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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2009 APR 21 P 4: 35

COMMISSIONERS

KRISTIN K. MAYES, Chairman  
GARY PIERCE  
PAUL NEWMAN  
SANDRA D. KENNEDY  
BOB STUMP

AZ CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF JOHNSON UTILITIES, LLC, DBA  
JOHNSON UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN  
INCREASE IN ITS WATER AND  
WASTEWATER RATES FOR CUSTOMERS  
WITHIN PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. WS-02987A-08-0180

**JOHNSON UTILITIES, LLC'S  
NOTICE OF FILING WITNESS  
SUMMARIES**

Snell & Wilmer

LLP  
LAW OFFICES  
One Arizona Center, 400 E. Van Buren  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202  
(602) 382-6000

Johnson Utilities, LLC, dba Johnson Utilities, through counsel undersigned,  
hereby files witness summaries for the following witnesses in the above-captioned  
matter:

Thomas J. Bourassa

Brian Tompsett

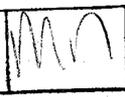
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 21st day of April, 2009.

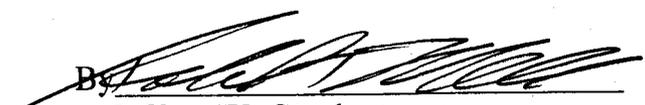
SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.

Arizona Corporation Commission

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DOCKETED BY 

By 

Jeffrey W. Crockett  
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1 ORIGINAL and 13 copies filed this  
2 21st day of April, 2009, with:  
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4 Docket Control  
5 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
6 1200 West Washington Street  
7 Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
8  
9 COPIES of the foregoing hand-delivered this  
10 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2009, to:  
11  
12 Teena Wolfe, Administrative Law Judge  
13 Hearing Division  
14 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
15 1200 W. Washington Street  
16 Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
17  
18 Ayesha Vohra, Staff Attorney  
19 Legal Division  
20 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
21 1200 W. Washington Street  
22 Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
23  
24 Ernest Johnson, Director  
25 Utilities Division  
26 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
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COPIES of the foregoing sent via e-mail and  
U.S. mail this 21st day of April, 2009, to:  
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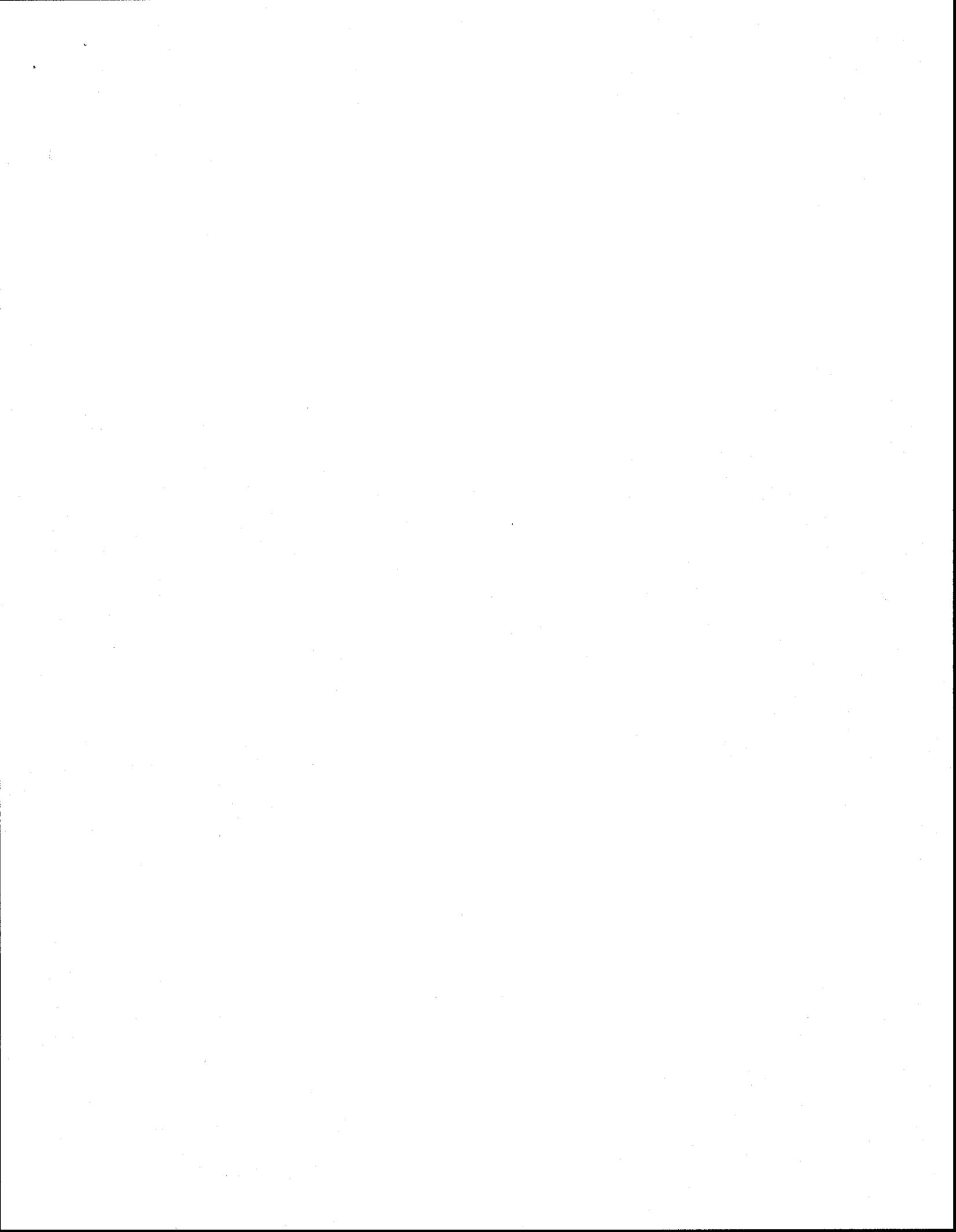
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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

COMMISSIONERS

KRISTIN K. MAYES—Chairman  
GARY PIERCE  
PAUL NEWMAN  
SANDRA D. KENNEDY  
BOB STUMP

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF JOHNSON UTILITIES, L.L.C., DBA  
JOHNSON UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN  
INCREASE IN ITS WATER AND  
WASTEWATER RATES FOR CUSTOMERS  
WITHIN PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. WS-02987A-08-0180

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY OF THOMAS J. BOURASSA**  
**ON BEHALF OF**  
**JOHNSON UTILITIES L.L.C., DBA JOHNSON UTILITIES COMPANY**  
**April 20, 2009**

1 Mr. Bourassa's testimonies were submitted in three separate volumes, one  
2 addressing the wastewater rate base, income statement and rate design, one addressing  
3 the water rate base, income statement and rate design addressing, and the third addressing  
4 cost of capital, filed as part of his direct, rebuttal and rejoinder testimonies.

5 **I. REVENUE REQUIREMENT**

6 A. Water Division.

7 The Company is requesting a decrease in revenues of \$2,879,022, a decrease of  
8 21.86 percent for a total revenue requirement of \$10,293,877.

9 The proposed revenue requirements and proposed rate increases are as follows:

	<u>Revenue Requirement</u>	<u>Revenue Incr.</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
11 Staff Surrebuttal	\$10,104,599	\$(3,068,899)	-23.29%
12 RUCO Surrebuttal	\$11,690,840	\$(1,482,059)	-11.25%
13 Company Rejoinder	\$10,293,877	\$(2,879,022)	-21.86%

14 In addition, the Company is proposing a rate of return on equity of 11.89% based on its  
15 weighted average cost of capital.

17 B. Wastewater Division.

18 The Company is requesting an increase in revenues of \$2,326,532, an increase of  
19 20.49 percent for a total revenue requirement of \$13,680,546.

20 The proposed revenue requirements and proposed rate increases are as follows:

	<u>Revenue Requirement</u>	<u>Revenue Incr.</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
22 Staff Surrebuttal	\$10,104,599	\$(3,068,899)	-23.29%
23 RUCO Surrebuttal	\$10,268,514	\$(1,085,500)	- 9.56%
24 Company Rejoinder	\$13,680,546	\$ 2,326,532	20.49%

1 **II. RATE BASE**

2 A. Water Division.

3 The Company is proposing a rate base of \$3,553,562. Rate bases proposed by all  
4 parties in the case are as follows:

	<u>OCRB</u>	<u>FVRB</u>
5 Staff Surrebutal	\$(15,633,302)	\$(15,633,302)
6 RUCO Surrebutal	\$( 5,556,766)	\$( 5,556,766)
7 Company Rejoinder	\$ 3,553,562	\$ 3,539,562

8  
9  
10 **Not Used and Useful:** With respect to plant that Staff and RUCO alleged is not  
11 “used and useful,” the Company agrees to remove \$3,394,895. Both Staff and RUCO  
12 propose an adjustment to remove plant not “used and useful” in the amount of  
13 \$4,127,079.

14 **Excess Capacity:** Staff and RUCO also allege that \$1,027,065 of plant is excess  
15 capacity and has proposed a corresponding reduction to rate base. The Company disputes  
16 this contention and is not proposing any reduction to rate base for excess capacity.

17 **Plant Reclassification:** Both RUCO and the Company plant reclassification  
18 amounts match the amounts set forth in Table 12 of Staff Exhibit MSJ. Staff’s  
19 adjustment does not match the amounts in Table 12.

20 **Unexpended Hook-up Fees (CIAC):** Both Staff and RUCO propose to include  
21 unexpended hook-up fees (CIAC) of \$6,931,078 in rate base. The Company disagrees  
22 and its rate base excludes the unexpended hook-up fees (CIAC).

23 **Affiliate Profit:** The Company proposes an adjustment to remove \$469,832 of  
24 affiliate profit using a profit percentage of 1.75 percent on plant constructed by affiliates  
25 totaling 26,847,516. Staff proposes an adjustment to remove \$5,696,336 of affiliate

1 profit using a profit percentage of 7.5 percent on all of the Company's water plant-in-  
2 service costs of \$79,591,151. RUCO has not proposed an adjustment for affiliate profit.

3 **Unsupported Plant Costs:** The Company believes it has adequately supported its  
4 plant costs and has not proposed any adjustments to its plant-in-service costs. RUCO  
5 does not propose an adjustment for unsupported plant-in-service costs while Staff  
6 proposes to remove \$7,959,115 of plant-in-service costs using an arbitrary 10 percent rate  
7 of all the Company plant-in-service costs of \$79,591,151.

8 **Accumulated Depreciation:** The Company proposes an increase in rate base for  
9 accumulated depreciation in the amount of \$5,662,795. Staff proposes a decrease in rate  
10 base of (\$1,314,871), RUCO proposes an increase in rate base of \$436,975.

11 **Deferred Assets:** Company accepts Staff's reduction of (\$633,537).

12 **Materials and Supplies:** All parties agree.

13 **Working Capital:** All the parties are now in agreement on \$0 working capital.  
14

15 B. Wastewater Division.

16 The rate bases proposed by all parties in the case are as follows:

	<u>OCRB</u>	<u>FVRB</u>
17 Staff Surrebutal	\$( 2,835,084)	\$( 2,835,084)
18 RUCO Surrebutal	\$ 11,252,776	\$ 11,252,776
19 Company Rebutal	\$ 3,553,562	\$ 3,539,562

20  
21  
22 **Used and Useful:** With respect to plant that Staff and RUCO alleged is not "used  
23 and useful," the Company agrees to remove \$2,209,026. Both Staff and RUCO propose  
24 an adjustment to remove plant not "used and useful" in the amount of \$4,595,298.  
25

1           **Excess Capacity:** Staff and RUCO also allege that \$5,443,062 of plant is excess  
2 capacity and has proposed a corresponding reduction to rate base. The Company disputes  
3 this contention and is not proposing any reduction to rate base for excess capacity.

4           **Unexpended Hook-up Fees (CIAC):** Both Staff and RUCO propose to include  
5 unexpended hook-up fees (CIAC) of \$16,505 in rate base. The Company disagrees and  
6 its rate base excludes the unexpended hook-up fees (CIAC).

7           **Affiliate Profit:** With respect to affiliate profit, the Company proposes an  
8 adjustment to remove \$800,179 of affiliate profit using a profit percentage of 1.75  
9 percent on plant constructed by affiliates totaling 45,724,058. Staff proposes an  
10 adjustment to remove \$8,992,170 of affiliate profit using a profit percentage of 7.5  
11 percent on nearly of all the Company's wastewater plant-in-service costs. Staff applies a  
12 7.5 percent rate to \$118,962,268 of the Company total plant costs of \$123,849,703.  
13 RUCO has not proposed an adjustment for affiliate profit.

14           **Unsupported Plant Costs:** The Company believes it has adequately supported its  
15 plant costs and has not proposed any adjustments to its plant-in-service costs. RUCO does  
16 not propose an adjustment for unsupported plant-in-service costs while Staff proposes to  
17 remove \$11,896,227 of plant-in-service costs using an arbitrary 10 percent rate of nearly  
18 all the Company plant-in-service costs. Staff applies a 10 percent rate to \$118,962,268 of  
19 the Company total plant costs of \$123,849,703.

20           **Post Test Year Plant-in-Service:** Staff proposes to exclude post test year plant of  
21 \$2,684,888. The Company proposes post test year plant totaling \$1,021,108 plus an  
22 adjustment to reclassify \$2,202,386 of post test year plant to test year plant-in-service.  
23 RUCO appears to be in agreement with the Company.

24           **Working Capital:** All the parties are now in agreement on \$0 working capital.  
25

1           **Accumulated Depreciation:** The Company proposes an increase in rate base for  
2 accumulated depreciation in the amount of \$7,560,886. Staff proposes a decrease in rate  
3 base of (\$1,674,032), RUCO proposes an increase in rate base of \$609,288.

4           **Deferred Assets:** Company accepts Staff's reduction of (\$986,826).

5   **III. INCOME STATEMENTS**

6           A.    Water Division.

7           **CAGR D Fees:** Staff and the Company are in agreement on the treatment of  
8 CAGR D fees as a pass-through like sales tax. RUCO continues to include the CAGR D  
9 fees in operating expenses and has not provided any additional testimony on this subject  
10 in its surrebuttal testimony.

11           **Income Taxes:** Both Staff and RUCO exclude income taxes from operating  
12 expenses and the revenue requirement while the Company continues to propose income  
13 taxes. The Company's position is that income taxes are required to be paid by members  
14 of an LLC on a utility's income and are an inescapable business expense that is directly  
15 attributed to the utility and is directly comparable with similar taxes paid by C  
16 corporations.

17           **Rate Case Expense:** All parties agree to \$100,000. While Staff and the Company  
18 agree to the use of a 3 year amortization period, RUCO proposes a 5 year amortization  
19 period.

20  
21           B.    Wastewater Division.

22           **Income Taxes:** Both Staff and RUCO exclude income taxes from operating  
23 expenses and the revenue requirement while the Company continues to propose income  
24 taxes. The Company's position is that income taxes are required to be paid by members  
25 of an LLC on a utility's income and are an inescapable business expense that is directly

1 attributed to the utility and is directly comparable with similar taxes paid by C  
2 corporations.

3 **Rate Case Expense:** All parties agree to \$100,000. While Staff and the Company  
4 agree to the use of a 3 year amortization period, RUCO proposes a 5 year amortization  
5 period.

6  
7 **IV. COST OF CAPITAL**

8 The Company's recommended capital structure consists of 2.8 percent debt and  
9 97.2 percent common. Based on Mr. Bourassa's updated cost of capital analysis, the  
10 Company is recommending a cost of equity of 12.0 percent and a cost of debt is 8.0  
11 percent. Based on the 12.0 percent recommended cost of equity, the Company's weighted  
12 average cost of capital ("WACC") is 11.89 percent. The Company also recommends that  
13 the WACC be used as the rate of return and applied to the Company's fair value rate base  
14 ("FVRB") to compute the Company's required operating income.

15 Because Staff is recommending negative rate bases for both the water and  
16 wastewater divisions, Staff has not provided a cost of capital analysis and is  
17 recommending an operating margin of 10 percent.

18 RUCO has recommended a cost of equity of 8.31 percent and a cost of debt of 8.0  
19 percent, based on the Company's existing debt cost. RUCO is proposing a hypothetical  
20 capital structure of 40 percent debt and 60 percent equity. Based on a hypothetical  
21 capital structure, RUCO computed a WACC of 8.18 percent, which is RUCO's  
22 recommended rate of return on FVRB.

23 **V. SWING FIRST GOLF'S ISSUES**

24 **Johnson Utilities is Over-Earning:** SFG's bases claim that Johnson Utilities is  
25 "over-earning" on the Company's initial application using a 2007 test year. However, in  
the initial application, Johnson Utilities requested a decrease in water revenues of

1 approximately \$2.23 million and an increase in wastewater revenues of approximately  
2 \$2.24 million, for a net increase in combined revenues of approximately \$10,000 (\$2.24  
3 million increase for wastewater division minus \$2.23 million decrease for water division.  
4 Based on the Company's initial filing and considering the proposed CAGR tax pass-  
5 through, Johnson Utilities was under-earning (not over-earning) by over \$1.29 million  
6 (\$2.39 million increase for wastewater division less \$1 million net decrease for water  
7 division). Based on its rebuttal filing Johnson Utilities was under-earning by  
8 approximately \$750,000. In addition, SFG's recommendation constitutes retroactive  
9 ratemaking.

10 **Johnson Utilities should refund Superfund Tax:** The Superfund Tax is a  
11 transaction privilege sales tax and its recovery and treatment is covered under Arizona  
12 Administrative Code R14-2-209(D)(5). This rule allows a utility to collect from its  
13 customers a proportionate share of any privilege, sales or use tax.

14 **Pecan WWTP should not be included in rate base:** The basis for SFG's  
15 recommendation is that Johnson Utilities has a NOV from ADEQ pertaining to the Pecan  
16 WWTP, not excess capacity. This is not the standard for exclusion or inclusion of plant  
17 in rate base. The standard is whether the plant is "used and useful." In this case, Utilities  
18 Division Staff has clearly found the Pecan WWTP to be used and useful. In some cases,  
19 outstanding NOV's have resulted in delays in implementing new rates, but have never  
20 been used as the basis for excluding plant from rate base, particularly when the plant was  
21 found to be used and useful.

22 **Johnson Utilities should be "penalized" with a reduced return on equity:**  
23 Lowering a utility's return on equity as a penalty would violate the longstanding  
24 standards set forth in *Bluefield Water Works* and *Hope Natural Gas*. Those landmark  
25 Supreme Court rulings established the basic criteria applicable to determining a fair and

1 reasonable rate of return. A utility's authorized rate of return should satisfy the  
2 following: (1)The rate of return should be commensurate with returns on investments in  
3 other enterprises having corresponding risk; (2) The return should be sufficient to ensure  
4 confidence in the financial integrity of the utility and to maintain and support the utility's  
5 credit; and (3) The return should enable the utility to attract capital necessary for the  
6 proper discharge of its duties.

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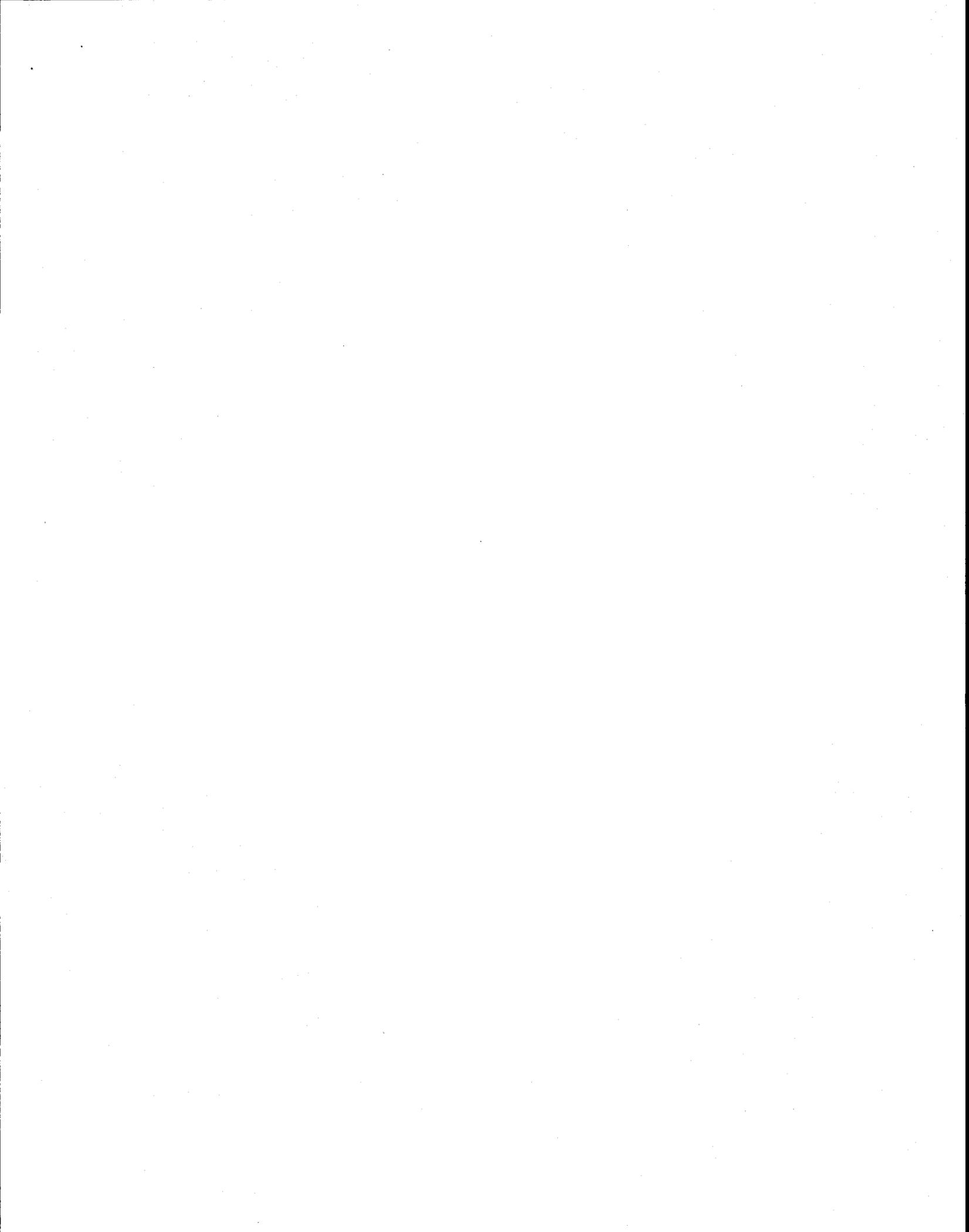
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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

COMMISSIONERS

KRISTIN K. MAYES—Chairman  
GARY PIERCE  
PAUL NEWMAN  
SANDRA D. KENNEDY  
BOB STUMP

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF JOHNSON UTILITIES, L.L.C., DBA  
JOHNSON UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN  
INCREASE IN ITS WATER AND  
WASTEWATER RATES FOR CUSTOMERS  
WITHIN PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. WS-02987A-08-0180

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY OF BRIAN TOMPSETT**  
**ON BEHALF OF**  
**JOHNSON UTILITIES L.L.C., DBA JOHNSON UTILITIES COMPANY**  
**April 20, 2009**

1 Mr. Tompsett filed direct, rebuttal and rejoinder testimonies.

2 **I. RATE BASE**

3 A. Water Division.

4 **Not Used and Useful:** Staff has proposed a disallowance of the \$731,125 cost of  
5 the four-mile 12-inch water main constructed to serve Silverado Ranch pursuant to a  
6 Master Utility Agreement with the developer and was constructed and installed to  
7 provide water service to a new subdivision planned for approximately 1,834 residential  
8 units. While the initial site preparation and grading work was performed by the  
9 developer, construction of homes has not yet proceeded due to the current lack of demand  
10 for new residential housing. The Company received a *bona fide* request for water service  
11 from the developer, which obligated Johnson Utilities to serve under its CC&N. Johnson  
12 Utilities entered into the Master Utility Agreement in good faith which contractually  
13 obligated the Company to construct the water main.

14 **Excess Capacity:** Staff has proposed a disallowance of \$1,127,065 for a well and  
15 storage in the company's anthem water system. The Anthem water system requires that  
16 water be delivered from two sources. The Anthem well and storage tank provides  
17 potable water to the eastern portion of the Anthem development. It is Company's  
18 position that Staff has grossly underestimated growth through 2012 at Anthem at Merrill  
19 Ranch. The Company estimates a customer count of 2,687 at the end of 2012. The  
20 removal of Rancho Sendero Well #1 and .5 million gallon storage tank would leave  
21 Anthem at Merrill Ranch short on capacity and storage. In addition, both Rancho  
22 Sendero Well # 1 and Rancho Sendero Well #2 pump directly into the 0.5 million gallon  
23 storage tank, as opposed to the distribution system. To modify the water system to  
24 directly connect Rancho Sendero Well #2 to the distribution system would be expensive,  
25  
26

1 and more importantly, would remove important redundancy and water production  
2 capability.

3 **Unsupported Plant Costs:** Johnson Utilities provided voluminous information to  
4 Staff documenting plant construction costs including main extension agreements,  
5 contracts, invoices, cancelled checks, and other documentation. Staff's arbitrary 10%  
6 reduction of the Company's equity in the amount of (\$7,959,115) in the absence of  
7 specific identification of inadequately supported plant costs constitutes an unlawful  
8 "taking" of the Company's property.

9 **Affiliate Profit:** The Company has provided evidence via responses to Staff Data  
10 Requests JMM 9-2 dated December 4, 2008, and JMM 1.43 dated September 22, 2008,  
11 that affiliate-constructed water plant comprises only \$26,847,516 of the total test-year  
12 water plant of \$79,591,151. Thus, \$52,743,635 was constructed by developers, their  
13 contractors and other entities which are not affiliates of Johnson Utilities. Yet, Staff  
14 applies a 7.5% disallowance for affiliate profit and overhead to all wastewater plant,  
15 whether or not constructed by an affiliate.

16 B. Wastewater Division.

17 **Post Test Year Plant-in-Service:** Staff proposes to exclude post test year plant of  
18 \$2,684,888. The Company proposes post test year plant totaling \$1,021,108 plus an  
19 adjustment to reclassify \$2,202,386 of post test year plant to test year plant-in-service.  
20 RUCO appears to be in agreement with the Company.

21 **Not Used and Useful:**

22 **Four-mile Sewer Force Main:** Staff is proposing a disallowance of the  
23 \$690,186 cost of the four-mile sewer force main to serve Silverado Ranch pursuant  
24 to a Master Utility Agreement with the developer. While the initial site  
25 preparation and grading work was performed by the developer, construction of  
homes has not yet proceeded due to the current lack of demand for new residential

1 housing. The Company received a *bona fide* request for sewer service from the  
2 developer, which obligated Johnson Utilities to serve under its CC&N. Johnson  
3 Utilities entered into the Master Utility Agreement in good faith which  
4 contractually obligated the Company to construct the sewer main.

5 **Precision Wastewater Treatment Plant ("Precision WWTP"):** Staff has  
6 recommended the disallowance of the \$1,696,086 in costs of constructing the  
7 Precision WWTP which is located in Johnson Ranch. The Precision WWTP was  
8 considered necessary and required by the Arizona Department of Environmental  
9 Quality ("ADEQ") when it was constructed. In 2002, ADEQ implemented new  
10 policies requiring that wastewater treatment capacity be fully constructed and  
11 operational prior to subdivision approvals. As a result of this new policy, ADEQ  
12 ceased issuing approvals to construct sanitary facilities for subdivisions to  
13 developers within Johnson Ranch and other developments unless and until  
14 Johnson Utilities constructed the Precision WWTP. Thus, when the Company  
15 receives a *bona fide* request for sewer service from a developer, the Company is  
16 obligated to serve under its CC&N. Because ADEQ made the construction of the  
17 Precision WWTP a prerequisite to the approval of additional residential home  
18 construction in Johnson Ranch, Johnson Utilities had no choice but to build the  
19 Precision WWTP.

20 **Excess Capacity:** Staff has removed the \$5,443,062 original cost of constructing  
21 the 1.0 million gallon per day ("MGD") Phase II ("Phase II") of the Santan Wastewater  
22 Treatment Plant ("Santan WWTP"). The Phase II capacity is actually needed now, and  
23 will be put to use by late 2009 to treat wastewater flows that will be redirected from  
24 Johnson Utilities' Pecan wastewater treatment plant ("Pecan WWTP") which is currently  
25 nearing full capacity. The Santan WWTP was constructed in two phases with a current

1 treatment capacity of 2.0 million gallons per day. Johnson Utilities will redirect  
2 approximately 0.53 MGD of existing flow from the Pecan WWTP to the Santan WWTP,  
3 which will increase in time to the full 2.0 MGD permitted capacity of the Santan WWTP  
4 as growth comes on line. The existing capacity at the Santan WWTP will, therefore, be  
5 required and useful and will also delay the cost of constructing phase 3 of the Pecan  
6 WWTP.

7 **Unsupported Plant Costs:** Johnson Utilities provided voluminous information to  
8 Staff documenting plant construction costs including main extension agreements,  
9 contracts, invoices, cancelled checks, and other documentation. Staff's arbitrary 10%  
10 reduction of the Company's equity in the amount of (\$11,896,227) in the absence of  
11 specific identification of inadequately supported plant costs constitutes an unlawful  
12 "taking" of the Company's property.

13 **Affiliate Profit:** Staff has been provided documentation via responses to Staff  
14 Data Requests JMM 9-2 dated December 4, 2008, and JMM 1.44 dated September 22,  
15 2008, to support that out of the total test-year wastewater plant of \$123,849,703, only  
16 \$45,724,508 was constructed by affiliates, and that the remaining \$78,125,195 was  
17 constructed by developers and their contractors pursuant to main extension agreements  
18 and other entities which are not affiliates of Johnson Utilities. Johnson Utilities provided  
19 voluminous information to Staff documenting plant construction costs including main  
20 extension agreements, contracts, invoices, cancelled checks, and other documentation.  
21 Yet, Staff applies a 7.5% disallowance for affiliate profit and overhead to all wastewater  
22 plant, whether or not constructed by an affiliate.

23 **II. OPERATING INCOME**

24 A. Water Division.

25 **Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District ("CAGR") Fee:**

1 Staff proposes 10 conditions with regard to the recommended pass-through of the  
2 CAGR D fee. As a general statement, it appears that Staff is imposing additional  
3 reporting requirements that are duplicative with regard to what is already required by the  
4 CAGR D, and therefore unnecessary.

5  
6 **Income Tax:** Both Staff and RUCO exclude income taxes from operating  
7 expenses and the revenue requirement while the Company continues to propose income  
8 taxes. The Company's position is that income taxes are required to be paid by members  
9 of an LLC on a utility's income and are an inescapable business expense that is directly  
10 attributed to the utility and is directly comparable with similar taxes paid by C  
11 corporations.

12  
13 **Discontinuance of Hook-up Fees:** The Company does not agree with Staff's  
14 proposal to discontinue HUFs. The current HUF only covers from 40-45% of the costs of  
15 the subdivision. The remaining 55-60% of the cost of the subdivision is funded by equity.  
16 The water HUF account still has a balance of \$6,931,078 at the end of 2007; however  
17 these fees have been collected on developments where construction has stopped due to  
18 current market conditions. In the coming years, Johnson Utilities has ongoing obligations  
19 to build plant capacities for the development that were started during the real estate  
20 boom, and with the HUFs already used for the initial plant capacities, the remaining plant  
21 will be funded by equity. Staff asserts "due to the company's inadequate accounting  
22 records, staff is recommending that a certified public accounting firm attest to the  
23 company's membership equity level of 40 percent in order for the company to reapply for  
24 HUFs. Johnson Utilities provides an annual report to the Commission detailing its  
25 collection and disbursement of HUFs. In 2006, Staff conducted a thorough audit of the

1 Company's HUF accounts and found nothing improper or amiss. Johnson Utilities  
2 opposes Staff's recommendation that the HUFs be eliminated.

3 **Water Loss:** The water use data sheet for the Johnson Ranch system that was used  
4 by Staff did not include construction water sales and irrigation water sales from the  
5 Company's construction billing cycle. Johnson Utilities has addressed this issue in the  
6 2008 water use data sheet for the Johnson Ranch system which was recently submitted  
7 with its 2008 annual report. This report shows lost and unaccounted water for the  
8 Johnson Ranch system of only approximately 2%, which is well below the Commission's  
9 limit of 10%. It is not 19.4% as proposed by Staff. Thus, there is no need for the  
10 monitoring exercise recommended by Staff.

11 B. Wastewater Division.

12 **Income Tax:** Both Staff and RUCO exclude income taxes from operating  
13 expenses and the revenue requirement while the Company continues to propose income  
14 taxes. The Company's position is that income taxes are required to be paid by members  
15 of an LLC on a utility's income and are an inescapable business expense that is directly  
16 attributed to the utility and is directly comparable with similar taxes paid by C  
17 corporations.

18 **Discontinuance of Hook-up Fees:** The Company does not agree with Staff's  
19 proposal to discontinue HUFs. Currently, all of the wastewater HUFs have been used  
20 and the Company has a considerable amount of wastewater facilities needed to meet its  
21 current needs. Staff asserts "due to the company's inadequate accounting records, staff is  
22 recommending that a certified public accounting firm attest to the company's membership  
23 equity level of 40 percent in order for the company to reapply for HUFs. Johnson  
24 Utilities provides an annual report to the Commission detailing its collection and  
25 disbursement of HUFs. In 2006, Staff conducted a thorough audit of the Company's

1 HUF accounts and found nothing improper or amiss. Johnson Utilities opposes Staff's  
2 recommendation that the HUFs be eliminated.

3 C. Water and Wastewater Division

4 **Henry Horne Report:** Identified \$168,974,434 in consolidated (water and  
5 wastewater) plant-in-service whereas Johnson Utilities reported \$184,571,154. The  
6 Henry & Horne report was prepared on behalf of the Town of Florence in connection  
7 with the Town's attempt to purchase the water and wastewater systems from Johnson  
8 Utilities. Thus, Henry & Horne had a financial motive to produce a report that would  
9 advocate the lowest possible dollar value for plant-in service, which in turn, would result  
10 in a lower purchase price to be paid by the firm's client, the Town of Florence. The  
11 report is not an "independent auditors report" but rather a tool that was used in the  
12 negotiation of the purchase price by the Town.

13 **III. SWING FIRST GOLF'S ISSUES**

14 **Johnson Utilities withheld effluent from Swing First Golf:** Johnson Utilities has  
15 provided effluent and Central Arizona Project ("CAP") water to Swing First Golf under  
16 the Company's effluent and CAP tariffs, and the Company denies that it has acted  
17 contrary to its tariffs.

18 **Johnson Utilities did not obtain permission to delay filing its rate case and use**  
19 **a 2007 test year:** On March 30, 2007, the Company filed an Application with the  
20 Commission requesting authority to sell all of its water and wastewater assets to the  
21 Town of Florence and further requesting the cancellation of the Company's CC&Ns. In  
22 connection with this filing, and in the event that the sale to the Town was not ultimately  
23 completed, counsel for Johnson Utilities filed a motion in Docket WS-02987A-04-0889  
24 that same day requesting that the deadline for filing the rate case be extended to June 1,  
25 2008, and that the company be permitted to use a 2007 test year. On April 13, 2007,

1 Utilities Division Staff filed a staff report recommending that the deadline for filing the  
2 rate case be extended to December 31, 2007, utilizing a June 30, 2007, test year.  
3 Thereafter, in a letter from the Commission's Chief Counsel to Johnson Utilities' legal  
4 counsel dated September 18, 2007, Staff agreed to support a 2007 test year but required  
5 that the company file a rate case by March 31, 2008. In accordance with its agreement  
6 with Staff, Johnson Utilities filed a rate application for its water and wastewater divisions  
7 on March 31, 2008, using a 2007 test year. Staff accepted Johnson Utilities' rate case  
8 filing and found the filing sufficient, including the 2007 test year, in a sufficiency letter  
9 dated August 1, 2008.

10 **December 2007 news release from the ADEQ:** The referenced lawsuit and  
11 settlement did not involve Johnson Utilities, nor did it have any negative impact on the  
12 Company or its customers.

13 **February 2008 article from Phoenix Magazine:** The February 2008 article from  
14 Phoenix Magazine discussed activities which allegedly occurred on the La Osa Ranch.  
15 These activities did not involve Johnson Utilities, nor did they impact Johnson Utilities or  
16 its customers in any way.

17 **Lawsuit by the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"):** The lawsuit  
18 involved an alleged Clean Water Act violation associated with development activities  
19 along the Santa Cruz River. Johnson Utilities was neither a party to the EPA lawsuit nor  
20 was the Company responsible for paying any portion of the monetary settlement that  
21 resolved the lawsuit.

22 **Discharge in a neighborhood and into Queen Creek Wash in the Spring of**  
23 **2008:** What occurred in May 2008 was a sewer system overflow ("SSO") in the Pecan  
24 North subdivision adjacent to Queen Creek Wash. The SSO was not the result of any  
25 negligence or malfeasance by Johnson Utilities, but of the clogging of lift station pumps

1 with construction debris and household products, including mop heads. The SSO was  
2 contained in a concrete spillway adjacent to Queen Creek Wash, and Johnson Utilities  
3 does not believe that any sewage made its way into the wash. Notwithstanding, as a  
4 public service Johnson Utilities disinfected the standing storm water in Queen Creek  
5 Wash pursuant to a Consent Order with ADEQ.

6 **Storage of sewage sludge:** Johnson Utilities has and will continue to vigorously  
7 contest this allegation by ADEQ. Johnson Utilities contends that documents that have  
8 been provided to ADEQ will support the Company's position that the allegations are  
9 without merit.

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