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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVED

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2009 SEP -4 P 12: 24
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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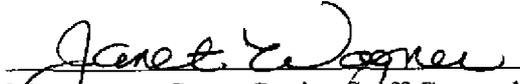
IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FOR A HEARING TO DETERMINE THE FAIR VALUE OF THE UTILITY PROPERTY OF THE COMPANY FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES, TO FIX A JUST AND REASONABLE RATE OF RETURN THEREON, TO APPROVE RATE SCHEDULES DESIGNED TO DEVELOP SUCH RETURN.

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-08-0172

NOTICE OF FILING MEMORANDUM REGARDING APS LINEMAN FATALITY

Staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Staff") hereby files the attached memorandum developed by Staff's consultants regarding the accident at APS' Saguaro facility. Staff witness Mike Lewis will be available to sponsor this memorandum as an exhibit at the hearing. This filing shall also serve as the prefiled summary of Mr. Lewis's testimony.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 4th day of September, 2009.

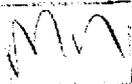

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Original and thirteen (13) copies of the foregoing filed this 4th day of September, 2009 with:

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Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

SEP - 4 2009

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Elijah O, Abinah
Assistant Director
Arizona Corporation Commission Staff

FROM: Mike Lewis, WML&A, Inc.
Ken Strobl, Technical Associates, Inc.

DATE: September 4, 2009

RE: APS Lineman Fatality, December 2, 2008

We have reviewed relevant materials that are currently available concerning the referenced fatality. These included the ADOSH report and findings concerning the incident, the APS Accident Prevention Manual ("APM"), relevant US OSHA regulations, and National Electric Safety Code ("NESC") requirements concerning work on high voltage electric facilities. In addition, we have discussed aspects of the incident with APS personnel.

Based on our preliminary reviews to date, we believe that the fatality was directly due to the failure to properly place working grounds on both sides of the immediate work area and due to insufficient analysis/recognition of the possible sources of electric energy in the immediate work area.

Working grounds are temporary conducting connections between an electric conductor or equipment and earth or to a conducting medium that serves in the place of earth. These working grounds are placed on normally electrically energized conductors and/or equipment that has been de-energized while work is being performed so as to electrically isolate the work area from unintended sources of voltage. The mandated use of working grounds for the purpose of isolating work areas is addressed in the APS Accident Prevention Manual at Chapter 13-2 (J) and (M) and in the APS Grounding Manual.

Our review indicates that there were two likely sources of the electrical energy that fatally injured the victim. These consist of: (1) voltage induced in the overhead circuit being maintained by energized Extra High Voltage ("EHV") lines parallel to and in the vicinity of the substation and (2) stored energy in the CCVT ("coupling capacitor voltage transformer") that was directly connected to the conductor being maintained and was not fully discharged of its electric energy after the main circuit was deenergized. The description of the pre-injury activities of the crew contains some aspects that call into question either of the two probable sources of electrical energy, but it appears that the CCVT is the more likely. Note the ADOSH report states that the overhead 500 Kv line had been opened at both ends the day prior to the incident and was considered "dead" by the crew. The proper placement of working grounds would have prevented the incident in either case, which is described in general terms for a work area in the APS APM.

APS personnel have informed us that they took immediate steps to contact all of their maintenance crews to review the incident and refresh aspects of the APM that would have prevented such an incident. APS personnel informed us that they are continuing to investigate the incident and that they would share their report of such when it is final, which would be after their ongoing appeal of the ADOSH findings is completed. APS personnel stated that they have a meeting with ADOSH personnel on or around August 28.

We would suggest that the Commission allow the ADOSH and APS to complete the appeal process and then revisit this at that time to evaluate if the Commission should consider any additional action.