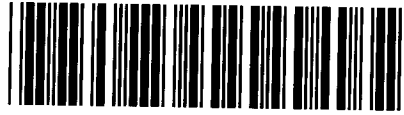




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DOCKET NO. 43695

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
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APPLICATION OF SOUTHWESTERN § BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FOR § OF
AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES § ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

**SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY'S
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S
TWENTIETH REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
QUESTION NOS. 20-1 THROUGH 20-4**
(Filename: SPSRespStaff20th.doc; Total Pages: 11)

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 QUESTION NO. STAFF 20-2: 7

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 QUESTION NO. STAFF 20-4: 9

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 10

EXHIBIT ATTACHED:

 Exhibit SPS-Staff 20-1 (*non-native format*).....11

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**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-15-1556
DOCKET NO. 43695**

**APPLICATION OF SOUTHWESTERN § BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
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**SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY'S
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S
TWENTIETH REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
QUESTION NOS. 20-1 THROUGH 20-4**

Southwestern Public Service Company ("SPS") files this response to Commission Staff's ("Staff") Twentieth Request for Information, Question Nos. 20-1 through 20-4.

I. WRITTEN RESPONSES

SPS's written responses to Staff's Twentieth Request for Information are attached and incorporated by reference. Each response is stated on or attached to a separate page on which the request has been restated. SPS's responses are made in the spirit of cooperation without waiving SPS's right to contest the admissibility of any of these matters at hearing. In accordance with P.U.C. PROC. R. 22.144(c)(2)(A), each response lists the preparer or person under whose direct supervision the response was prepared and any sponsoring witness. When SPS provides certain information sought by the request while objecting to the provision of other information, it does so without prejudice to its objection in the interests of narrowing discovery disputes under P.U.C. PROC. R. 22.144(d)(5). As allowed under P.U.C. PROC. R. 22.144(c)(2)(F), SPS stipulates that its responses may be treated by all parties as if they were made under oath.

II. INSPECTIONS.

If responsive documents are more than 100 pages but less than eight linear feet in length, the response will indicate that the attachment is voluminous (“(V)”) and, pursuant to P.U.C. PROC. R. 22.144(h)(2), the exhibit will be made available for inspection at SPS’s voluminous room at 401 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701; telephone number (512) 370-2867. Voluminous exhibits will also be provided on CD to any requesting party. Further, SPS will upload all voluminous documents, along with all native files for review to SPS’s SharePoint website:

<https://collaboration.xcelenergy.com/sps/SPSFinalRateCases/default.aspx>

All parties will be provided a log in id number at time of intervention to access the SharePoint website.

If a response or the responsive documents are provided pursuant to the protective order in this docket, the response will indicate that it or the attachment is either confidential (“CONF”) or highly Sensitive (“HS”) as appropriate under the protective order. Confidential and Highly Sensitive materials will be served on all parties that have signed and filed the certification under the protective order entered in this docket. Confidential and Highly Sensitive responsive documents will also be made available for inspection at SPS’s voluminous room, unless they form a part of a response that exceeds eight linear feet in length; then they will be available at their usual repository in accordance with the following paragraph. Please call in advance for an appointment to ensure that there is sufficient space to accommodate your inspection.

If responsive documents exceed eight linear feet in length, the response will indicate that the attachment is subject to the FREIGHT CAR DOCTRINE, and, pursuant to P.U.C. PROC. R. 22.144(h)(3), the attachment will be available for inspection at its usual repository, SPS's offices in Amarillo, Texas, unless otherwise indicated. SPS requests that parties wishing to inspect this material provide at least 48 hour notice of their intent by contacting Ron Moss of Winstead P.C., 401 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701; telephone number (512) 370-2867; facsimile transmission number (512) 370-2850; email address rhmoss@winstead.com. Inspections will be scheduled to accommodate all requests with as little inconvenience to the requesting party and to SPS's operations as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

XCEL ENERGY SERVICES INC.

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BY: 

ATTORNEYS FOR
SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

RESPONSES

QUESTION NO. Staff 20-1:

Provide a copy of attachment DAB-RR-2 page 20 of 280, as presented in the March 2, 2015 case update, which only represents depreciation expenses related to the June 30, 2014 plant in service balances.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to Exhibit SPS-Staff 20-1.

Preparer: Arthur P. Freitas
Sponsor: Deborah A. Blair

QUESTION NO. Staff 20-2:

Reference DAB-RR-2, page 20 of 280, as presented in the March 2, 2015 case update. Identify by FERC Account, the dollar amounts contained in the "Adjustment" column, that relate solely to the post-test year adjustment plant in service requests.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to Attachment DAB-RR-2, page 51 of 280, lines 673-715 (Vol. RR16, page 194 of 426), for the details of the adjustments to depreciation expense, including the adjustments that relate to the actual PTYA plant. The adjustments to depreciation expense associated with the actual PTYA plant are also detailed on Attachment DAB-RR-2, page 260 of 280 (Vol. RR16, page 403 of 426).

Preparer: Arthur P. Freitas
Sponsor: Deborah A. Blair

QUESTION NO. Staff 20-3:

Do the amounts represented in the responses to the two RFI's above, represent the company's requested net salvage value of -5%? If not, please restate the information so that it does represent a net salvage value of -5%.

RESPONSE:

The responses to Question Nos. Staff 20-1 and 20-2 represent depreciation expense calculated using a -5% production net salvage value.

Preparer: Arthur P. Freitas
Sponsors: Deborah A. Blair, Lisa H. Perkett

QUESTION NO. Staff 20-4:

Confirm or deny that the adjustment on Attachment A correctly quantify the requested depreciation expenses associated with SPS's requested post-test-year capital additions. If denied, please provide the correct amount of requested depreciation expenses associated with SPS's requested post-test- year capital additions.

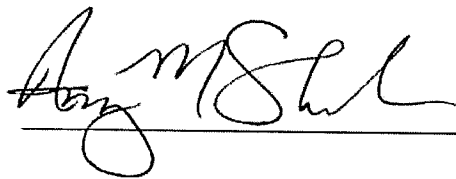
RESPONSE:

Please refer to the tab labeled "Post TY Adj" of Exhibit SPS-AXM 28-1 for the amount of depreciation expense associated with the actual PTYA plant. Please note that Exhibit SPS-AXM 28-1 includes a correction to reflect the appropriate amount of transportation depreciation, as explained in SPS's response to Question No. AXM 28-1.

Preparer: Arthur P. Freitas
Sponsor: Deborah A. Blair

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 17th day of April, 2015, a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument was served on all parties of record by a combination of electronic service and hand delivery, Federal Express, regular first class mail, certified mail, or facsimile transmission as allowed under SOAH Order No. 3, pages 3-4.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy M. Stull", is written above a horizontal line.

Southwestern Public Service Company
Electric Net Operating Earnings
At June 30, 2014

Line No.	Description	Account	Per Book	Adjustments	Adjusted	State Allocator	Texas Retail
330	Depreciation and Amortization Expense:						
331	Intangible:						
332	Misc. Intangible	040600	0	0	0	PIS-GEN	0
334		040400	0	0	0	PIS-GEN	0
335	Total Intangible		0	0	0		0
336							
337	Production:						
338	Amortization of Regulatory Assets - DG, NM Fuel Audit		0	0	0	NM	0
339	Depreciation Expense	0403	44,133,456	4,345,675	48,479,131	PIS-PROD	25,406,855
340	Depreciation & Depletion Expense	040310	(1,047,071)	1,047,071	0	N/A	0
341	Amortization - ARO Regulatory Credits	040740	217,394	(217,394)	0	N/A	0
342	Accretion Expense	041190	829,676	(829,676)	0	N/A	0
343	Total Production		44,133,456	4,345,675	48,479,131		25,406,855
344							
345	Transmission:						
346	Depreciation Expense	0403	32,564,218	7,623,584	40,187,802	PIS-TRAN	18,906,981
347	Depreciation & Depletion Expense	040310	456	(456)	0	N/A	0
348			32,564,675	7,623,127	40,187,802		18,906,981
349	Total Transmission						
350	Distribution:						
351	Depreciation Expense - Texas	0403TX	17,329,277	1,685,458	19,014,735	NCP-DIST	19,003,520
352	Depreciation Expense - New Mexico	0403NM	8,632,874	(876,113)	7,756,761	NM	0
353	Depreciation & Depletion Expense	040310	200,895	(200,895)	0	N/A	0
354	Amortization - Distribution Regulatory Credits	040740TX	(53,949)	0	(53,949)	NCP-DIST	(53,917)
355	Amortization - ARO Regulatory Credits	040740	(426,091)	426,091	0	N/A	0
356	Accretion Expense	041190	222,135	(222,135)	0	N/A	0
357	Total Distribution		25,905,141	812,406	26,717,547		18,949,603
358							
359	General:						
360	Amortization of Software - CRS	040422CRS	1,585,372	0	1,585,372	CUST-RET	1,078,764
361	Amortization of Intangible	040422	8,309,892	3,547,266	11,857,158	PIS-GEN	6,980,587
362	Depreciation Expense	0403	7,898,558	3,480,150	11,378,707	PIS-GEN	6,698,912
364	Depreciation Expense - Call Center	0403	227,468	89,419	316,888	CUST-RET	215,626
365	Depreciation & Depletion Expense	040310	2,605	(2,605)	0	N/A	0
366	Amortization - Office Remodel	040416	0	0	0	PIS-GEN	0
367	Amortization - Regulatory Debits - Texas	040730TX	34,898	0	34,898	TX	34,898
368	Amortization - Regulatory Debits - New Mexico	040730NM	3,400,406	0	3,400,406	NM	0
369	Total General		21,459,198	7,114,231	28,573,429		15,008,787
370							
371	Total Depreciation and Amortization Expense		124,062,470	19,895,439	143,957,909		78,272,226
372							