the hour
15 during each month in which the maximum level of demand is experienced,
16 then averages the results of these 12 different hours. This is sometimes
17 referred to as a "12 CP" method. When this logic is taken to the extreme, it
18 focuses on the single hour during the year when the highest CP is
19 experienced. This is called the "1 CP" method. Another variant is the "2
20 CP" method, which typically focuses on the maximum summer hour, and
21 the maximum winter hour, whenever those happen to occur. Another
22 option is the 4CP method, which is similar to the 12 CP method, except
23 that it focuses exclusively on the four summer months with no
24 consideration of usage characteristics during any other months of the year.

1 From an economic standpoint it is apparent that a utility does not
2 simply design its generating system to meet the coincident peak demand,
3 regardless of whether one focuses on 1, 2, 3, 4, or 12 hours of each year.
4 Yet, this is the underlying basis of the various CP allocation methods. In
5 reality, when designing the system, management is also concerned with
6 system reliability, fuel costs, ability to generate energy, fuel diversity,
7 operation and maintenance expenses, and geographic characteristics. If
8 design decisions were based exclusively on the need to meet coincident
9 peak demands, the utility would only build peaking units, because this
10 would be the most cost-effective means of building a system that only
11 needs to fulfill demand during during just 1, 2, 3, 4 or 12 hours of the year.

12 In reality, the Company's generating plant investment includes a wide
13 variety of different technologies, including nuclear and coal fired
14 generators and combined cycle plants. In fact, combustion turbines
15 represent a relatively small share of APS's investment in generating plant.
16 APS's combustion turbine plants represent only approximately \$381 million
17 in installed investment, while the Company has invested nearly \$4 billion in
18 nuclear and coal fired steam plants. Given the magnitude of APS'
19 investment in nuclear and coal plants, they are of crucial importance in
20 evaluating the reasonableness of alternative production cost allocation
21 options.

22 From an economic perspective, the presence of these base-load
23 plants, rather than just peaking plants, is strong evidence that factors
24 other than peak demand have strongly influenced the Company's

1 production-related investment decisions. The selection of coal and nuclear
2 technology is primarily justified by the desire to achieve greater reliability
3 and lower fuel costs than could be achieved if cheaper gas-fired
4 combustion turbines were relied upon exclusively. Both of these factors
5 (fuel cost savings and increased reliability) are related to the need to
6 supply customers with energy throughout the year, and are largely
7 unrelated to the timing or magnitude of system peak demand
8 requirements.

9 Upon closer examination, it is clear that the great majority of a
10 baseload plant's capital costs can logically be attributed to energy sales as
11 opposed to peak demand or kW capacity. For instance, suppose it costs
12 \$1,000/kW to build a baseload coal plant and \$250/kW to build a
13 combustion turbine. Of the \$1,000/kW of the coal plant's fixed capital cost,
14 at most \$250/kW, or 25%, can be logically attributed to peak demand
15 requirements. Logically, the remaining \$750/kW, or 75%, was incurred in
16 an effort to achieve lower fuel costs, improved fuel diversity (lower risk of
17 fuel price volatility) and greater reliability. All of these explanatory factors
18 relate to the need to meet energy requirements throughout the year, rather
19 than the need to serve the system load during a few peak hours of the year.

20 Base-load plants provide more favorable kWh-generating
21 characteristics, but these beneficial characteristics are costly. For
22 instance, by introducing steam boilers into the process used to convert the
23 fuel into electrical energy, the engineers can reduce the amount of fuel
24 which must be burned, per kWh generated. However, steam boilers are

1 costly. Similarly, additional investments are required in order to burn coal,
2 relative to natural gas; however, the additional investment is worthwhile
3 because coal tends to be somewhat cheaper per BTU, relative to natural
4 gas, and it is less volatile – offering greater fuel cost stability. Similarly,
5 combined cycle plants tend to be more complex, and more costly to
6 construct than combustion turbines, but they are more energy efficient,
7 and thus can generate large volumes of energy at lower costs per-kWh
8 than a pure peaking plant.

9 Because the Company must generate kWhs during many hours of the
10 year (not just during the peak hours), a base-load or combined cycle plant
11 is more economical on a cost per kWh basis, when everything is considered
12 (not just peak demand). These cost savings heavily influence the
13 Company's plant investment decisions, yet those savings are a function of
14 kWh sales, not of peak kW demand during a handful of hours.

15 A pure CP allocation approach does not recognize causal
16 relationships which explain much of the Company's investment in
17 generating plants. The pure CP approach ignores the importance of energy
18 efficiency, fuel diversity, and other factors, which are at least equally
19 important as peak demand in the overall decision making process. Nor
20 does the pure CP approach assign any cost responsibility to classes which
21 happen to be off the system at the time of the coincident peak, even though
22 these classes impose a regular recurring demand on the system, and gain
23 great benefit from it.

24

1
2 **Q. Would you please describe the Average and Excess Demand method?**

3 A. Certainly. There are several variations of the AED method, but I will
4 concentrate on the most common. The first portion of the allocation, the
5 average demand, can be derived by multiplying the non-coincident peak
6 demand for each load by its associated load factor. Consider a simplified
7 system consisting of four classes. As shown on Schedule BJ-15, Class A has
8 a 50 kW load that runs at all times. Class B has a maximum load of 100 kW,
9 and a load factor of 50%; it does not operate during the system coincident
10 peak hours. Class C is similar, with a maximum load of 100 kW, and a load
11 factor of 50%; however, 75kW of its load is present when the system
12 coincident peaks occur. Finally, Class D has a 25% load factor; its
13 coincident peak load is 150kW, and its non-coincident peak (NCP) is
14 200kW.

15 The system CP demand in this example equals 275 kW and the sum
16 of the NCP demands equals 450 kW. The average demand would equal 50
17 kW in each case, with the system average demand totaling 200kW. The
18 excess portion is determined by subtracting the calculated average
19 demand from the non-coincident peak demand. In this example, total
20 excess demand equals 0 kW, 50 kW, 50kW, and 150 kW, for classes A, B, C
21 and D, respectively.

22 In the Average and Excess method, total excess demand for each load
23 is typically allocated in a way that ensures the total system average and
24 excess demand equals the system coincident peak demand. The formula for
25 the allocated excess demand for load (B) would look like this:

1 ((B)Excess/System Excess)*(Sys CP-Sys Ave) or (50/250)*(275-200) =
2 15kW. Load (B)'s average and excess demand then equals 50 + 15 or 65
3 kW. In turn, each load or class would be allocated a share of the system
4 generating costs, based upon its proportionate share of the calculated
5 average and excess demand.

6 In this example, the respective average and excess demands would
7 be as follows: Load A 50kW, Load B 65kW, and Load C 65kW, Load D 95kW.
8 In turn, Load A would be allocated 18.2% of the costs, Load B would be
9 allocated 23.6%, Load C would be allocated 23.6%, and Load D would be
10 allocated 34.5%.

11 The AED approach assumes that part of a utility's plant investment is
12 a response to (or should be allocated on the basis of) the average demand
13 (or kWh consumption) on the system throughout the year, and the
14 remainder is a response to (or should be allocated on the basis of) the
15 difference between average demand and the individual NCP of each class.
16 Simply stated, I agree with the first half of this reasoning, but not with the
17 second half. To the extent that this approach acknowledges year-round
18 energy sales as an influence on the design of the production system, it is
19 somewhat responsive to the issues addressed in the last APS rate case.
20 However, unlike the Average and Peak method recommended by the Staff
21 in that case, the AED method does not consider the contribution of each
22 class to the overall coincident system peak, and instead it places emphasis
23 on "excess" demand, which is the mathematical difference between
24 average demand and NCP, regardless of whether or not that individual

1 peak occurs at a time when other classes are also imposing heavy loads on
2 the system.

3 This calculated difference (called "excess" demand) is not closely
4 related to the factors which cause a utility to incur generating and
5 transmission costs, and it does not result in a more reasonable basis for
6 allocating such costs than the average and peak method recommended by
7 the Staff in the last case. This is true for two reasons. First, the design of
8 generating systems is based less upon non-coincident peak than it is based
9 upon coincident peaks. A utility like APS needs enough generating capacity
10 to serve its coincident system peak loads; it does not need to build
11 generating capacity to meet the individual non-coincident peak loads of the
12 various classes.

13 To the extent these NCPs happen to exceed the average load of that
14 class, or it's coincident peak, the additional load doesn't necessarily impose
15 any additional costs on the system – particularly if the NCP happens to
16 occur at a time when the demand imposed by other classes happens to be
17 low. For example, street lighting customers might happen to experience
18 their maximum individual NCP at night in the winter, at a time when ample
19 excess capacity exists on the system, because other classes are using
20 relatively little electricity at that time. In sum, there is no economic
21 justification for using the "excess" statistic as a basis for determining the
22 relative share of costs which should be borne by the various customer
23 classes. Stated a bit differently, the distinctive aspect of the AED method –
24 its reliance on the excess of NCP demand over average demand – is not

1 well founded. Excess demand does not drive system design, and it does
2 not yield an improvement over the Average and Peak method
3 recommended by the Staff in the last rate case.

4

5 **Q. Would you please elaborate on your explanation of why you don't**
6 **believe the AED method is the best response to the concerns**
7 **expressed by the Commission in the last case?**

8 A. Yes. A portion of the plant investment is closely related to the need to
9 generate electrical energy at minimum cost. Hence, there is merit to giving
10 consideration to energy or "average" demand (which is mathematically
11 equivalent to kWh) in the cost allocation process, as suggested in the last
12 case.

13 The Company's study in this proceeding is somewhat responsive to
14 the Commission's directive in the prior case, but I believe the AED method
15 is not the optimal approach, because of its emphasis on "excess" demands,
16 which do not sufficiently relate to the underlying economics involved in the
17 production process.

18 Additional peaking capacity is needed in order to meet the higher
19 load that occurs during the hottest days of the summer. However, the
20 additional production and transmission costs that the Company incurs in
21 order to serve demands that exceed the average demand are almost
22 entirely related to fluctuations in the overall system demand, not
23 fluctuations in the demand of individual customers or classes, or the
24 "excess" of those demands over the class average. Thus, if an increase in

1 demand by Class A is offset by a decrease in demand by Class B, these two
2 fluctuations may cancel out, resulting in little or no need to build more
3 peaking plants, or otherwise incur extra generation and transmission costs
4 as a result of the demand fluctuations.

5 Under the Company's AED approach, a large fraction of the
6 generating costs are allocated in accordance with each class's calculated
7 excess demand (i.e., the NCP demand less the average demand of each
8 class). The implicit premise is that "excess" costs (beyond those which
9 would be incurred if every customer had a 100% load factor) must also be
10 incurred, because of these excess demands. However, this reasoning is
11 overly simplistic, and it ignores the many intervening factors that
12 determine whether, and to what extent, fluctuations in individual loads
13 impose any additional cost on the system as a whole. For instance, the
14 AED method doesn't adequately consider the need to maintain generating
15 plants, which can be scheduled during hours of the day, or months of the
16 year, when load is below the peak levels.

17 The AED methodology implicitly assumes that all of the seasonal and
18 daily load variations of classes with fluctuating demands is costly and
19 detrimental to the system, imposing "excess" costs which must not be
20 allocated to high load factor customers. In fact, a 100% load factor
21 customer would have not "excess" demand, and thus would not bear any
22 share of the costs that are allocated in proportion to excess demand. This
23 is too extreme a view of the situation, however. To some extent,
24 fluctuations in loads, as experienced by low load factor classes, such as

1 residential and small commercial customers, are somewhat beneficial to
2 the system, because they facilitate scheduled plant maintenance. For
3 instance, the lull in demand which is typically experienced in the spring
4 and autumn months allows the utility to schedule maintenance activities
5 during this period. If the system did not have this periodic drop in demand,
6 it would be necessary to build additional plants, which would be needed to
7 maintain output while other units are being serviced.

8 If every class were to shift its load away from the peak periods, in
9 order to achieve 100% load factors (holding kWh constant), the system
10 capacity and generating costs could be reduced somewhat. But it would
11 not be feasible to reduce costs to the full extent implied by the AED
12 method. Any resulting savings would be far less than the level of "excess"
13 costs which is implicitly assumed in the Company's AED methodology.

14 The AED method assumes that demands that are in "excess" of the
15 average are costly to serve. While there is an element of truth in this
16 assumption, the AED method greatly exaggerates the additional burden
17 imposed by fluctuating demands. Among other reasons, it fails to
18 recognize that peaker plants can serve "excess" demand at a lower cost
19 per unit of peak capacity than the baseload plants that are used to provide
20 energy, and because it fails to consider the fact that no generating plant is
21 capable of running 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

22 In fact, if every class maintained a 100% load factor, the Company
23 would nevertheless have to install capacity beyond that required to meet
24 the average demand. A set of base-load units sized to just meet the class

1 demand would not be sufficient, because they would lack sufficient spare
2 capacity for scheduled (or unscheduled) maintenance. Despite having a
3 perfectly flat load, the Company would still need to install peaking plants,
4 or combined cycle plants, in excess of the average (equals peak) demand
5 on the system, in order to maintain reliability and allow for maintenance.
6 Thus, if every customer class had a 100% load factor (NCP equaled
7 Average Demand), costs would decline by far less than the portion of the
8 total costs which is allocated using excess demand in the AED method.

9 The average and excess methodology essentially ignores this fact.
10 Classes with a 100% load factor are completely exempt from helping to pay
11 for the portion of the Company's production costs which is allocated using
12 the "excess" allocation factor. In effect, the costs of "excess" capacity
13 (beyond the average level of demand) are allocated almost entirely to low
14 load factor customer classes, including the residential class. This is
15 inequitable and inconsistent with the underlying economics of the
16 production process. Hence, the AED method yields unreasonable results.

17
18 **Q. Is there another problem with the Average and Excess method?**

19 A. Yes. Another serious flaw is that the AED method completely ignores
20 relative class contributions to the system coincident peak. Yet, the
21 coincident peak is actually far more important than the NCP as an
22 explanatory factor which influences production costs. To the extent a cost
23 allocation method is supposed to reflect the factors which "cause" costs, it
24 makes sense to give substantial consideration to coincident peak data, and

1 it makes little sense to focus on non-coincident peaks. Because the AED
2 method fails to give any weight to CP data, it treats customer classes with
3 equivalent load factors the same, even if one class contributes to the
4 system peak, while the other doesn't.

5 To illustrate this problem, consider again the hypothetical example I
6 discussed above. Class B and Class C are both allocated 23.6% of the costs
7 under the AED method. Yet, Class C is contributing to the system
8 coincident peak, while Class B is not. A reasonable cost allocation method
9 would give some consideration to this difference in circumstances, and
10 allocate less cost to Class B, in recognition of its favorable off-peak
11 characteristics.

12

13 **Q. Have you developed an alternative to the Average and Excess**
14 **formula?**

15 A. Yes, I have. My recommended approach recognizes that the primary
16 purpose of the Company's production plant is to provide energy used by its
17 customers, and thus it gives considerable weight to energy (average
18 demand). However, my recommended approach also recognizes that it is
19 less costly to serve customers with high load factors (their use of energy
20 occurs fairly uniformly throughout the day, 365 days a year), and
21 customers who consume little or no energy during times when energy use
22 is at a peak (e.g. street lighting, which occurs in the evening). These types
23 of customers are allocated a relatively small share of the cost of production
24 plant, while customers with loads that fluctuate in synch with the system
25 are allocated a somewhat higher share.

1 Specifically, I recommend using a weighted blend of the average, 1CP
2 and 4 CP demand statistics. This weighted allocation approach is similar
3 to the one recommended by the Staff in the last case, but it is more closely
4 tied to the specific mix of generating plants used by APS. It recognizes that
5 the Company's kW demand varies from hour to hour and month to month,
6 thus the contribution of each class to the system peak does influence
7 generation costs, and should be considered in the cost allocation process.
8 However, it also recognizes that most of the Company's production related
9 investment is in baseload generating plants, which are designed and
10 constructed for the purpose of providing energy throughout the year at the
11 lowest feasible cost per kWh. The cost of these baseload production
12 facilities should logically be allocated almost entirely in accordance with
13 each class's kWh purchases.

14
15
16 **Q. Can you please explain the general approach you used to develop**
17 **this weighted blend of the Average, 1CP and 4CP demand?**

18 A. Yes. I started by reviewing descriptive data for each of the Company's
19 generating units, as shown on Schedule BJ-16. As shown on that schedule
20 I grouped all of the APS generating units into three broad categories –
21 baseload, mid, and peaking, based primarily on their operating cost per
22 kWh generated (based primarily on the cost of fuel), and the extent to
23 which the unit is operated throughout the entire year, or only during a
24 small number of hours.

1 While there are variations in the design and efficiency of each of the
2 units, the ones that I have classified as baseload plants share certain
3 common characteristics. They are all operated close to their full name
4 plant capacity during a high percentage of the days, and hours, of the year.
5 I estimate the overall average rate of usage is about 76.5% -- which is close
6 to the theoretical maximum possible, given the need to periodically take
7 the Palo Verde units down for refueling, and the need to take units offline
8 for both scheduled and unscheduled maintenance. Not only are these
9 plants relied upon to generate energy throughout the entire year, they do
10 so at relatively low cost per kWh, with fuel and other production expenses
11 averaging just 2.6 cents per kWh.

12 At the other end of the spectrum, the Company has a group of plants
13 that are designed and used for the purpose of serving the portion of the
14 Company's electricity sales that occurs only during a limited number of
15 peak hours, particularly the hot summer afternoons. The cost of providing
16 energy during these peak hours tends to be higher than during other hours
17 of the year, for several reasons, including the need to install additional
18 generating capacity which is only needed for a relatively small number of
19 hours each year - spreading the fixed costs of a generating unit over a
20 small number of hours inevitably results in a high cost per kWh. In an
21 effort to hold down these fixed costs, the Company has installed
22 combustion turbines, which can be designed and installed quickly, and
23 which cost less to construct than baseload plants. As shown at the bottom
24 of Schedule 16, these peaking units are relatively costly to operate, with

1 fuel and other production expenses averaging 7.9 cents per kWh, which is
2 three times the cost of operating the baseload plants. However, these units
3 are relatively inexpensive to construct.

4 Both combustion turbines and baseload plants enable a utility to
5 serve the demand on its system. The key factor that determines the choice
6 of technology (and fuel selection) is the overall effective cost, taking into
7 account not only peak demand, but also the total volume of electricity that
8 needs to be provided to customers. In order to reduce the cost of
9 providing energy throughout the year, utilities like APS invest more
10 upfront, in order to gain the benefit of lower fuel and other operating
11 costs.

12 The data on Schedule 16 demonstrates these differences in
13 construction and operating costs, although the pattern is somewhat
14 obscured because different units were constructed during different time
15 periods. As a result of inflation, technological changes, and changing
16 environmental standards, the installed cost of a plant constructed in 1972
17 cannot be directly compared with one installed 30 years later. However,
18 throughout the past 40 years, it has generally been the case that
19 combustion turbines were less costly to install than coal and nuclear fired
20 baseload plants. Large investments were made in coal and nuclear plants
21 because they were expected to achieve lower operating costs on a per kWh
22 basis over the life cycle of the plant.

23 This trade off can be readily seen by comparing 4 Corners Unit 4,
24 which was constructed during the 1974-76 time frame with Yucca Unit 3

1 which was constructed during the 1973-74 time frame. This coal plant cost
2 \$748 per kW to construct, whereas APS was able to install Yucca 3 at a
3 cost of just \$174 per kW. When APS chose to spend more than three times
4 as much to build a coal plant, it was not being irrational or imprudent – it
5 was recognizing the need to provide energy throughout every hour of the
6 year, and the importance of minimizing fuel costs in evaluating the most
7 cost-effective way of serving this need.

8 During the test year, 4 Corners Unit 4 was operated at 80.5% of its
9 theoretical potential (about the maximum rate possible, considering the
10 need for maintenance), whereas the equivalent statistic for Yucca 3 was
11 less than 2%. These operational differences are reflected in equally stark
12 differences in the level of production expenses associated with these units.
13 APS incurred expenses of just 2.4 cents per kWh generated by the coal
14 unit, while it spent an average of 19.4 cents for each kWh generated by
15 Yucca 3. Needless to say, these contrasting statistics are closely related to
16 each other – while Yucca 3 was much cheaper to build, it is much more
17 costly to operate, and thus it is only cost effective to use it during a relative
18 handful of peak hours during the year.

19 The logic I used in developing my recommended approach to
20 allocated production costs is straightforward. I began with the premise
21 that the installed cost of peaking units should be allocated to customers in
22 proportion to their usage during times when the overall system is
23 experiencing peak usage. These particular generating facilities are needed
24 to serve the extraordinarily high demand levels which occur during the

1 system peak hours, and thus it is reasonable and logical to allocate the cost
2 of peaking plants on the basis of class contributions to the system peaks.
3 Since each customer class present during the annual peak contributes to
4 the need for these peaking units, it is reasonable to allocate this portion of
5 of the Company's production costs in proportion to coincident peak
6 demand.

7 With respect to the cost of baseload generating plants, however, I
8 reasoned that most of the cost is unrelated to peak capacity, since the
9 equivalent capacity could have been constructed at a vastly lower cost per
10 unit. Hence, I concluded that the installed costs of baseload plants are
11 largely attributable to the need to generate energy – the additional
12 investment is incurred in an effort to achieve a lower cost per kWh, and to
13 diversify away from a single fuel source. Hence, it is more reasonable to
14 allocate most of the cost of the baseload units on the basis of average
15 demand or energy (they are mathematically equivalent).

16
17 **Q. Can you please describe the specific calculations you used to**
18 **develop your production allocation factor?**

19 A. Yes. I started with the relative magnitude of the Company's investment
20 (before depreciation) in baseload, mid and peaking plants, as developed in
21 Schedule BJ-16. I then used these proportions in developing a blended
22 allocation factor which gives substantial weight to Average demand, with
23 less weight given to 4CP demand, and even less weight to 1CP demand.
24 The resulting allocation factor effectively gives 62.83% weight to Average

1 Demand, 27.67% weight to 4CP, and 9.50% weight to 1CP. For the sake of
2 brevity, this can be referred to as the A-4-1 method.

	Installed Cost	Average Demand	4 CP	1CP
Baseload	73.74%	80.00%	20.00%	0.00%
Mid	19.18%	20.00%	60.00%	20.00%
Peaking	7.08%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%

4 **Q. How does your recommended production allocation approach**
5 **compare with the AED method?**

6 A. I believe this weighted approach is conceptually superior to the average
7 and excess method, while sharing all of its advantages over the pure 4CP
8 method used in the the Company's last rate case. For instance, both
9 approaches avoid focusing on a single statistic, and both use kWh (or its
10 equivalent, average kW demand) as the single most important statistic
11 used in developing a composite allocation factor. This avoids giving a
12 completely "free ride" to any one customer class, and helps produce
13 relatively stable cost-of-service study results over time.

14 However, my recommended method is superior to the average and
15 excess approach in that it focuses on the contributions of each customer
16 class to the system coincident peak demand, rather than focusing on non-
17 coincident "excess" demand. Under my approach, all customer classes are
18 assigned a share of the cost responsibility for the nuclear, steam and
19 combined cycle plants used in providing energy to these customers.
20 However, high load factor customer classes, and classes (like street

1 lighting) that are largely or entirely absent during the system peak are
2 assigned a smaller share of the production costs, consistent with the
3 relative importance of peaking units in the overall generating mix.

4

5 **Q. Have you developed any estimates of the impact of using different**
6 **approaches to the allocation of production costs?**

7 A. Yes, I have. For illustrative purposes, I developed two sets of alternative
8 cost of service results. One uses the 4CP method used in the prior case,
9 and the other uses my recommended approach, based on a weighted
10 combination of Average, 4CP and 1CP statistics (the the A-4-1 method).
11 The results are summarized on Schedule BJ-17, along with the results of
12 the Company's proposed AED method. All of these calculations are based
13 on the Company's revenue requirement filing, and thus the calculated
14 returns are substantially lower than would be computed if I had started
15 with RUCO's revenue requirement calculations.

16 As shown on Schedule BJ-17, there are both similarities and
17 differences in the cost results. For instance, both the AED and the A-4-1
18 method tend to place some responsibility for production costs on the Street
19 Lighting and Dusk to Dawn Classes, whereas the 4CP method used in the
20 last case tends to absolve these Classes of any responsibility for the
21 Company's generating plants – effectively giving them a free ride.

22 Relative to the 4CP method, the residential class generally shows
23 somewhat higher returns, and the General Service class generally shows
24 somewhat lower returns, under either the AED or the A-4-1 method, but

1 the differences are slightly more pronounced under the A-4-1 method, as
2 summarized in the following table, which summarizes some key results
3 from Schedule BJ-17:

4

Rate of Return	Average		
	AED	4CP	4CP and 1CP
Residential	2.85%	2.68%	3.05%
General Service	5.04%	5.14%	4.67%
Irrigation	6.91%	15.95%	6.94%
Street Lights	-0.03%	2.17%	0.55%
Dusk to Dawn	6.61%	8.06%	7.01%

6 The AED and 4CP methods generate rates of return of 2.85% and 2.68%
7 for the residential class, respectively. My recommended A-4-1 approach
8 results in a modestly higher rate of return of 3.05% for residential
9 customers as a whole. My proposed production allocation methodology
10 results in an overall rate of return of 4.67% for the General Service class,
11 compared to 5.04% and 5.14% for the AED and 4CP methods, respectively.

12 At this level of summarization, the most dramatic difference in
13 returns are for the Irrigation class, which shows a return of just 6.91%
14 using the AED approach and a nearly identical 6.94% using the A-4-1
15 approach, but a 15.95% return using the 4CP approach. The Street
16 Lighting class also shows widely varying returns, ranging from -0.03%
17 using the AED approach, .55% using the A-4-1 approach, and 2.17% using
18 the 4CP approach. Bear in mind that this table only illustrates the impact
19 of differences in production cost allocation methods, and it rolls together
20 multiple rate schedules within the Residential and General Service classes.

1 If other aspects of the study were also varied, or variations in individual
2 rate schedules were displayed, even wider variations in the rates of return
3 would be displayed.

4 As shown in BJ-16, the results for some individual rate schedules
5 differ significantly from these general patterns. For instance, Rate
6 Schedule E-20 (Church Service) shows a return under A-4-1 that is slightly
7 higher than under the 4CP method, whereas it shows a sharply lower
8 return under the AED method. This is probably a consequence of the AED
9 method's excessive emphasis on "excess demands" relative to the
10 individual non-coincident peak, which would adversely impact churches
11 that experience their peak load during the morning hours, although the
12 system as a whole is not peaking at that time. Similarly, the E-32 General
13 Service Rate Schedule shows a higher return under the A-4-1 method, and
14 a lower return under the AED method, relative to the 4CP method.

15
16
17

18 **IV. Revenue Distribution**

19

20 **Q. Let's turn to the fourth section of your testimony. What factors do**
21 **you think should be considered in developing the interclass revenue**
22 **distribution?**

23 A. I recommend giving some consideration to the cost of service results –
24 particularly the A-4-1 results, since I believe those are the most reliable

1 and meaningful. Further, some limited consideration should also be given
2 to the 4CP results, since that was the method relied upon in the prior rate
3 case. However, I think other factors are also important in developing a fair
4 and reasonable revenue distribution, including historical rate relationships,
5 ability to pay, relative risk, and demand or market conditions (including the
6 extent of any retail competition that might exist).

7 It is sometimes argued that the revenue burden should be distributed
8 among the classes based entirely upon the results of a particular class cost-
9 of-service study, at least as a goal. This argument has grown in popularity
10 as "cost-based" ratemaking has come into vogue. However, I fundamentally
11 disagree with this philosophy, particularly when it is tied to a single
12 embedded cost allocation study. Valid cost-of-service studies can provide a
13 useful starting point in developing the overall revenue distribution; but
14 even if the cost study itself isn't controversial, the ultimate determination
15 of rate spread should be tempered by consideration of other factors, such
16 as the ones I just enumerated.

17 Any proposal to move away from the existing rate relationships
18 should be implemented gradually. This is particularly important in a case
19 like the present one, where the cost allocation methods are a matter of
20 controversy, changes in the allocation methods are being proposed by
21 various parties, and there is relatively little information available to
22 evaluate how the various allocation methods react to changing weather
23 and economic conditions, and thus little is known about how the various
24 class returns react to changing conditions in the future.

1 In any event, the revenue distribution should not be designed merely
2 to track the results of a particular cost-of-service study. Instead, thought
3 should be given from the outset to the potential hardships imposed on
4 particular classes, historical relationships among the classes, and other
5 elements of interclass equity. Moreover, the Commission should recognize
6 that efforts to achieve uniform class rates of return are mostly fruitless.
7 Even if a consistent COS methodology is employed from case to case,
8 minor fluctuations in weather, economic conditions, and other variables
9 can easily produce absolute fluctuations in the class rates of return of 1%-
10 4% or even more, defeating such an attempt at uniformity. If an above-
11 average increase is imposed in one case (because a class appears to
12 earning less than the average return), a below-average increase may
13 appear appropriate in the very next case, simply because of minor
14 fluctuations in weather or usage patterns – even if the underlying
15 methodology is not changing. Of course, where changes in the costing
16 methodology are involved, the class returns can fluctuate by even wider
17 margins, due simply to differences in allocation techniques.

18 Given the inherent instability and subjectivity of the various
19 allocations, the goal of absolute uniformity in class rates of return can
20 probably never be achieved. Such an effort is an attempt to hit a moving
21 target, and that very effort can potentially conflict with important policy
22 objectives, like rate continuity, gradualism and stability.

23

24

1 **Q. How has the Company proposed to distribute its proposed revenue**
2 **increase among the various customer classes?**

3 A. The Company is proposing different percentage increases for the various
4 customer classes, in an effort "to make the classes more in line with its
5 cost of service ..." Of course, this goal of increased uniformity is
6 mathematically dependent on the specific allocation procedures used in its
7 latest study, including the AED method, which has not previously been
8 accepted, and which I recommend not be accepted. If different allocations
9 were used, the proposed revenue distribution wouldn't necessarily
10 represent a movement toward greater uniformity of returns.

11 The following table shows APS' estimated rates of return by customer
12 class associated with the Company's current rates and proposed rates,
13 based on the Company's cost allocations. The proposed rate changes
14 range from a low of 4.46% for the Water Pumping class to a high of 17.30%
15 for the Dusk to Dawn Lighting class. This wide range reflects the
16 Company's efforts to respond to the results of its cost-of-service study,
17 based on the assumption that rates should be more consistent with these
18 cost allocation results. As shown, the residential rate of return would more
19 than double under the Company's proposed rates, while the return
20 generated by the Outdoor Lighting class would quadruple.

21

Class	ROR	ROR	Revenue Increase
	Current Rates	Proposed Rates	
Residential	2.85	7.62	11.34%
General Service	5.04	10.55	9.71%
Irrigation and Water Pumping	6.91	13.19	4.46%
Outdoor Lighting	-0.03	3.15	15.05%
Dusk to Dawn Lighting	6.61	9.69	17.30%
Total	3.79	8.86	10.55%

1 Source: Schedules G-1, G-2, H-2

2

3 **Q. What is your reaction to APS' proposed revenue distribution?**

1 A. I disagree with the Company's proposed revenue distribution, for three
 2 reasons. First, the Company is attempting to move toward uniformity of
 3 returns under its most recent cost allocation study – an alignment which is
 4 neither desirable nor necessary. Second, some of the proposed rate
 5 changes are excessive. Even if Dusk to Dawn Lighting rates ought to be
 6 increased relative to other rates (which isn't necessarily true) an increase
 7 of 17% is clearly excessive. Third, the Company's cost study suffers from
 8 serious deficiencies, as I discussed earlier. Because of these deficiencies, it
 9 does not provide the most reasonable basis for evaluating the existing rate
 10 relationships or for developing a more appropriate revenue distribution.
 11 The specific returns earned by each of the classes depends in large part on
 12 the assumptions and allocation techniques adopted in the cost-of-service
 13 study. Different conclusions would be reached if a different allocation
 14 study is used as a benchmark for evaluating the existing rate relationships.

15

1 **Q. Have you evaluated the Company's proposed revenue distribution in**
2 **light of your recommended Cost of Service results?**

3 A. Yes. In some instances the Company is proposing above average increases
4 for customers who are already generating returns near, or above, the
5 system average. For instance, Dusk to Dawn is earning a return of 7.01%
6 under the A-4-1 approach and 8.06% under the 4CP approach, yet the
7 Company is proposing to increase rates by 17.30%, which is substantially
8 higher than the overall average increase.

9 Similarly, the Company is proposing below-average increases for
10 some Rate Schedules that currently show a relatively low rate of return
11 using the A-4-1 approach, suggesting an attempt to move toward
12 uniformity of returns under the AED approach which directly conflicts with
13 the analogous goal under the A-4-1 approach. For example, the Company
14 is proposing a 7.62% increase for schedule E-34 (General Service-Extra
15 Large), yet this rate schedule is only generating a 1.13% rate of return
16 using the A-4-1 approach, and just a 3.00% return using the 4CP approach.
17 These examples demonstrate that some of the Company's rate proposals
18 could actually move away from the goal of uniform returns.

19

20 **Q. Have you developed an alternative revenue distribution approach**
21 **which you are recommending to the Commission?**

22 A. Yes, I have developed an alternative methodology which gives considerable
23 weight to historic rate relationships, while also giving some consideration
24 to the cost of service results.

1 Specifically, starting with the results of my recommended cost of
2 service study, I looked for rate schedules with rates of return significantly
3 above or below the system average. I then checked to see how the return
4 compares to that generated using the 4CP method used in the prior case.
5 Where the 4CP study confirms the existence of a return that is above or
6 below the system average, I recommend giving a corresponding below- or
7 above-average percentage rate increase. If a rate schedule currently
8 generates a return that is reasonably close to the system average, I
9 recommend giving the rate schedule an increase that is approximately
10 equal to the overall average increase. Where my recommended cost of
11 service results differ greatly from both the system average and the results
12 using the 4CP method approved in the prior case, I suggest a more
13 cautious approach, applying a rate change that is the same as, or just
14 modestly different from, the overall system average.

15 In order to avoid inter-class inequities, and in recognition of the fact
16 that cost allocation studies are not perfectly precise, I believe that none of
17 the classes should receive percentage rate increases that differ
18 dramatically from the overall system average. The approach I have just
19 described gives reasonable weight to the cost of service results, moving
20 some of the class returns toward the average, without fine-tuning the
21 returns in a futile attempt to move toward complete uniformity. My
22 specific recommendations are as follows:

23 First, the following rate schedules have returns that are substantially
24 lower than the system average of 3.79%: Residential rates EC-1 Residential

1 Service with Demand Charge-Old (-1.97%), ECT-1R and ECT-2 Time of Use
2 with Demand Charge (-.69%), E-10 Residential Service-Old (-.41%), as well
3 as rates E-34 General Service-Extra Large (1.13%), General Service E-20
4 Church Rate (2.19%), and Street Lighting (.55%). In all of these cases, the
5 4CP cost allocation study confirms these rate schedules are generating
6 below-average returns (although the extent of the discrepancy isn't
7 necessarily the same). Hence, I recommend increasing these particular
8 rate schedules by a moderately higher percentage than the overall system
9 average increase (assuming the Commission is going to increase rates).

10 Second, the following rate schedules have returns that are
11 substantially higher than the system average of 3.79%: Rate E-12
12 Residential Service New (5.78%), General Services rates E-32 (101-400
13 kW) (5.55%), E-32 (21-100 kW) (6.49%), Irrigation (6.97%) and Dusk to
14 Dawn (7.01%). In all of these cases, the 4CP cost allocation study confirms
15 these rate schedules are generating above-average returns. Hence, I
16 recommend increasing these rates by somewhat less than the overall
17 system average increase (assuming the Commission is going to increase
18 rates).

19 Third, the remaining rate schedules have returns that are only
20 moderately different from the system average of 3.79%: Residential rates
21 ET-1 and ET-2 Time of Use (3.06%), General Service rates E-32 Time of Use
22 (3.82%), E-32 401+kW (4.87%) and E-30 and E-32 0-20kW (5.11%). Since
23 they are currently earning returns that are fairly close to the system
24 average, I recommend increasing these rates by the system average

1 increase. (No deviation from the system average is necessary or
2 appropriate). For convenience, all of these specific recommendations are
3 summarized in the last column of Schedule BJ-17.

4 The specific changes that would apply to each Rate Schedule, and
5 the resulting average rate changes applying to each class will depend, of
6 course, on the overall revenue requirement approved by the Commission.
7 In the revenue requirements phase of this proceeding RUCO did not
8 recommend any increase or decrease to rates. Hence, I have used a simple
9 hypothetical example to illustrate the effect of my recommended revenue
10 distribution approach. More specifically, I prepared the following table
11 based on the hypothetical assumption that the Commission approves an
12 overall rate increase of 10.0%, or \$263.7 million (before considering PSA
13 changes).

14

Class	Revenue Increase
Residential	4.28%
General Service	2.75%
Irrigation and Water Pumping	0.12%
Outdoor Lighting	8.90%
Dusk to Dawn Lighting	5.90%
Total	<u>3.55%</u>

16 In developing these illustrative calculations I used the PSA amounts
17 reflected in the Company original rate filing.

18

1

2 **V. Miscellaneous Tariff Issues**

3

4 **Q. Let's turn to the last section of your testimony. What other rate**
5 **design issues do you wish to discuss?**

6 A. I would like to comment on the Company's proposed residential time of use
7 (TOU) rates and Impact Fees.

8

9 **Q. Let's discuss the residential time of use rates. Can you please**
10 **describe the Company's existing rates?**

11 A. Yes. APS started implementing TOU rates in the 1980s. [Brandt Direct, p.
12 65] As of December 2007, 46% of total residential customers (61% of
13 residential kWh sales) are participating in a TOU rate. [Delizio Direct, p.
14 26]

15 In fact, the majority of APS' active residential rate schedules (4 of 7)
16 are TOU-based. [Delizio Direct, p. 23] The "Series 1" rates, ET-1 and ECT-
17 1R, have a broad 12-hour on-peak period, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m weekdays.
18 The "Series 2" rates have a more narrowly targeted 7-hour on-peak period,
19 from noon to 7:00 p.m. weekdays. [Delizio Direct, p. 25]

20

21 **Q. What changes is the Company proposing with regard to residential**
22 **TOU rates?**

23 A. First, the Company is proposing to "freeze" the "Series 1" TOU rates (ET-
24 1 and ECT- 1R) "to encourage participation in the Series 2 TOU rates and

1 the new TOU rate proposal." [Id., p. 26] The effect of this "freeze" is to
2 prevent any new customers from selecting the Series 1 TOU rate, without
3 forcing existing customers off the rate.

4 Second, the Company is proposing a new residential TOU rate with a
5 super peak price for the "most critical" summer hours. [Miessner Direct, p.
6 9]

7 This rate will be similar to rate ET-2, with a 7-hour on-
8 peak period, but will add a super peak price for weekday
9 afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. during June, July
10 and August. The summer off-peak price will be
11 discounted to off-set the higher super peak price. The
12 customer has the opportunity to have lower monthly bills
13 by reducing load during either the on-peak or super-peak
14 periods, or both. It will be available to all residential
15 customers who are served with advanced metering
16 infrastructure ("AMI") meters. [Id.]

17
18

19 **Q. What is your response to the Company's residential TOU proposals?**

20 A. In general, the Company is to be commended for offering residential
21 customers several TOU rate options, and for successfully marketing these
22 rates. As a result, a majority of the residential customers are currently
23 billed under a TOU rate, which provides them with more nuanced price
24 signals, and provides them with an incentive to trim usage during the
25 costly peak hours.

26 I would also note that the Company's "super-peak" proposal has
27 merit, in that it offers customers an option of a more narrowly focused
28 peak pricing plan, which primarily targets a relatively small number of
29 hours during the summer, when the Company incurs the additional costs
30 associated with combustion turbines. To the extent certain customers are

1 willing to reduce their usage during these hours, the Company will be able
2 to avoid the high cost of running its peaking plants. It is economically
3 efficient to provide customers with price signals that are consistent with
4 this underlying cost pattern. As well, if enough customers opt for this form
5 of pricing, and if they are willing to curtail their usage during these peak
6 hours, the Company will be able to avoid installing additional peaking
7 capacity.

8 While I agree with the philosophy behind this proposal, I am not
9 convinced the Company is going far enough toward aligning prices with
10 the underlying cost patterns. In particular, I note that the proposed
11 "super-peak" hours are uniformly applied throughout the summer months,
12 rather than being more narrowly focused on the specific hours and days
13 when the Company incurs the highest costs.

14 Mr. Miessner is proposing to offer a more highly targeted form of
15 peak pricing to General Service customers, what he refers to as "critical
16 peak pricing (CPP)." The CPP proposal targets a much smaller number of
17 hours with much higher prices (offering a greater incentive for customers
18 to reduce their usage during those hours). Not only is the CPP proposal
19 focused on a smaller number of hours, it is more focused on the specific
20 situations when costs are highest – the particular hours when the system is
21 experiencing unusually high loads, or limited generating capacity, or both.

22 Rather than applying the CPP approach to residential customers, Mr.
23 Miessner advocates using a broader "super-peak" approach because he
24 believe it will offer lower implementation costs, and achieve higher

1 customer acceptance. While this reasoning isn't implausible, neither is it
2 self-evident that the more narrowly focused CPP approach is better suited
3 for General Service customers than for residential customers.

4 To be fully effective, customers need to be informed of a "critical
5 peak" shortly before it occurs, so that they have an opportunity to adjust
6 their thermostats, avoid running their dishwasher or doing their laundry, or
7 take other actions to reduce their load during the peak time period. While
8 it is potentially more difficult to contact a large number of residential
9 customers than to contact a smaller number of General Service customers,
10 with today's technologies, it doesn't have to be costly to do this in either
11 case. If CPP customers are contacted using a combination of emails, text
12 messages and "robo-calls" (recordings sent to the customer's telephone), a
13 high percentage of the CPP customers will receive advance notification of
14 the peak period, the per-customer cost would be minimal, and it would be
15 just as practical to contact residential customers as General Service
16 customers.

17 In justifying the proposed CPP program for General Service
18 customers, Mr. Miessner says that it will "test the potential load reduction
19 during critical hours, customer acceptance, and will assess implementaiton
20 cost issues." Since the CPP proposal is effectively a pilot program, it
21 appears to me to be reasonable to include residential customers in this
22 pilot program. The Company has not offered any evidence suggesting that
23 a CPP approach will be successful with General Service customers but not
24 with residential customers. In both cases, opportunities exist for

1 customers to respond to narrowly focused, timely price signals, and in both
2 cases there is reason to be concerned that only a small number of
3 customers will initially volunteer to try this new pricing approach. By
4 testing it with both General Service and residential customers, the
5 Company would more quickly gain experience with the CPP approach – and
6 it is quite possible that the CPP approach will be more popular with
7 residential customers than with business customers.

8
9 **Q. Can you now discuss the Company's proposed "Impact Fee"?**

10 A. Yes. According to APS, the Commission has expressed a "desire to have
11 growth contribute a greater share to funding growth..." [Rumolo Direct,
12 p.9] In fact, as described by APS, in Decision No. 70185 "the Commission
13 approved revisions to Schedule 3 that requires new customers to pay for
14 infrastructure investment required to serve them." [Id., p. 10] The
15 Decision also required that proceeds received from customers through
16 Schedule 3 be booked as Contributions in Aid of Construction ("CIAC").
17 [Id.] APS' proposed impact fee is intended to recover the "annual capital
18 carrying cost" associated with the Schedule 3 CIAC, and "anticipated
19 increases in operations and maintenance expenses that are customer-
20 growth related. [Id., pp. 10-11] The Impact Fee would be charged to all
21 applicants requesting electric service, and would depend on the service
22 entrance size ("SES") that is required to serve the customer. [Id. p. 10]

23 On a going forward basis, Schedule 3 will recover a
24 significant portion of the distribution capital cost of
25 growth. What will not be recovered, however, are the
26 carrying cost expense of the tax asset created by

1 Schedule 3 CIAC and certain growth-related increases in
2 operating expenses. [Id., p. 12]

3
4 The proposed impact fee is based on "the average number of actual and
5 forecast meter sets for the five-year period ending 2012", resulting in an
6 overall average cost per meter set of \$2,100 and a typical residential fee of
7 \$1,300. [Id., p. 14] The first customer requesting permanent service at a
8 location would pay the impact fee. [Id., p. 15]

9
10 **Q. What is your response to the Company's proposed Impact Fee?**

11 A. To the extent inflation outstrips the benefits of technological improvements
12 and increased economies of scale, the Company's per-unit costs will tend to
13 increase as more people move to Arizona, and thus it becomes necessary to
14 expand the APS system. As the Commission has recognized, it might be
15 beneficial to develop a rate design which reflects this situation, so that
16 growth more nearly pays for itself. While I see some merit to the
17 Company's impact fee proposal, I do not recommend adopting the proposal
18 as filed. To the extent the Commission is interested in having growth
19 become more nearly self-funding, it should move cautiously, and it should
20 carefully think through the underlying issues before taking action.

21 If the Commission is interested in adopting an impact fee, it will need
22 to decide what portion of the cost of growth should be recovered through
23 this mechanism. For instance, should it only include distribution related
24 costs, or should it also include production and transmission costs? Should
25 it include the entire additional cost imposed when a new customer joins the
26 system, or only the difference between the current cost of serving a new

1 customer compared to the historical cost of serving existing customers?

2 Similarly, if the Commission is going to implement an impact fee, it
3 should be phased in carefully, to avoid having an undue impact on
4 customers who are currently constructing a new home or business, or who
5 have already purchased land with the intent of doing so. A carefully-
6 developed approach should ameliorate any adverse impact on the real
7 estate and construction industries, by providing them with ample notice
8 and an opportunity to adapt to the new system, and by helping to ensure
9 that the impact fee is borne by new customers, rather than by the people
10 who construct and sell new buildings. This can be accomplished by
11 announcing the impact fee in advance, by phasing it in over a reasonable
12 period of time, by providing all concerned with ample opportunity to adapt
13 to the new environment, and by structuring the fee as a cost of
14 construction, rather than a cost of occupying the new building.

15

16 **Q. Can you provide some additional, more specific guidance to the**
17 **Commission?**

18 A. Yes. First, it would be preferable to apply the impact fee during the
19 construction period, rather than at the end of the construction period, as
20 proposed by APS. This would ensure that the fee is appropriately included
21 in the principal amount of the construction and permanent financing,
22 rather than being treated as an out-of-pocket occupancy expense of the
23 new customer, analogous to the cost of furnishing the building. By
24 including the impact fee in a homeowner's monthly mortgage payments,

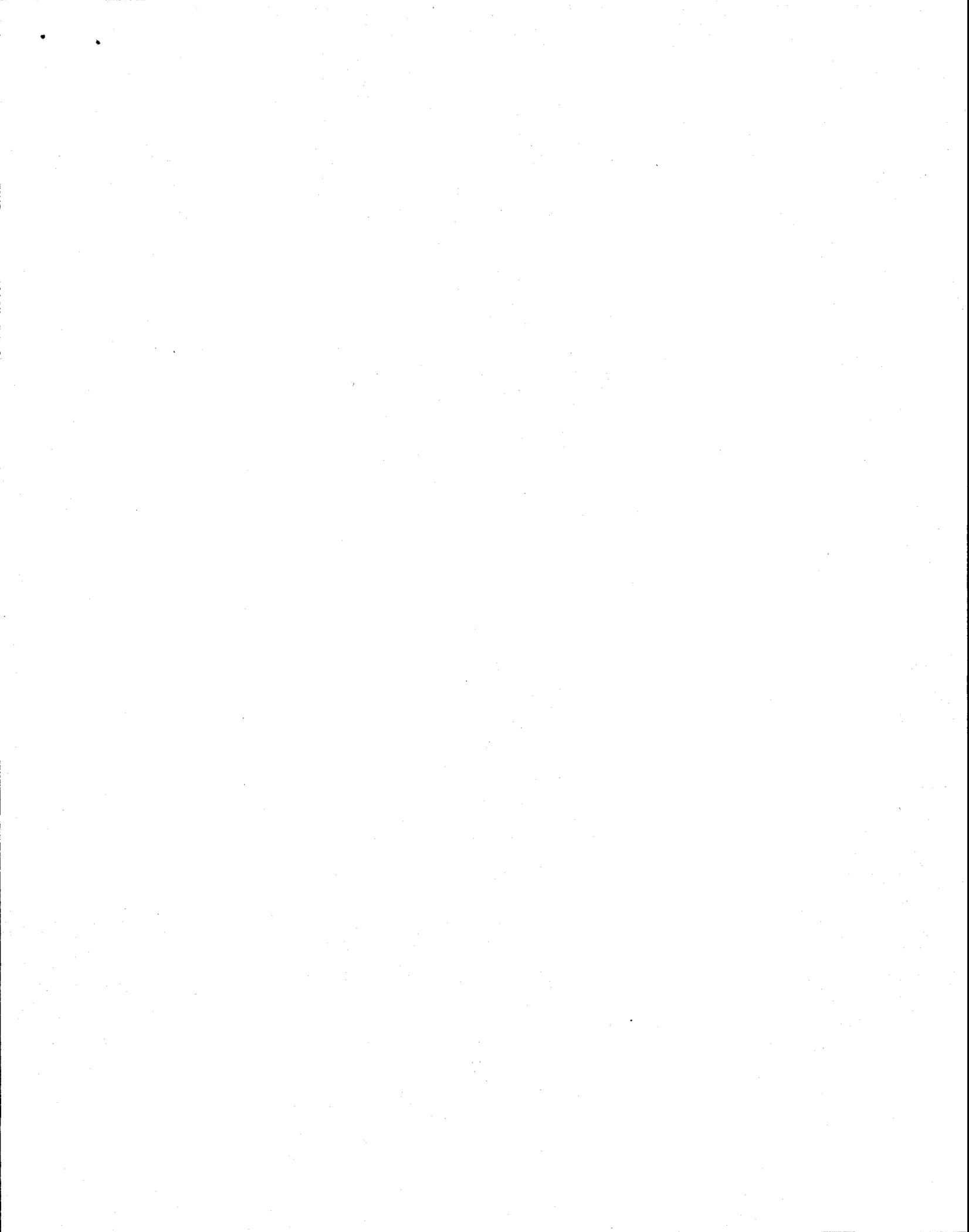
1 the impact will be spread over a lengthy period of time, just as if the costs
2 were recovered through the customer's monthly electrical bill.

3 Second, the impact fee should be designed in a manner that
4 minimizes any adverse impact on the real estate and construction
5 industries. Depending on how the fee is designed and phased-in, it could
6 actually help participants in these industries, by boosting the value of
7 existing, recently constructed buildings, and by providing an incentive for
8 customers to purchase recently constructed existing buildings, as well as
9 buildings that are constructed during the transitional period (prior to the
10 time when the impact fee goes into full effect).

11

12 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony concerning the cost of**
13 **service and rate design issues, which was prefiled on January 9,**
14 **2009?**

15 A. Yes.



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Appendix A
Qualifications

Present Occupation

Q. What is your present occupation?

A. I am a consulting economist and President of Ben Johnson Associates, Inc.®, a firm of economic and analytic consultants specializing in the area of public utility regulation.

Educational Background

Q. What is your educational background?

A. I graduated with honors from the University of South Florida with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics in March 1974. I earned a Master of Science degree in Economics at Florida State University in September 1977. The title of my Master's Thesis is a "A Critique of Economic Theory as Applied to the Regulated Firm." Finally, I graduated from Florida State University in April 1982 with the Ph.D. degree in Economics. The title of my doctoral dissertation is "Executive Compensation, Size, Profit, and Cost in the Electric Utility Industry."

Clients

Q. What types of clients employ your firm?

A. Much of our work is performed on behalf of public agencies at every level of government involved in utility regulation. These agencies include state regulatory

1 commissions, public counsels, attorneys general, and local governments, among others.
2 We are also employed by various private organizations and firms, both regulated and
3 unregulated. The diversity of our clientele is illustrated below.

4

5 Regulatory Commissions

6

- 7 Alabama Public Service Commission—Public Staff for Utility Consumer Protection
8 Alaska Public Utilities Commission
9 Arizona Corporation Commission
10 Arkansas Public Service Commission
11 Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control
12 District of Columbia Public Service Commission
13 Idaho Public Utilities Commission
14 Idaho State Tax Commission
15 Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance
16 Kansas State Corporation Commission
17 Maine Public Utilities Commission
18 Minnesota Department of Public Service
19 Missouri Public Service Commission
20 National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates
21 Nevada Public Service Commission
22 New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
23 North Carolina Utilities Commission—Public Staff
24 Oklahoma Corporation Commission
25 Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications
26 Staff of the Delaware Public Service Commission
27 Staff of the Georgia Public Service Commission
28 Texas Public Utilities Commission
29 Virginia State Corporation Commission
30 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

- 1 West Virginia Public Service Commission—Division of Consumer Advocate
- 2 Wisconsin Public Service Commission
- 3 Wyoming Public Service Commission

4 Public Counsels

- 5
- 6 Arizona Residential Utility Consumers Office
- 7 Colorado Office of Consumer Counsel
- 8 Colorado Office of Consumer Services
- 9 Connecticut Consumer Counsel
- 10 District of Columbia Office of People's Counsel
- 11 Florida Public Counsel
- 12 Georgia Consumers' Utility Counsel
- 13 Hawaii Division of Consumer Advocacy
- 14 Illinois Small Business Utility Advocate Office
- 15 Indiana Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor
- 16 Iowa Consumer Advocate
- 17 Maryland Office of People's Counsel
- 18 Minnesota Office of Consumer Services
- 19 Missouri Public Counsel
- 20 New Hampshire Consumer Counsel
- 21 Ohio Consumer Counsel
- 22 Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate
- 23 Utah Department of Business Regulation—Committee of Consumer Services

24

25 Attorneys General

- 26
- 27 Arkansas Attorney General
- 28 Florida Attorney General—Antitrust Division
- 29 Idaho Attorney General
- 30 Kentucky Attorney General
- 31 Michigan Attorney General

- 1 Minnesota Attorney General
- 2 Nevada Attorney General's Office of Advocate for Customers of Public Utilities
- 3 South Carolina Attorney General
- 4 Utah Attorney General
- 5 Virginia Attorney General
- 6 Washington Attorney General

7

8 Local Governments

9

- 10 City of Austin, TX
- 11 City of Corpus Christi, TX
- 12 City of Dallas, TX
- 13 City of El Paso, TX
- 14 City of Galveston, TX
- 15 City of Norfolk, VA
- 16 City of Phoenix, AZ
- 17 City of Richmond, VA
- 18 City of San Antonio, TX
- 19 City of Tucson, AZ
- 20 County of Augusta, VA
- 21 County of Henrico, VA
- 22 County of York, VA
- 23 Town of Ashland, VA
- 24
- 25 Town of Blacksburg, VA
- 26 Town of Pecos City, TX

27

1 Other Government Agencies

2

3

Canada--Department of Communications

4

Hillsborough County Property Appraiser

5

Provincial Governments of Canada

6

Sarasota County Property Appraiser

7

State of Florida—Department of General Services

8

United States Department of Justice—Antitrust Division

9

Utah State Tax Commission

10

11 Regulated Firms

12

13

Alabama Power Company

14

Americall LDC, Inc.

15

BC Rail

16

CommuniGroup

17

Florida Association of Concerned Telephone Companies, Inc.

18

LDDS Communications, Inc.

19

Louisiana/Mississippi Resellers Association

20

Madison County Telephone Company

21

Montana Power Company

22

Mountain View Telephone Company

23

Nevada Power Company

24

Network I, Inc.

25

North Carolina Long Distance Association

26

Northern Lights Public Utility

27

Otter Tail Power Company

28

Pan-Alberta Gas, Ltd.

29

Resort Village Utility, Inc.

30

South Carolina Long Distance Association

- 1 Stanton Telephone
- 2 Teleconnect Company
- 3 Tennessee Resellers' Association
- 4 Westel Telecommunications
- 5 Yelcot Telephone Company, Inc.

6

7 Other Private Organizations

8

- 9 Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest
- 10 Black United Fund of New Jersey
- 11 Casco Bank and Trust
- 12 Coalition of Boise Water Customers
- 13 Colorado Energy Advocacy Office
- 14 East Maine Medical Center
- 15 Georgia Legal Services Program
- 16 Harris Corporation
- 17 Helca Mining Company
- 18 Idaho Small Timber Companies
- 19 Independent Energy Producers of Idaho
- 20 Interstate Securities Corporation
- 21 J.R. Simplot Company
- 22 Merrill Trust Company
- 23 MICRON Semiconductor, Inc.
- 24 Native American Rights Fund
- 25 PenBay Memorial Hospital
- 26 Rosebud Enterprises, Inc.
- 27 Skokomish Indian Tribe
- 28 State Farm Insurance Company
- 29 Twin Falls Canal Company
- 30 World Center for Birds of Prey

31

1 ***Prior Experience***

2

3 **Q. Before becoming a consultant, what was your employment experience?**

4 A. From August 1975 to September 1977, I held the position of Senior Utility Analyst
5 with Office of Public Counsel in Florida. From September 1974 until August 1975, I
6 held the position of Economic Analyst with the same office. Prior to that time, I was
7 employed by the law firm of Holland and Knight as a corporate legal assistant.

8

9 **Q. In how many formal utility regulatory proceedings have you been involved?**

10 A. As a result of my experience with the Florida Public Counsel and my work as a
11 consulting economist, I have been actively involved in approximately 400 different
12 formal regulatory proceedings concerning electric, telephone, natural gas, railroad, and
13 water and sewer utilities.

14

15 **Q. Have you done any independent research and analysis in the field of regulatory
16 economics?**

17 A. Yes, I have undertaken extensive research and analysis of various aspects of utility
18 regulation. Many of the resulting reports were prepared for the internal use of the
19 Florida Public Counsel. Others were prepared for use by the staff of the Florida
20 Legislature and for submission to the Arizona Corporation Commission, the Florida
21 Public Service Commission, the Canadian Department of Communications, and the
22 Provincial Governments of Canada, among others. In addition, as I already mentioned,
23 my Master's thesis concerned the theory of the regulated firm.

24

1 **Q. Have you testified previously as an expert witness in the area of public utility**
2 **regulation?**

3 A. Yes. I have provided expert testimony on more than 250 occasions in proceedings
4 before state courts, federal courts, and regulatory commissions throughout the United
5 States and in Canada. I have presented or have pending expert testimony before 35
6 state commissions, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Communications
7 Commission, the District of Columbia Public Service Commission, the Alberta, Canada
8 Public Utilities Board, and the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communication.

9

10 **Q. What types of companies have you analyzed?**

11 A. My work has involved more than 425 different telephone companies, covering the
12 entire spectrum from AT&T Communications to Stanton Telephone, and more than 55
13 different electric utilities ranging in size from Texas Utilities Company to Savannah
14 Electric and Power Company. I have also analyzed more than 30 other regulated firms,
15 including water, sewer, natural gas, and railroad companies.

16

17 *Teaching and Publications*

18

19 **Q. Have you ever lectured on the subject of regulatory economics?**

20 A. Yes, I have lectured to undergraduate classes in economics at Florida State University
21 on various subjects related to public utility regulation and economic theory. I have also
22 addressed conferences and seminars sponsored by such institutions as the National
23 Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), the Marquette University
24 College of Business Administration, the Utah Division of Public Utilities and the
25 University of Utah, the Competitive Telecommunications Association (COMPTEL), the

1 International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO), the Michigan State University
2 Institute of Public Utilities, the National Association of State Utility Consumer
3 Advocates (NASUCA), the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), North Carolina
4 State University, and the National Society of Rate of Return Analysts.

5

6 **Q. Have you published any articles concerning public utility regulation?**

7 A. Yes, I have authored or co-authored the following articles and comments:

8

9 "Attrition: A Problem for Public Utilities—Comment." *Public Utilities Fortnightly*,
10 March 2, 1978, pp. 32-33.

11

12 "The Attrition Problem: Underlying Causes and Regulatory Solutions." *Public Utilities*
13 *Fortnightly*, March 2, 1978, pp. 17-20.

14

15 "The Dilemma in Mixing Competition with Regulation." *Public Utilities Fortnightly*,
16 February 15, 1979, pp. 15-19.

17

18 "Cost Allocations: Limits, Problems, and Alternatives." *Public Utilities Fortnightly*,
19 December 4, 1980, pp. 33-36.

20

21 "AT&T is Wrong." *The New York Times*, February 13, 1982, p. 19.

22

23 "Deregulation and Divestiture in a Changing Telecommunications Industry," with
24 Sharon D. Thomas. *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, October 14, 1982, pp. 17-22.

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- 1 “Is the Debt-Equity Spread Always Positive?” *Public Utilities Fortnightly*,
2 November 25, 1982, pp. 7-8.
- 3
- 4 “Working Capital: An Evaluation of Alternative Approaches.” *Electric Rate-Making*,
5 December 1982/January 1983, pp. 36-39.
- 6
- 7 “The Staggers Rail Act of 1980: Deregulation Gone Awry,” with Sharon D. Thomas.
8 *West Virginia Law Review*, Coal Issue 1983, pp. 725-738.
- 9
- 10 “Bypassing the FCC: An Alternative Approach to Access Charges.” *Public Utilities*
11 *Fortnightly*, March 7, 1985, pp. 18-23.
- 12
- 13 “On the Results of the Telephone Network's Demise—Comment,” with Sharon D.
14 Thomas. *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, May 1, 1986, pp. 6-7.
- 15
- 16 “Universal Local Access Service Tariffs: An Alternative Approach to Access
17 Charges.” In *Public Utility Regulation in an Environment of Change*, edited by
18 Patrick C. Mann and Harry M. Trebing, pp. 63-75. Proceedings of the Institute of
19 Public Utilities Seventeenth Annual Conference. East Lansing, Michigan: Michigan
20 State University Public Utilities Institute, 1987.
- 21
- 22 With E. Ray Canterbery. Review of *The Economics of Telecommunications: Theory*
23 *and Policy* by John T. Wenders. *Southern Economic Journal* 54.2 (October 1987).
24

1 “The Marginal Costs of Subscriber Loops,” A Paper Published in the Proceedings of
2 the Symposia on Marginal Cost Techniques for Telephone Services. The National
3 Regulatory Research Institute, July 15-19, 1990 and August 12-16, 1990.

4
5 With E. Ray Canterbury and Don Reading. “Cost Savings from Nuclear Regulatory
6 Reform: An Econometric Model.” *Southern Economic Journal*, January 1996.

7

8 ***Professional Memberships***

9

10 **Q. Do you belong to any professional societies?**

11 A. Yes. I am a member of the American Economic Association.

12



ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
 ADJUSTED TEST YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007
 AVERAGE AND EXCESS DEMAND EXAMPLE

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-05-0816
 SCHEDULE BJ-15

LINE NO.	Customer Class	Maximum Load (KW)	Load Factor	Average Demand	Load at CP	Class NCP	Excess Demand	Allocated Excess Demand	Average and Excess Demand	Share of Production Costs
1	Class A	50	100%	50	50	50	0	0	50	18.18%
2	Class B	100	50%	50	0	100	50	15	65	23.64%
3	Class C	100	50%	50	75	100	50	15	65	23.64%
4	Class D	200	25%	50	150	200	150	45	95	34.55%
5	Total	450		200	275	450	250	75	275	100.00%

REFERENCE

N/A

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
 ADJUSTED TEST YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007
 PRODUCTION PLANT

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-05-08:
 SCHEDULE BJ-16

LINE NO.	Plant	Originally Constructed	Last Unit Installed	Plant Type	Fuel	Net Name Plate Capacity	Net Gen. (kWh)	Usage Rate	Installed Cost per KW	Installed Cost	Production Expenses	BTU per kWh	Production Expenses per kWh	Category	Installed Cost
1	Palo Verde 1	1986	1988	Nuclear	Uranium	408	3,188,660,166	89.2%	\$ 1,528	\$ 623,312,615	\$ 96,512,677		0.030	Baseload	
2	Palo Verde 3	1986	1988	Nuclear	Uranium	408	2,572,769,974	72.0%	2,488	1,014,927,265	61,804,525		0.024	Baseload	
3	Palo Verde 2	1988	1988	Nuclear	Uranium	409	2,032,246,125	56.7%	2,258	923,455,662	61,457,169		0.030	Baseload	
4	4 Corners 4	1974	1976	Steam	Coal	337	2,375,702,001	80.5%	748	252,089,737	56,055,229	10,130	0.024	Baseload	
5	Cholla 2	1980	1981	Steam	Coal	312	2,157,836,989	79.0%	755	235,477,994	45,579,657	10,470	0.021	Baseload	
6	Cholla 3	1978	1981	Steam	Coal	289	2,136,819,717	84.4%	973	281,201,560	49,276,910	10,396	0.023	Baseload	
7	Navajo 1,2,3	1964	1970	Steam	Coal	254	1,743,431,648	78.4%	573	145,568,767	42,024,177	10,786	0.024	Baseload	
8	4 Corners 5	1963	1970	Steam	Coal	190	1,349,710,429	81.1%	572	108,607,384	33,897,683	10,895	0.025	Baseload	
9	4 Corners 3	1963	1970	Steam	Coal	190	1,290,595,528	77.5%	589	111,953,998	40,142,615	10,756	0.031	Baseload	
10	4 Corners 2	1969	1970	Steam	Coal	123	784,575,583	72.8%	576	70,884,160	17,142,359	9,920	0.022	Baseload	
11	4 Corners 1	1962	1981	Steam	Coal	114	763,194,815	76.4%	944	107,583,682	33,139,293	10,734	0.043	Baseload	
12	Cholla 1	1969	1970	Steam	Coal	122	740,374,477	69.3%	740	90,257,070	15,939,639	9,949	0.022	Baseload	73.74%
						3,156	21,135,917,452	76.5%	\$ 1,256	\$ 3,965,319,894	\$ 552,971,933		0.026		
13	Redhawk 1	2002	2002	Combined Cycle	Gas	568	2,135,894,000	42.9%	\$ 448	\$ 254,395,792	\$ 158,121,378	7,472	0.074	Midload	
14	Redhawk 2	2002	2002	Combined Cycle	Gas	568	2,065,951,000	41.5%	371	210,663,269	152,815,442	7,546	0.074	Midload	
15	West Phoenix 5	2003	2003	Combined Cycle	Gas	569	1,445,027,000	29.0%	488	277,502,867	111,821,963	7,814	0.077	Midload	
16	West Phoenix 4	2001	2003	Combined Cycle	Gas	136	195,932,000	16.4%	675	91,863,895	18,472,726	8,652	0.094	Midload	
17	West Phoenix 1	1976	2003	Combined Cycle	Gas	132	133,819,130	11.6%	203	26,854,346	14,985,840	10,963	0.112	Midload	
18	West Phoenix 3	1976	2003	Combined Cycle	Gas	132	132,285,000	11.4%	254	33,558,421	13,027,561	9,456	0.098	Midload	
19	West Phoenix 2	1976	2003	Combined Cycle	Gas	132	126,870,450	11.0%	253	33,430,249	14,981,026	9,874	0.118	Midload	
20	Ocotillo 2	1960	1960	Steam	Gas	113	86,751,000	8.8%	240	27,154,548	8,566,084	11,815	0.099	Midload	
21	Ocotillo 1	1960	1960	Steam	Gas	114	81,725,000	8.2%	221	25,211,012	9,393,776	11,798	0.115	Midload	
22	Saguaro 1	1954	1955	Steam	Gas	125	49,811,000	4.5%	197	24,641,160	5,551,946	13,065	0.111	Midload	
23	Saguaro 2	1955	1955	Steam	Gas	125	47,821,000	4.4%	209	26,091,176	4,880,121	12,828	0.102	Midload	19.18%
						2,714	6,501,886,580	27.3%	\$ 380	\$ 1,031,366,735	\$ 512,617,863		0.079		
24	Sundance	2002	2002	Comb. Turbine	Gas	450	137,346,000	3.5%	\$ 610	\$ 274,648,128	\$ 17,713,378	10,027	0.129	Peaking	
25	Saguaro 3	2002	2002	Comb. Turbine	Gas	78	13,822,000	2.0%	369	28,806,668	2,061,761	13,129	0.149	Peaking	
26	Yucca 3	1973	1974	Comb. Turbine	Gas	56	9,534,000	1.9%	174	9,740,470	1,853,977	17,653	0.194	Peaking	
27	Yucca 1	1971	1974	Comb. Turbine	Gas	20	3,348,000	1.9%	208	4,159,742	846,486	17,182	0.253	Peaking	
28	Yucca 2	1971	1974	Comb. Turbine	Gas	20	2,450,000	1.4%	113	2,266,819	587,595	16,150	0.240	Peaking	
29	Ocotillo 1	1972	1973	Comb. Turbine	Gas	53	5,338,000	1.1%	166	8,822,832	1,043,950	16,568	0.196	Peaking	
30	West Phoenix 1	1972	1973	Comb. Turbine	Gas	53	4,930,000	1.1%	181	9,618,739	925,190	16,618	0.188	Peaking	
31	Ocotillo 2	1973	1973	Comb. Turbine	Gas	53	4,097,000	0.9%	147	7,789,741	850,054	17,028	0.207	Peaking	
32	West Phoenix 2	1973	1973	Comb. Turbine	Gas	53	3,648,000	0.8%	148	7,853,883	717,038	18,063	0.197	Peaking	
33	Saguaro 1	1972	2002	Comb. Turbine	Gas	53	2,214,000	0.5%	172	9,118,715	711,112	16,778	0.321	Peaking	
34	Saguaro 2	1973	2002	Comb. Turbine	Gas	53	1,585,000	0.3%	160	8,476,538	647,599	17,789	0.409	Peaking	
35	Yucca 4	1974	1974	Comb. Turbine	Oil	56	1,106,000	0.2%	127	7,092,696	707,318	19,836	0.640	Peaking	
36	Douglas	1972	1972	Comb. Turbine	Oil	21	135,000	0.1%	107	2,243,795	154,125	18,875	1.142	Peaking	7.08%
						1,019	189,553,000	2.1%	\$ 374	\$ 380,638,766	\$ 28,819,583		0.152		
37	Grand Total					6,889	27,827,357,032	46.1%		\$ 5,377,325,395	\$ 1,094,409,379				100.00%

Source:
 2007 FERC FORM 1

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
 ADJUSTED TEST YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007
 COST OF SERVICE SUMMARY

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-05-0816
 SCHEDULE BJ-17

LINE NO.	Customer Class	Average and Excess Demand	Rate of Return	4CP	Rate of Return	Weighted Average 4CP, ICP	Rate of Return	Recommended Increase
1	Residential	50.65%	2.85%	52.02%	2.68%	48.95%	3.07%	
2	E-10 (Residential Service-Old)	2.66%	-0.66%	2.63%	-0.60%	2.53%	-0.41%	Above Average
3	E-12 (Residential Service-New)	13.68%	5.86%	14.07%	5.65%	13.81%	5.78%	Below Average
4	EC-1 (Residential Service with Demand Charge-Old)	1.62%	-2.15%	1.60%	-2.10%	1.56%	-1.97%	Above Average
5	ET-1 & ET-2 (Time of Use)	26.20%	2.68%	27.32%	2.40%	24.71%	3.06%	Average
6	ECT-1R & ECT-2 (Time of Use with Demand Charge)	6.49%	-0.81%	6.40%	-0.73%	6.34%	-0.69%	Above Average
7	General Service	46.19%	5.04%	45.67%	5.14%	48.03%	4.69%	
8	E-20 (Church Rate)	0.22%	-0.82%	0.13%	2.05%	0.13%	2.19%	Above Average
9	E-32 (Time of Use)	0.51%	5.93%	0.48%	6.42%	0.64%	3.82%	Average
10	E-30 & E-32 (0-20 kW)	7.46%	3.53%	7.71%	3.31%	5.93%	5.11%	Average
11	E-32 (21-100 kW)	10.71%	5.67%	10.38%	5.94%	9.73%	6.49%	Below Average
12	E-32 (101-400 kW)	10.87%	5.87%	10.37%	6.32%	11.25%	5.55%	Below Average
13	E-32 (401+ kW)	10.44%	6.57%	10.64%	6.37%	12.34%	4.87%	Average
14	E-34 (General Service-Extra Large)	2.85%	3.48%	3.01%	3.00%	3.75%	1.13%	Above Average
15	E-35 (Time of Use-Extra Large)	3.13%	-0.50%	2.94%	0.00%	4.26%	-2.73%	Above Average
16	Irrigation	0.92%	6.91%	0.55%	15.95%	0.92%	6.97%	Below Average
17	Street Lights	0.39%	-0.03%	0.00%	2.17%	0.27%	0.55%	Above Average
18	Dusk to Dawn	0.08%	6.61%	0.00%	8.06%	0.06%	7.01%	Below Average
19	Total	98.23%	3.79%	98.23%	3.79%	98.23%	3.79%	

REFERENCE