

1 authority, the TCEQ enforces both the state and federal permitting standards. Now, a
2 utility may apply to the TCEQ for a joint federal/state permit.

3 The wastewater treatment standards in Texas are different throughout the state
4 depending on the particular point of discharge. For example, a wastewater treatment
5 plant seeking to discharge into a lake or river used for public recreation and
6 swimming will encounter higher standards for wastewater treatment than a plant
7 seeking to discharge into a commercial body of water, such as the Houston Ship
8 Channel. While the standards may differ, the overall goal is the same—maintain
9 public health and water quality in the receiving body of water. Monarch must comply
10 with all of these state and federal standards. The likelihood is that discharge
11 standards will continue to be strengthened over time, which will require continuing
12 capital improvements, making it extremely important that a well-capitalized
13 organization like Monarch is there to make the needed improvements.

14 V. CAPITAL ADDITIONS

15 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENTS MONARCH**
16 **HAS MADE SINCE THE LAST GENERAL RATE CASE IN ITS WATER**
17 **SYSTEMS IN THE MONARCH WEST REGION.**

18- A. In Monarch's last general rate case, a test year ending June 30, 2015 was used. A list
19 of major capital investments in the Monarch West Region since Monarch's last
20 general rate case through the end of the 2019 test year is provided in the table below,
21 with details of each following:³

³ Monarch defines a "major capital investment" as a discrete project of a cost amount greater than \$50,000.

1

Table 1—Major Capital Projects in Monarch West Region since June 30, 2015

<u>Year Completed</u>	<u>Systems</u>	<u>Amount Invested as of 12/31/2019</u>
2015	Country Bend/Country Springs Water Line Replacement	\$124,663.14
2016	Lake Medina Shores Recoat Pressure Tanks	\$54,366.32
2016	Inverness Point Plant Rehab and Improvement	\$219,162.43
2016	River Bend Estates Well Rehab	\$87,796.79
2016	River Oaks Ranch Well Improvement	\$325,621.55
2017	Wiedenfeld AMR Installation	\$227,005.93
2017	Huntington Pressure Tanks and Ground Storage	\$103,400.72
2017	Country Bend/Country Springs Pressure Tank Replacement	\$66,827.02
2017	Plum Creek SCADA	\$205,391.80
2017	Plum Creek Pump Station #2	\$137,250.71
2017	Holiday Villages of Medina Well	\$542,228.53
2018	Southern Hills Pump Station Improvement	\$60,201.30
2018	Plum Creek TXDOT Line Relocation	\$115,849.51
2018	Inverness Point Plan Intake Barge	\$106,308.47
2018	Inverness WTP Recycle & Basin Process Piping	\$245,931.26
2018	River Oaks Ranch GST #1 Improvement	\$184,746.83

2019	Inverness Point Tank Rehab	\$155,655.51
2019	Huntington SCADA Control	\$50,037.43
2019	Lake Medina Shores Line Replacement	\$99,602.21
2019	Enchanted River Estates Water Line Replacement	\$106,560.00
2019	Oak Village North Valve Improvements	\$289,020.51
2019	Oak Village North Standpipes Rehab	\$224,244.61
2020	Bavarian Hills	\$235,331.16

1 Details of the listed capital projects are provided below:

- 2
- 3 • In 2015, Monarch invested \$124,663.14 in the Country Springs/Country Bend
4 system. The project consisted of installing approximately 900 linear feet of
5 water line along Boerne Forest to the intersection of Autumn Glen. This
6 project replaced a section of water line that was in poor condition and had
7 experienced multiple water line breaks, thereby decreasing water loss and
8 improving reliability for customers.
 - 9 • In 2016, Monarch invested \$54,366.32 in the Lake Medina Shores/Holiday
10 Villages of Medina system. The project consisted of inspection and recoating
11 of two 7,500-gallon hydro-tanks. The tanks were prepared and recoated per
12 TCEQ requirements. A temporary pumping-and-control system was required
13 to inspect the tanks. This project improved the reliability of the system.
 - 14 • In 2016, Monarch invested \$219,162.43 in the Inverness Point system. The
15 project consisted of rehabilitating the existing Trimite Water Treatment Units
16 at the Surface Water Treatment Plant. The base work included replacing filter
media in the two water treatment units, replacing the filtration assembly

1 (under-drain and laterals) under both units, and removal and replacement of
2 the mechanical float valves with electronic globe valves. This project
3 improved the reliability and water quality of the system.

- 4 • In 2016, Monarch invested \$87,796.79 in the River Bend system. The project
5 consisted of the rehabilitation of the water well. The work included the
6 replacement of the well pump, well column pipe, electrical conductor, and
7 airline. As this was a single well system, supplemental water hauling was
8 performed throughout the project. The work resulted in providing additional
9 life to the mechanical elements of the well and greater reliability to our
10 customers.
- 11 • In 2016, Monarch invested \$325,621.55 in the River Oaks Ranch system. The
12 project consisted of the design, permitting, and installation of a public water
13 supply well. The well provides an alternate source of raw water to what had
14 been a single-well system.
- 15 • In 2017, Monarch invested \$227,005.93 in the recently acquired Wiedenfeld
16 Water Works systems. The project consisted of the conversion of
17 approximately 840 existing meters to automatic meter reading (“AMR”) meter
18 equipment. AMR meters were installed in following systems: Cedar Springs
19 (45), Center Point (55), Heritage Park (25), Hills & Dales (70), Oak Ridge
20 Estates (40), Platten Creek (35), Rocky Creek (35), Southern Hills (295),
21 Verde Park (70), Vista Hills (10), Westwood Oaks MHP (110), Winwood
22 Oaks (20), and Woodhaven MHP (30). From the time of system installation
23 to 2015, Wiedenfeld Water Works systems have not systematically replaced
24 customer meters. With time and use, the mechanical components of water

1 meters deteriorate, resulting in a continual decline in poor meter accuracy and
2 under registering. Water not registered is considered water loss, and the cost
3 to produce and distribute this water is included in the water rates charged to
4 all water customers. This results in inequitable billing for customers who use
5 less water or who have more accurate meters. Further, accurate meter reading
6 and billing is required to send price signals to customers to encourage water
7 conservation that is so important to Monarch's ability to meet customer
8 demands during periods of extended drought, which is often experienced
9 throughout Texas.

- 10 • In 2017, Monarch invested \$103,400.72 in the Huntington Utility Company
11 system. The project consisted of rehabilitating the hydro-tank and water
12 reservoir at the water plant. The task work included installing a temporary
13 bypass system to maintain water service to customers while the work was
14 performed. This project extends the useful life of the tanks and provides for
15 greater reliability for the customer.
- 16 • In 2017, Monarch invested \$66,827.02 in the Country Springs/Country Bend
17 system. The project consisted of the removal and replacement of four 50-
18 gallon bladder-tanks with two new 500-gallon hydro-tanks at Pump Station
19 No. 2. This project was required to bring the facility into TCEQ compliance.
20 Building improvement was required to fit the tanks in the existing pump
21 station building.
- 22 • In 2017, Monarch invested \$205,391.80 in the Plum Creek system. The
23 project consisted of replacement of the existing obsolete Plum Creek
24 Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition ("SCADA") components no longer

1 supported by the manufacturer with SCADA components that allow for
2 superior operational control and monitoring of the existing water facilities and
3 allow for future growth as needed. The project included an analysis of the
4 water facilities, followed by the installation of remote terminal units for the
5 following sites: Elevated Storage Tank No. 1, Elevated Storage Tank No. 2,
6 Pump Station No. 2, Pump Station No. 3, Pump Station No. 4, Well Nos. 1
7 and 2, and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority delivery point. Additional
8 work included installation of antenna towers, antennas, and coax, as required
9 for each site, as well as programming and testing.

- 10 • In 2017, Monarch invested \$137,250.41 in the Plum Creek system. The
11 project consisted of the installation of an additional pump and the associated
12 power and control components at Pump Station No. 2. The improvements,
13 which were driven primarily by connection growth in the system, provide
14 increased capacity to transfer water throughout the system, enhancing
15 reliability and system pressure.
- 16 • In 2017, Monarch invested \$542,228.53 in the Holiday Villages of Medina
17 system. The project consisted of the design, permitting, and installation of a
18 public supply well to replace an existing, failing water well. The existing
19 water well had a collapsed screen section inhibiting well bore transmissibility
20 and water production. The replacement well provides a more reliable source
21 of groundwater. This project was started in May 2017 and was completed in
22 October 2017. This project was not due to a TCEQ or EPA enforcement
23 order. However, the project was required to ensure our utility system is in
24 compliance with all TCEQ or EPA requirements.

- 1 • In 2018, Monarch invested \$60,201.30 in the Southern Hills system. The
2 project consisted of a comprehensive engineering report and equipment
3 installation to resolve a TCEQ Notice of Enforcement for Compliance by
4 increasing the total service pump capacity.
- 5 • In 2018, Monarch invested \$115,849.51 in the Plum Creek system. The
6 project consisted of the relocation and casing extension for existing Monarch
7 water lines located at the intersection of Loop 4 and Robert S. Light
8 Boulevard. This project was required to accommodate a Texas Department of
9 Transportation road project.
- 10 • In 2018, Monarch invested \$106,308.47 in the Inverness Point system. The
11 project consisted of the fabrication and installation of a replacement raw-water
12 intake barge assembly located at Inverness Point. The replacement barge
13 provides a more stable platform and improved anchor system to accommodate
14 varying lake levels, therefore providing greater reliability in the system.
- 15 • In 2018, Monarch invested \$184,746.83 in the River Oaks Ranch system. The
16 project consisted of the replacement of a 24,000-gallon storage tank with the
17 installation of a new 30,000-gallon ground storage reservoir. The 24,000-
18 gallon tank was at the end of its useful life and failing. The 30,000-gallon
19 reservoir will adequately supply subdivision build-out and provide greater
20 system reliability.
- 21 • In 2018, Monarch invested \$245,931.26 in the Inverness Point water system.
22 The project consisted of piping and process enhancements to the water sludge
23 basin. Additionally, the project created a draw line from the settling basin to
24 remove settled organics. The project was needed to improve plant

1 performance and meet TCEQ disinfectant byproducts standards. Removing
2 the organics from the settling basin will reduce operator time at the plant as
3 well as reduce chemical treatment costs.

- 4 • In 2019, Monarch invested \$155,655.51 in the Inverness Point system. The
5 existing intake barge supplying the surface water treatment plant had inverted
6 during the historic flooding event on Lake Travis in October 2018. This
7 project replaced the existing barge with a new intake structure that is larger
8 and better-anchored in order to be more stable and reliable.
- 9 • In 2019, Monarch invested \$50,037.43 in the Huntington Utility Company
10 system. The project consisted of installing a SCADA system at the
11 Huntington water facility. This improvement enhances reliability by
12 providing the ability to monitor system conditions remotely.
- 13 • In 2019, Monarch invested \$99,602.21 in the Lake Medina Shores system.
14 The scope of work was the construction of 2,000 lineal feet of 4-inch SDR-21
15 PVC water mains with valves, fittings, and all appurtenances along
16 Grandview Circle in Bandera, Texas. This project replaced water lines that
17 were in poor condition and had been subject to frequent water main breaks.
- 18 • In 2019, Monarch invested \$106,560.00 in the Enchanted River system. The
19 scope of work was the construction of 2-inch and 4-inch SDR-21 PVC water
20 mains with valves, fittings and all appurtenances in three separate sections,
21 which are described more fully as follows:
 - 22 ○ Section 1—240 linear feet of Enchanted River Road water line
23 installation;

- 1 ○ Section 2—1,200 linear feet of Enchanted River Road water line
- 2 installation; and
- 3 ○ Section 3—1,000 linear feet of Enchanted River Road water line
- 4 installation.

5 This project replaced water lines that were in poor condition and had been

6 subject to frequent water main breaks.

- 7 • In 2019, Monarch invested \$289,020.51 in the Oak Village North system.
- 8 The project consisted of “cutting in” gate valves in the water lines, which
- 9 allows the system to be isolated into zones, thereby lessening the impact of
- 10 water outages when system leak repairs occur. The project included five 6-
- 11 inch installations, 52 4-inch installations, and two 2-inch installations, all of
- 12 which were completed in place and required traffic control.
- 13 • In 2019, Monarch invested \$224,244.61 in the Oak Village North system.
- 14 The project consisted of rehabilitation of two standpipes by recoating the
- 15 exterior and interior of the two reservoirs. Further task work included metal
- 16 fabrications, electrical probe improvements, vent improvements, and piping
- 17 improvements. The rehabilitation was needed due to heavy corrosion on both
- 18 standpipes, causing potential water leaks.
- 19 • Through 2019, Monarch invested \$235,331.16, with a total project cost at
- 20 completion in 2020 of \$1,433,801.64, in the Bavarian Hills system. This
- 21 project included the design, permitting, installation, and inspection of 5,000
- 22 lineal feet of 6-inch C-900 distribution main, with valves and services, along
- 23 Bonn Mountain Drive, Ike Way, and Nimitz Way. The existing water
- 24 distribution system was made from sub-standard materials and had been

1 subject to frequent leaks with water loss as high as 85%. The project replaced
2 the entire distribution system. The project was started in November 2019 and
3 was completed and placed into service in April 2020. This will improve
4 system reliability and decrease water loss. This project was not due to a
5 TCEQ or EPA enforcement order. However, the project was required to
6 ensure our utility system is in compliance with all TCEQ or EPA
7 requirements.

8 **Q. ARE THE MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS COMPLETED FOR MONARCH'S**
9 **WATER SYSTEMS IN THE MONARCH WEST REGION SINCE**
10 **MONARCH'S LAST GENERAL RATE CASE ALL USED AND USEFUL TO**
11 **MONARCH'S PROVISION OF UTILITY SERVICE?**

12 A. Yes, these projects are all currently used and useful to the provision of utility service
13 in Monarch's West Region. Please see the direct testimony of George Freitag.

14 **Q. HAS THERE BEEN A NEED TO INVEST IN MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS**
15 **FOR MONARCH'S WASTEWATER SYSTEM IN THE MONARCH WEST**
16 **REGION SINCE MONARCH'S LAST GENERAL RATE CASE?**

17 A. No. Monarch's West Region has a single wastewater system, which has not required
18 major capital investments since 2015.

19 **VI. CONCLUSION**

20 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

21 A. Yes, it does.

PUC DOCKET NO. 50994

APPLICATION OF MONARCH	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
UTILITIES I L.P. FOR AUTHORITY TO	§	
CHANGE RATES	§	OF TEXAS

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

VICTORIA R. SHUPAK

ON BEHALF OF

MONARCH UTILITIES I L.P.

JULY 15, 2020

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
VICTORIA R. SHUPAK**

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1 **Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL**
2 **BACKGROUND.**

3 A. My educational background consists of a Bachelor of Business Administration in
4 Accounting from the University of Houston. I have more than 22 years of experience
5 in federal, state, local, and international taxation. Prior to becoming employed by
6 SouthWest in 2016, I held various roles in public accounting firms and large
7 multinational real estate and oil and gas companies. I have a wide range of
8 experience in all areas of tax, including tax provision and financial reporting under
9 ASC 740; operational and acquisition tax planning; tax structuring and restructuring;
10 federal, state, and local tax compliance; and tax controversies at the federal, state, and
11 local levels. During my time at SouthWest, I have worked extensively on
12 utility-specific regulations related to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (“TCJA”) in
13 compliance with the normalization guidelines in flowing the changes through to
14 ratepayers. I have also represented SouthWest in two IRS audits, one with no
15 findings and the other resulting in a refund due to taxpayer disclosure items.

16 **II. PURPOSE OF DIRECT TESTIMONY**

17 **Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING?**

18 A. I am testifying on behalf of Monarch.

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY IN THIS**
20 **PROCEEDING?**

21 A. The purpose of my direct testimony in this proceeding is to sponsor and support the
22 tax-related cost of service information provided by Monarch in compliance with the
23 Public Utility Commission of Texas (“PUC or “Commission”) rate filing rules and
24 regulations. I also discuss the effects of the TCJA on Monarch.

1 Q. WAS THIS MATERIAL PREPARED BY YOU OR UNDER YOUR
2 SUPERVISION?

3 A. Yes, it was.

4 Q. INsofar AS THIS MATERIAL IS FACTUAL IN NATURE, DO YOU
5 BELIEVE IT TO BE CORRECT?

6 A. Yes, I do.

7 Q. INsofar AS THIS MATERIAL IS IN THE NATURE OF OPINION OR
8 JUDGMENT, DOES IT REPRESENT YOUR BEST JUDGMENT?

9 A. Yes, it does.

10 Q. WHAT SCHEDULES IN THE RATE FILING PACKAGE ARE YOU
11 SPONSORING?

12 A. A list of schedules I sponsor is included in the testimony of Jeffrey L. McIntyre.

13 **III. TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT OF 2017**

14 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT OF 2017.

15 A. The TCJA had two major effects on water and wastewater utilities. First, it reduced
16 the corporate federal tax rate to 21 percent. The result of this rate reduction affected
17 utilities' accumulated deferred federal income tax ("ADFIT") balance. Second, it
18 made contributions in aid of construction ("CIAC") taxable to utilities as ordinary
19 income.

20 Q. HAS MONARCH ADDRESSED THE REDUCTION IN CORPORATE TAX
21 RATE THROUGH A FILING WITH THE COMMISSION?

22 A. Yes. In PUC Docket No. 48329, Monarch filed an application requesting to
23 implement a Federal Tax Change Credit Rider to refund to customers "the difference

1 between the revenues collected under existing rates and the revenues that would have
2 been collected had the existing rates been set using the recently approved federal
3 income tax rates.” In its Order issued on February 13, 2019 (“Order”), the
4 Commission approved: 1) an ongoing monthly bill credit to customers; and 2) a
5 “catch-up” credit to be refunded to customers over a six-month period. The ongoing
6 monthly bill credit “must remain in effect until Monarch’s next rate case.” The Order
7 also states that Monarch must address in its next rate case the regulatory liability
8 related to its ADFIT balance resulting from the decrease in federal income tax rates.

9 **Q. DID MONARCH REFUND TO CUSTOMERS THE APPROVED**
10 **“CATCH-UP” CREDIT?**

11 A. Yes. Consistent with the Order and pursuant to the Notice Approving Interim Rates
12 on an Interim Basis, Monarch refunded the “catch-up” credit to customers over a
13 period of six months between September 2018 and February 2019.

14 **Q. IS MONARCH CURRENTLY PROVIDING MONTHLY TCJA BILL**
15 **CREDITS TO CUSTOMERS?**

16 A. Yes. In June 2018, Monarch implemented the monthly credits to customers approved
17 by the Order and is still currently providing these credits. Per the Order, the credits
18 will cease at the time rates go into effect in the current rate filing.

19 **Q. WAS THE TCJA’S EFFECT ON DEFERRED TAXES ADDRESSED IN**
20 **DOCKET NO. 48329?**

21 A. No. Per agreement between the parties to that proceeding, and as approved in the
22 Order, Monarch’s treatment of the TCJA’s effect on deferred taxes will be addressed
23 in the current proceeding (Monarch’s next general rate filing).

1 **Q. HOW IS MONARCH PROPOSING TO ADDRESS THE TCJA'S EFFECT ON**
2 **DEFERRED TAXES IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

3 A. The TCJA, signed into law on December 22, 2017, reduced the federal corporate
4 income tax rate for Monarch from 34% to 21% effective for tax years beginning after
5 December 31, 2017. Regulated utilities are subject to normalization provisions,
6 which require a certain treatment of excess accumulated deferred income taxes
7 (“EDIT”) resulting from the corporate income tax rate reduction. The EDIT subject
8 to the normalization rules are considered “Protected” by the Internal Revenue Code.
9 The EDIT normalization requirements apply only to accelerated federal tax
10 method/life depreciation differences on public utility property; they do not apply to
11 EDIT on other book/tax temporary differences. Because of the TCJA reduction of the
12 federal tax rate from 34% to 21% effective December 31, 2017, Monarch had an
13 excess deferred income tax liability of \$407,802.

14 The excess EDIT normalization provision requires that excess deferred
15 income taxes be used to reduce revenue requirements and revenue no sooner than
16 would occur as the book/tax difference reverses. The Reverse South Georgia Method
17 (“RSGM”) is permitted if the utility is unable to identify when book/tax differences
18 originate and reverse. Under RSGM, the EDIT is spread ratably over the estimated
19 book life if the utility is unable to identify the reversal pattern of utility plant
20 components. Monarch has determined that the appropriate methodology to address
21 EDIT is RSGM. Under RSGM, the EDIT is used to reduce rates charged to
22 customers over the estimated remaining book life of the related assets. RSGM
23 requires the reduction to be straight line beginning immediately.

1 Monarch calculated a total Protected EDIT liability of \$469,345 to which the
2 RSGM was applied. Additionally, Monarch calculated a total Unprotected EDIT
3 asset of \$61,543. Monarch noted that the Unprotected EDIT (i.e., temporary
4 differences not associated with method/life differences and not subject to
5 normalization) resulted in a regulatory asset. Rather than being a credit to ratepayers
6 (regulatory liability), the regulatory asset represents a charge to ratepayers.
7 Unprotected EDIT are not subject to the normalization provisions of the Internal
8 Revenue Code. However, should the IRS challenge the classification of an
9 Unprotected EDIT, there is no materiality threshold. Any amortization of EDIT that
10 violates the normalization provisions results in a loss of the ability to claim
11 accelerated depreciation and a cash penalty equal to the amount of the violation.
12 Therefore, in order to avoid risk under IRS examination, Monarch proposes to
13 amortize the Unprotected EDIT over the same period as the Protected EDIT.

14 By applying RSGM, Monarch calculated a Protected liability amortization
15 amount of \$15,771 and an Unprotected asset amortization amount of \$2,241 to arrive
16 at an annual net amortization to ratepayers of \$13,530 as shown in Schedule
17 II-E-3.16.

18 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TCJA'S EFFECT ON TAX TREATMENT OF**
19 **CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION.**

20 A. The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners defines CIAC as “any
21 amount or item of money, services or property received by a utility, from any person
22 or governmental agency, any portion of which is provided at no cost to the utility,
23 which represents an addition or transfer to the capital of the utility, and which is
24 utilized to offset the acquisition, improvement or construction costs of the utility's

1 property, facilities, or equipment used to provide utility services to the public.”
2 Before the TCJA was signed into law, CIAC was not subject to tax for water and
3 wastewater utilities but is now considered taxable as ordinary income to the utility.
4 Before the TCJA, tax depreciation was not allowed on the CIAC-related assets due to
5 its nontaxable nature, but is now depreciable for tax purposes under IRS depreciation
6 guidelines for water and wastewater property, so long as the contribution was taxable
7 as ordinary income the year in which it was received.

8 **Q. HAS THE COMMISSION PUBLICLY DISCUSSED OR STATED ITS**
9 **PREFERENCE FOR HOW UTILITIES SHOULD TREAT THE TAX ON**
10 **CIAC?**

11 A. No.

12 **Q. WHAT IS MONARCH’S PROPOSAL FOR TREATMENT OF THE TAXES**
13 **INCURRED ON CIAC?**

14 A. While CIAC itself must be excluded from rate base,¹ the taxes on CIAC are not
15 subject to the same statutory requirement. Therefore, Monarch has included
16 \$135,890 of accumulated deferred taxes on CIAC in its rate base. This amount is
17 comprised of CIAC income, net of associated depreciation of CIAC assets recorded
18 by Monarch since the passage of the TCJA multiplied by Monarch’s federal tax rate
19 of 21 percent. A deferred tax asset is recorded for the amount of CIAC initially
20 received, and this deferred tax asset is then reduced each subsequent year through an
21 offsetting deferred tax liability created through the depreciation of the associated
22 CIAC assets. Monarch believes the inclusion in rate base of both the deferred tax

¹ 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 24.41(c)3(D).

1 assets and deferred tax liabilities related to CIAC is essential for accurate
2 representation of deferred taxes, which follows the same accounting as other
3 temporary differences.

4 **Q. IS MONARCH'S PROPOSAL EQUITABLE FOR BOTH CUSTOMERS AND**
5 **THE UTILITY?**

6 A. Yes. The taxes on CIAC represent an actual cost to the utility that is incurred for the
7 benefit of customers. The CIAC assets are used to provide service to the customers,
8 and actual cash is paid out by the utility to maintain, upgrade, or expand its systems,
9 similar to an expenditure for a capital project. Because rates are set based on a
10 utility's appropriately incurred costs, it is just and reasonable for rate base to include
11 CIAC taxes.

12 **IV. MONARCH'S TAX STATUS & INCOME TAX EXPENSE**

13 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE MONARCH'S TAX STATUS.**

14 A. Monarch is a limited partnership for state law purposes. Its partners are Monarch
15 Utilities, Inc. ("MUI"), a corporation that owns 99.9 percent of Monarch, and Texas
16 Water Services Group, LLC ("TWSG"), a limited liability company that owns the
17 remaining 0.1 percent. MUI owns all membership interests in TWSG, which, for
18 income tax purposes, is a disregarded entity. Consequently, for income tax purposes,
19 MUI owns both the 99.9 percent interest in Monarch it owns directly as well as the
20 0.1 percent interest through TWSG. Because, for income tax purposes, a partnership
21 must have two or more partners, Monarch is not considered a partnership but a
22 disregarded entity. The result of this structure is, for federal income tax purposes,
23 Monarch is considered a division of MUI, which is a taxable corporation.

1 **Q. WHAT IS THE RATEMAKING SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS STRUCTURE?**

2 A. For ratemaking purposes, it would be inappropriate to calculate Monarch's cost of
3 service without inclusion of an income tax expense commensurate with Monarch's
4 actual tax liabilities. A utility is "entitled to a reasonable cost of service allowance
5 for federal income taxes *actually* paid by its shareholders."² Commission precedent
6 supports this approach as indicated by the order in Docket No. 2818 approving a
7 federal income tax allowance for a sole proprietorship on a conventional corporate tax
8 basis.³ Therefore, despite being listed as a limited partnership, Monarch's rates
9 should be set in accordance with its federal treatment as an income tax-paying
10 corporation.

11 **Q. WHAT IS MONARCH'S CALCULATED INCOME TAX EXPENSE**
12 **INCLUDED IN ITS REQUESTED REVENUE REQUIREMENT IN THIS**
13 **FILING?**

14 A. Monarch's calculated income tax included in its requested revenue requirement is
15 \$1,541,681.

16 **V. ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAXES**

17 **Q. WHAT AMOUNT OF ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAXES HAS**
18 **MONARCH INCLUDED IN RATE BASE IN THE CURRENT**
19 **APPLICATION?**

20 A. Monarch proposes to include (as a reduction to rate base) an ADFIT liability of
21 \$831,540 as shown in Schedule II-E-3.5. This amount was calculated as the annual

² See *Suburban Util Corp v. Pub Util Comm 'n*, 652 S.W.2d 358 (Tex. 1983) (emphasis added).

³ See *Application of Ingram Water Supply*, Docket No. 2818, 6 P.U.C. Bull. 579, 586 (May 1981).

1 deferred tax amounts accumulated since Monarch's last rate base determination,
2 which included no ADFIT balance.

3 **VI. CONCLUSION**

4 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

5 **A.** Yes, it does.

PUC DOCKET NO. 50994

APPLICATION OF MONARCH	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
UTILITIES I L.P. FOR AUTHORITY TO	§	
CHANGE RATES	§	OF TEXAS

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

BRUCE FAIRCHILD

ON BEHALF OF

MONARCH UTILITIES I L.P.

JULY 15, 2020

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
BRUCE FAIRCHILD**

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment BHF-1	Resume of Bruce H. Fairchild
Attachment BHF-2	Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies

SCHEDULES

Schedule BHF-1	Overall Rate of Return
Schedule BHF-2	Capital Structure
Schedule BHF-3	Cost of Debt
Schedule BHF-4	DCF Model – Dividend Yield
Schedule BHF-5	DCF Model – Earnings Growth Rates
Schedule BHF-6	DCF Model – Sustainable Growth Rates
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SCHEDULES (CONT.)

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Schedule BHF-9	Bond Ratings, Beta, Market Capitalization, and Size Premiums
Schedule BHF-10	Comparable Earnings Method
Schedule BHF-11	Risk Premium Method – Gas Distribution Utilities
Schedule BHF-12	Risk Premium Method – Electric Utilities

WORKPAPERS

WP Fairchild 1	Stock Prices
WP Fairchild 2	Market DCF
WP Fairchild 3	Interest Rates
WP Fairchild 4	Market Capitalizations
WP Fairchild 5	Financial Data
WP Fairchild 6	Financial Statements (confidential)

PUC DOCKET NO. 50994

APPLICATION OF MONARCH § PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
UTILITIES I L.P. FOR AUTHORITY TO §
CHANGE RATES § OF TEXAS

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
BRUCE FAIRCHILD

I. INTRODUCTION

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Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. Bruce H. Fairchild, 3907 Red River, Austin, Texas 78751.

Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT POSITION.

A. I am a principal in Financial Concepts and Applications, Inc. (“FINCAP”), a firm engaged in financial, economic, and policy consulting to business and government.

A. Qualifications

Q. DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, AND PRIOR EXPERIENCE.

A. I received a BBA degree from Southern Methodist University and MBA and PhD degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. I am also a Certified Public Accountant. My previous employment includes working in the Controller’s Department at Sears, Roebuck and Company and serving as Assistant Director of Economic Research at the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“PUCT” or “Commission”). I have also been on the business school faculties at the University of Colorado at Boulder and the University of Texas at Austin, where I taught undergraduate and graduate courses in finance and accounting.

Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE IN UTILITY-RELATED MATTERS.

1 A. While at the PUCT, I assisted in managing a division comprised of approximately
2 twenty-five professionals responsible for financial analysis, cost allocation and rate
3 design, economic and financial research, and data processing systems. I testified on
4 behalf of the PUCT staff in numerous cases involving most major investor-owned and
5 cooperative electric, telephone, and water/wastewater utilities in the state regarding a
6 variety of financial, accounting, and economic issues. Since forming FINCAP in
7 1979, I have participated in a wide range of analytical assignments involving
8 utility-related matters on behalf of utilities, industrial consumers, municipalities, and
9 regulatory commissions. I have also prepared and presented expert testimony before
10 a number of regulatory authorities addressing revenue requirements, cost allocation,
11 and rate design issues for gas, electric, telephone, and water/wastewater utilities. I
12 have been a frequent speaker at regulatory conferences and seminars and have
13 published research concerning various regulatory issues. A resumé that contains the
14 details of my experience and qualifications is attached as Attachment BHF-1, with
15 Attachment BHF-2 listing my prior testimony before regulatory agencies since
16 leaving the PUCT.

17 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY**
18 **COMMISSION OF TEXAS?**

19 A. Yes. As a PUCT Staff member, I participated in some 70 water and wastewater,
20 electric, and telephone rate cases, providing testimony primarily on financial issues
21 and rate design. I have since presented testimony before the PUCT in approximately
22 20 cases addressing revenue requirements, rate of return, and other issues.

23 **Q. WAS THIS TESTIMONY PREPARED BY YOU OR UNDER YOUR**
24 **DIRECTION?**

1 A. Yes, it was.

2 **B. Overview**

3 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

4 A. The purpose of my testimony is to develop a fair and reasonable rate of return for
5 Monarch Utilities I L.P. (“Monarch”).

6 **Q. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE RATE OF RETURN IN SETTING A
7 UTILITY’S RATES?**

8 A. The rate of return serves to compensate investors for the use of their capital to finance
9 the plant and equipment necessary to provide utility service to customers. Investors
10 only commit money in anticipation of earning a return on their investment
11 commensurate with that from other investment alternatives having comparable risks.
12 Consistent with both sound regulatory economics and the standards specified in the
13 U.S. Supreme Court cases of *Bluefield Waterworks & Improvement Co.* (1923)¹ and
14 *Hope Natural Gas Co.* (1944)², rates should provide the utility a reasonable
15 opportunity to earn a rate of return sufficient to: 1) fairly compensate capital
16 presently invested in the utility; 2) enable the utility to offer a return adequate to
17 attract new capital on reasonable terms; and 3) maintain the utility’s financial
18 integrity.

19 **Q. WHAT OTHER ROLE DOES RATE OF RETURN PLAY?**

20 A. In addition to the above, the rate of return allowed a utility also influences its
21 investment decisions. If the allowed rate of return is insufficient, the utility has no

¹ *Bluefield Waterworks & Improvement Co. v. Pub. Serv. Comm’n of W. Va.*, 262 U.S. 679 (1923).

² *F.P.C. v Hope Natural Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591 (1944).

1 incentive to make investments in property, plant, and equipment other than those
2 necessary to provide safe and reliable service to customers in its existing service
3 areas. For a utility to be willing to expand beyond its existing service areas, the
4 allowed rate of return must be sufficient to warrant committing and exposing
5 additional capital to the risks associated with new systems. Thus, to encourage
6 capable and competent utilities to acquire systems that are operationally and
7 financially distressed, out of compliance with health and safety regulations, poorly
8 maintained, and lacking capital to make necessary improvements, the allowed rate of
9 return must be above a minimum, bare bones cost of capital. In other words, a utility
10 such as Monarch will only acquire distressed systems if it is cost-justified to do so,
11 which is an economic decision largely driven by the rate of return it expects to earn
12 on its investment.

13 **Q. IN GENERAL, HOW HAVE YOU GONE ABOUT DEVELOPING YOUR**
14 **RECOMMENDED RATE OF RETURN FOR MONARCH?**

15 A. My evaluation begins with a brief review of the operations and finances of Monarch
16 and general conditions in the water and wastewater utility industries and capital
17 markets, including a discussion of the actions the Federal Reserve Board (“Fed”) has
18 taken since the Great Recession and, most recently, the coronavirus pandemic. With
19 this background, I next develop a mix of investor-supplied capital (i.e., debt and
20 equity) to be used as weightings in calculating an overall rate of return for Monarch.
21 An average cost of debt applicable to the debt component of the capital structure is
22 then calculated. Next, various analyses are conducted to determine a fair rate of
23 return on common equity (“ROE”). These analyses include applications of the
24 discounted cash flow (“DCF”) model, capital asset pricing model (“CAPM”), and

1 comparable earnings method to develop a cost of equity range, from which my
2 recommended ROE is selected and evaluated for reasonableness. Finally, these
3 components are combined to calculate an overall rate of return for Monarch.

4 **C. Summary of Conclusions**

5 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDED RATE OF RETURN FOR MONARCH?**

6 A. As developed on Schedule BHF-1, Monarch is requesting an overall rate of return on
7 its invested capital of 8.32%. This rate of return is based on capital structure ratios of
8 45.0% debt and 55.0% equity, a cost of debt of 6.26%, and an ROE of 10.0%.

9 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR YOUR RECOMMENDED CAPITAL**
10 **STRUCTURE RATIOS?**

11 A. Because Monarch's capital structure ratios at test year-end do not comport with
12 industry standards, I recommend that Monarch's rate of return be based on those
13 typically maintained by other water and wastewater utilities. The capital structure
14 ratios of a proxy group of publicly traded water and wastewater utilities have
15 historically averaged approximately 45.0% debt and 55.0% equity, which is also
16 consistent with those projected for the proxy group for the 2023–2025 timeframe.

17 **Q. WHAT IS MONARCH'S COST OF DEBT?**

18 A. At December 31, 2019, the weighted average cost of Monarch's long-term debt was
19 6.26%.

20 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE FOR MONARCH?**

21 A. Based on applications of the DCF, CAPM, and comparable earnings methods, I
22 conclude that investors currently require a rate of return from an investment in the
23 common equity of Monarch in the range of 9.25% to 10.25%. From this range, I
24 recommend a point estimate of 10.0% to reflect the extraordinary capital market

1 uncertainty resulting from coronavirus pandemic and shutdown of the U.S. economy,
2 and to provide Monarch a return sufficient to encourage it to continue investing in
3 distressed water and wastewater systems in Texas. The reasonableness of my
4 recommended 10.0% ROE is supported by risk premium analyses based on ROEs
5 previously authorized for other utilities (i.e., natural gas local distribution companies
6 and electric utilities) by state regulatory commissions, and the ROEs previously
7 granted electric utilities by the PUCT.

8 **II. FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS**

9 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

10 A. As a predicate to subsequent quantitative analyses, this section briefly reviews the
11 operations and finances of Monarch. This section also examines the water and
12 wastewater utility industry, along with conditions in the capital markets and U.S.
13 economy.

14 A. **Monarch Utilities I L.P.**

15 **Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE MONARCH.**

16 A. As explained in more detail by Monarch witness Jeffrey L. McIntyre, Monarch
17 provides water supply and wastewater collection and treatment services for
18 residential, commercial, and irrigation use. Its service area is dispersed throughout
19 Texas, primarily in the Dallas-Fort Worth and Austin areas, and in the northeast area
20 of Houston. At test year-end, December 31, 2019, Monarch had total assets of
21 approximately \$116 million, with revenues for calendar year being approximately \$32
22 million.

23 **Q. WHO OWNS MONARCH?**

1 A. Monarch is owned by SouthWest Water Company (“SouthWest”), which is
2 headquartered in Sugar Land, Texas. Privately held by an equity infrastructure fund
3 owned by institutional investors (e.g., retirement funds), SouthWest’s subsidiaries
4 own, operate, and maintain water and wastewater infrastructure and provides a broad
5 range of operation, maintenance services, including water production; treatment and
6 distribution; wastewater collation and treatment; customer service; and utility
7 infrastructure construction management. Its utility subsidiaries serve over half a
8 million residential and business customers in six states: Alabama, California,
9 Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, and Texas.

10 **B. Water and Wastewater Industries**

11 **Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE U.S. WATER AND WASTEWATER COMPANIES.**

12 A. Although most water and wastewater systems in the U.S. are government-owned, a
13 significant number are investor-owned utilities (“IOU”). Water and wastewater
14 utilities normally treat, deliver, and sell water to, and collect and treat wastewater
15 from households and businesses. IOU water and wastewater companies usually have
16 an exclusive right to operate in a specified geographic area, with their rates and
17 operations being subject to the jurisdiction of federal, state, and local regulatory
18 authorities.

19 **Q. WHAT RISKS DO IOU WATER AND WASTEWATER COMPANIES FACE**
20 **THAT ARE OF CONCERN TO INVESTORS?**

21 A. IOU water and wastewater companies face a variety of operating, capital-related, and
22 regulatory risks. Operating risks relate not only to the ongoing operations of water
23 and wastewater systems, but also to major, unexpected risks and hazards (e.g.,
24 emerging contaminants, water contamination, and increased environmental

1 regulations). Fluctuations in customer demand for water due to seasonality,
2 restrictions on use, weather, conservation, and lifestyle affect a company's revenues,
3 while inflation and other cost increases adversely impact its ability to control
4 expenses. More generally, the availability of water supplies, climate variability,
5 drought conditions, competing uses and economic conditions may adversely affect
6 access to and the ability to supply water to customers, while environmental risks
7 associated with the collection, treatment and disposal of wastewater may impose
8 significant costs increases with providing wastewater service. Strikes, natural
9 disasters, security breaches, power failures, and terrorist activities could interrupt or
10 shut down operations, and contamination of water supply or the failure of a treatment
11 plant would cause a disruption of service, which could result in losses and damages
12 that may affect an IOU water and wastewater company's reputation, business,
13 financial condition, and operating results.

14 **Q. WHAT ARE THE CAPITAL-RELATED RISKS FACED BY IOU WATER**
15 **AND WASTEWATER COMPANIES?**

16 A. Much of the water and wastewater infrastructure in the U.S. is in constant need of
17 modernization and replacement, which is largely driven by increased regulations
18 intended to improve water quality and management of discharges. Significant
19 amounts of capital are required by water and wastewater companies to add, replace,
20 upgrade, and maintain property, plant, and equipment necessary to serve growing
21 customer bases, provide water and wastewater treatment services to community water
22 systems, and to acquire substandard, troubled water and wastewater systems.
23 Because of this need for capital, IOU water and wastewater companies are dependent
24 on an ability to secure funding both internally and externally, with disruptions in the

1 capital markets or their access to it, or a significant increase in the cost of capital,
2 adversely affecting their ability to provide safe and reliable service to existing and
3 future customers. In addition, an IOU water and wastewater company's ability to
4 retain and attract capital is subject to changes in state and federal tax laws and
5 accounting standards, which could adversely affect their cash flows and financial
6 condition.

7 **Q. WHAT ABOUT THE REGULATORY RISKS FACED BY IOU WATER AND**
8 **WASTEWATER COMPANIES?**

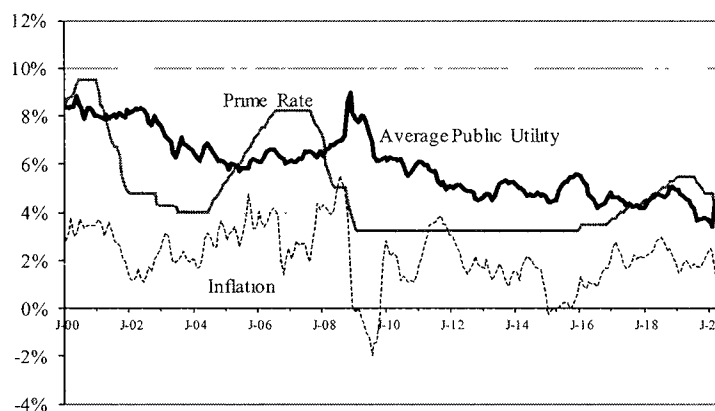
9 A. Because most aspects of an IOU water and wastewater company's operations (e.g.,
10 rates; operating terms and conditions of service; types of services offered;
11 construction of new facilities; the integrity, safety, and security of facilities and
12 operations; acquisition, extension, or abandonment of services or facilities; reporting
13 and information posting requirements; maintenance of accounts and records; and
14 relationships with affiliate companies) are subject to government oversight, investors
15 are understandably concerned with rate, safety, and environmental regulation.
16 Potential changes in laws, regulations, and policies, as well as the inherent
17 uncertainty surrounding regulatory decisions, all represent significant risks to IOU
18 water and wastewater companies.

19 C. **Capital Markets**

20 **Q. WHAT HAS BEEN THE PATTERN OF INTEREST RATES OVER THE**
21 **LAST TWENTY YEARS?**

22 A. Average long-term public utility bond rates, the borrowing prime rate, and inflation as
23 measured by the Consumer Price Index ("CPI") over the last twenty years are plotted
24 in the graph below. Beginning in 2000, the average yield on long-term public utility

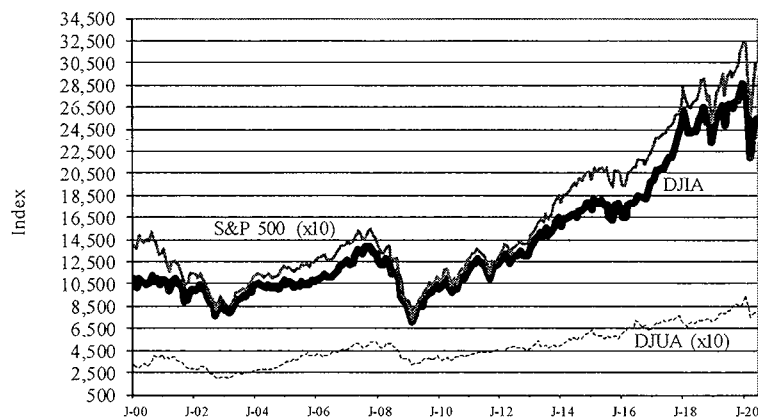
1 bonds generally fell because of monetary and fiscal policies designed to keep the
2 economy growing. This decline ended abruptly with the 2008 financial market
3 meltdown and global recession. Investors became exceedingly risk averse, causing
4 interest rates on corporate bonds to spike, while government policies pushed down
5 short-term interest rates and depressed economic conditions and lower energy prices
6 reduced inflation. Over the next decade, various actions by the Fed to stimulate the
7 economy through easy-money policies resulted in short- and long-term interest rates
8 reaching record lows. These conditions were interrupted in early 2020 by the
9 coronavirus pandemic and worldwide economic shutdown, although the impact on
10 interest rates has been moderate by extraordinary actions taken by the Fed:



11 **Q. HOW HAS THE MARKET FOR COMMON EQUITY CAPITAL**
12 **PERFORMED OVER THIS SAME PERIOD?**

13 A. In the early 2000s, stock prices moved steadily higher as one of the longest bull
14 markets in U.S. history continued unabated. In mid-2000, mounting concerns over
15 prospects for future growth, particularly for firms in the high technology and
16 telecommunications sectors, pushed equity prices lower, in some cases precipitously.
17 Common stock prices generally recovered and reached record highs, buoyed in large

1 part by widespread acquisition activity, until the capital market crisis and Great
2 Recession hit in 2008. Stock prices tumbled by some 40%, and while they recovered
3 and reached all-time highs over the next decade, they crashed again in early 2020 due
4 to the coronavirus pandemic. Although stock prices have largely recovered, the
5 market is extraordinarily volatile, with share prices routinely changing in more than
6 full percentage points during a single day's trading. The graph below plots the
7 performances of the Dow-Jones Industrial Average, the S&P 500, and the Dow Jones
8 Utility Average since 2000 (the latter two indices were scaled for comparability):



9 **Q. WHAT IS THE OUTLOOK FOR THE U.S. ECONOMY?**

10 A. The U.S. economy had fully recovered from the Great Recession when the
11 coronavirus pandemic struck in early 2020 and the world economy largely came to a
12 virtual stand-still. More than 30 million U.S. jobs were lost and unemployment
13 reached almost 15%, not counting furloughed workers, throwing the U.S. into a
14 recession overnight. While steps are being taken to reopen businesses and schools,
15 no one knows whether there will be subsequent waves of infection that cause these
16 actions to be reversed, how long the pandemic and its crippling effects will last, or
17 how long it will take to restart and restore economic activity after the health crisis has

1 abated. Besides these near-term uncertainties, the long-term impact on inflation and
2 interest rates of the trillions of dollars in deficit spending by the federal government
3 to provide aid to support the economy, and the trillions of dollars of government and
4 corporate debt purchased by the Fed to bolster capital markets, are unknown.

5 There has not been for several decades as much uncertainty surrounding the
6 U.S. economy as exists today. The economic outlook prior to the coronavirus
7 pandemic was unclear, in large part due to unsettled political environments in both
8 the U.S. and abroad, but the uncertainties then pale in comparison to those that exist
9 today. The various actions taken by the Fed to contain the economic and capital
10 market damage from the coronavirus pandemic (i.e., reducing the target federal funds
11 rate to near zero; reinstating “quantitative easing” whereby the Fed purchases
12 Treasury and mortgage-backed securities; providing liquidity by reducing bank
13 reserve requirements, lending through repurchase agreements, and other actions; and
14 providing emergency credit facilities to non-bank financial institutions) are expected
15 to keep interest rates suppressed. But the uncertainties surrounding the extent and
16 duration of an economic recovery, coupled with the extraordinary volatility in stock
17 market prices, have dramatically increased the risk of investing in common stocks.

18 III. CAPITAL STRUCTURE

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

20 A. The purpose of this section is to recommend capital structure ratios for use in
21 calculating an overall rate of return for Monarch.

22 **Q. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE IN SETTING A**
23 **UTILITY’S RATE OF RETURN?**

1 A. A utility's capital structure reflects the mix of capital—debt, preferred stock (if any),
2 and common equity—used to finance the utility's assets. The proportions of a
3 utility's total capitalization attributable to each source of capital are typically used to
4 weight the cost of debt, cost of preferred stock, and ROE in calculating an overall rate
5 of return.

6 **Q. HOW DOES THE USE OF DIFFERENT AMOUNTS OF DEBT AND EQUITY**
7 **IN A FIRM'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE AFFECT THE RATES OF RETURN**
8 **REQUIRED BY INVESTORS?**

9 A. A higher debt ratio, or lower common equity ratio, generally translates into increased
10 financial risk for all investors. A greater amount of debt means more investors have a
11 senior claim on available cash flow, thereby reducing the certainty that each will
12 receive his contractual payments. This, in turn, increases the risks to which lenders
13 are exposed, and they require correspondingly higher rates of interest for bearing this
14 increased risk. From common shareholders' viewpoint, higher debt ratios mean that
15 there are proportionately more investors-ahead of them, thereby increasing the
16 uncertainty as to the amount of cash flow, if any, that remains. Again, in accordance
17 with the fundamental risk-return trade-off principle to be discussed in greater detail
18 later, common shareholders require a correspondingly higher rate of return to
19 compensate them for bearing the greater financial risk associated with a lower
20 common equity ratio.

21 **Q. HOW IS MONARCH FINANCED?**

22 A. At December 31, 2019, Monarch was financed with approximately \$23.3 million in
23 long-term debt owed to third-parties and \$77.8 million in equity provided by

1 SouthWest. As shown in the following table, this equates to a test year-end capital
2 structure of 22.30% debt and 77.70% equity (dollar amounts in 000s):

<u>Capital Component</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Long-term Debt	\$ 22,315	22.30%
Common Equity	77,765	77.70
Total	\$ 100,080	100.00%

3 **Q. HOW DO MONARCH'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE RATIOS COMPARE**
4 **WITH THOSE OF OTHER WATER AND WASTEWATER COMPANIES?**

5 A. Schedule BHF-2 displays the capital structure ratios at calendar year-ends 2017,
6 2018, and 2019, and projected for 2020 and 2023–2025 of the seven publicly traded
7 water and wastewater utilities included in *The Value Line Investment Survey's*
8 (*“Value Line”*) *“Water Utility Industry.”* As shown there, this proxy group of water
9 and wastewater utilities has maintained and is expected to have average capital
10 structure ratios of between approximately 45% and 48% debt and 52% and 55%
11 equity. Monarch's approximately 22% debt ratio is well below, and its 78% equity
12 ratio well above, these industry benchmarks.

13 **Q. WHAT CAPITAL STRUCTURE RATIOS DO YOU RECOMMEND BE USED**
14 **TO CALCULATE THE RATE OF RETURN FOR MONARCH?**

15 A. Because Monarch's capital structure ratios do not comport with industry standards, I
16 recommend that Monarch's rate of return be based on those typically maintained by
17 other water and wastewater utilities. A review of Schedule BHF-2 shows that the
18 average capital structure ratios for the proxy group at year-ends 2019 and 2020
19 deviate from those for 2017 and 2018, and projected for 2023–2025. These
20 distortions are primarily attributable to the financing of acquisitions by Essential
21 Utilities, Inc. (formerly Aqua America, Inc.), which purchased Peoples Natural Gas,

1 and SJW Group, which acquired Connecticut Water Services, Inc. To avoid these
2 abnormalities, I recommend that Monarch's rate of return be based on the average
3 capital structure ratios maintained by the firms in the proxy at year-end 2017 and
4 2018 of approximately 45.0% debt and 55.0% equity. These are also consistent with
5 the average capital structure ratios projected for the proxy group in the 2023–2025
6 time frame.

7 **Q. HOW DOES YOUR CAPITAL STRUCTURE RECOMMENDATION**
8 **COMPARE WITH THAT IN MONARCH'S LAST RATE CASE?**

9 A. In Docket No. 45570,³ Monarch's test year capital structure ratios were similarly out
10 of line with water and wastewater industry norms. Accordingly, Monarch proposed,
11 and the PUCT Staff recommended, using industry capital structure ratios to calculate
12 Monarch's rate of return, with the case being ultimately settled. My recommended
13 industry capital structure ratios of 45.0% debt and 55.0% equity are the same as those
14 recently recommended by the PUCT Staff witnesses in Docket Nos. 48640⁴ and
15 50200.⁵

16 **IV. COST OF DEBT**

17 **Q. WHAT DEBT DID MONARCH'S HAVE OUTSTANDING AT TEST**
18 **YEAR-END?**

19 A. Shown on Schedule BHF-3, at December 31 2019, Monarch's long-term debt
20 consisted of capitalized lease commitments for equipment and office facilities and

³ *Application of Monarch Utilities I L.P. for Authority to Change Rates*, Docket No. 45570, Final Order (Aug. 21, 2017).

⁴ *Application of W.E. Vlasek for Authority to Change Water Rates*, Docket No. 48640, Direct Testimony of Emily Sears at 7-8 (Sept. 19, 2019).

⁵ *Application of Undine Texas, LLC and Undine Texas Environmental, LLC for Authority to Change Rates*, Docket No. 50200, Direct Testimony of Spencer English at 9 (Jun. 10, 2020).

1 three loans owed to CoBank, a cooperative bank that is part of the U.S. Farm Credit
2 system. Also properly considered in calculating a utility's overall weighted
3 embedded cost of debt are deferred financing costs, which reduce the amount of funds
4 available for investment and, therefore, slightly increase the effective cost of debt.

5 **Q. WHAT IS THE AVERAGE EMBEDDED COST OF MONARCH'S DEBT?**

6 A. As developed on Schedule BHF-3, the weighted average cost of Monarch's debt at
7 test year-end is 6.26%. This compares with Monarch's cost of debt in Docket No.
8 45570 in which Monarch proposed a cost of debt of 6.45% and the PUCT Staff
9 recommended 6.36%.

10 **V. RETURN ON EQUITY**

11 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

12 A. The purpose of this section is to develop a cost of equity range for Monarch. It
13 begins by introducing the cost of equity concept, explaining the risk-return tradeoff
14 principle fundamental to capital markets, and discussing the importance of using
15 multiple approaches to estimate the cost of equity. The DCF model is developed and
16 applied to the proxy group of publicly traded water and wastewater utilities to
17 estimate their cost of equity, which is then adjusted to reflect Monarch's smaller size.
18 Next, the CAPM is described and alternative cost of equity estimates for Monarch
19 developed using this method. Finally, the comparable earnings method is applied by
20 looking the rates of return the water and wastewater utilities in the proxy group are
21 expected to earn on their book equity. The results of these analyses are then
22 combined to arrive at a cost of equity range for Monarch.

1 A. Cost of Equity Concept

2 Q. HOW IS A RETURN ON COMMON EQUITY CUSTOMARILY
3 DETERMINED?

4 A. Unlike debt capital, there is no contractually guaranteed return on common equity
5 capital, since shareholders are the residual owners of the utility. Nonetheless,
6 common equity investors still require a return on their investment, with the “cost of
7 equity” being the minimum rent that must be paid for the use of their money.

8 Q. WHAT FUNDAMENTAL ECONOMIC PRINCIPLE UNDERLIES THIS
9 COST OF EQUITY CONCEPT?

10 A. The cost of equity concept is predicated on the notion that investors are risk averse
11 and willingly accept additional risk only if they expect to be compensated for bearing
12 that risk. In capital markets where relatively risk-free assets are available, such as
13 U.S. Treasury securities, investors can be induced to hold more risky assets only if
14 they are offered a premium, or additional return, above the rate of return on a
15 risk-free asset. Since all assets compete with each other for investors’ funds, riskier
16 assets must yield a higher expected rate of return than less risky assets in order for
17 investors to be willing to hold them.

18 Given this risk-return tradeoff, the minimum required rate of return (k) from
19 an asset (i) can be generally expressed as:

20
$$k_i = R_f + RP_i$$

21 where: R_f = Risk-free rate of return; and

22 RP_i = Risk premium required to hold more risky asset i.

1 Thus, the minimum required rate of return for a particular asset at any point in time is
2 a function of: 1) the yield on risk-free assets; and 2) its relative risk, with investors
3 demanding correspondingly larger risk premiums for assets bearing greater risk.

4 **Q. IS THERE EVIDENCE THAT THE RISK-RETURN TRADEOFF PRINCIPLE**
5 **ACTUALLY OPERATES IN THE CAPITAL MARKETS?**

6 A. Yes. The risk-return tradeoff can be readily documented in certain segments of the
7 capital markets where required rates of return can be directly inferred from market
8 data and generally accepted measures of risk exist. For example, bond yields are
9 reflective of investors' expected rates of return, and bond ratings are indicative of the
10 risk of fixed income securities. The observed yields on government securities and
11 bonds of various rating categories demonstrate that the risk-return tradeoff does, in
12 fact, exist in the capital markets.

13 To illustrate, average yields during May 2019 on 30-year U.S. Treasury bonds
14 and public utility bonds of different ratings reported by Moody's are shown in the
15 table below. As evidenced there, as risk increases (measured by progressively lower
16 bond ratings), the required rate of return (measured by yields) rises accordingly. Also
17 shown are the indicated risk premiums over long-term government securities for the
18 additional risk associated with each bond rating category.

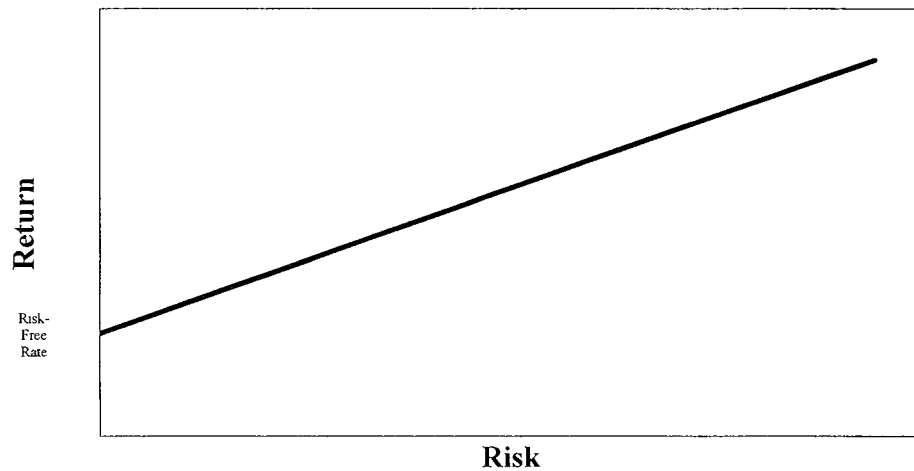
<u>Bond and Rating</u>	<u>May 2020 Yield</u>	<u>Risk Premium Over 30-Year Treasury</u>
U.S. Treasury 30-Year Public Utility	1.38%	—
Aa	2.89%	1.51%
A	3.14%	1.71%
Baa	3.63%	2.25%%

1 Q. DOES THE RISK-RETURN TRADEOFF OBSERVED WITH FIXED
2 INCOME SECURITIES EXTEND TO COMMON STOCKS AND OTHER
3 ASSETS?

4 A. Documenting the risk-return tradeoff for assets other than fixed income securities is
5 complicated by two factors. First, there is no standard measure of risk applicable to
6 all assets. Second, for most assets (e.g., common stock), required rates of return
7 cannot be directly observed. Yet there is every reason to believe that investors
8 exhibit risk aversion in deciding whether to hold common stocks and other assets, just
9 as when choosing among fixed income securities. Accordingly, it is generally
10 accepted that the risk-return tradeoff evidenced with long-term debt extends to all
11 assets.

12 The extension of the risk-return tradeoff from assets with observable required
13 rates of return (e.g., bonds) to other assets is represented by the concept of a “capital
14 market line.” In particular, competition between securities and among investors in
15 the capital markets drives the prices of assets to equilibrium such that the expected
16 rate of return from each is commensurate with its risk. Thus, the expected rate of
17 return from any asset is a risk-free rate of return plus a corresponding risk premium.
18 This concept of a capital market line is illustrated below. The vertical axis represents
19 required rates of return and the horizontal axis indicates relative riskiness, with the
20 intercept of the capital market line being the risk-free rate of return.

Capital Market Line



1 **Q. IS THIS RISK-RETURN TRADEOFF LIMITED TO DIFFERENCES**
2 **BETWEEN FIRMS?**

3 A. No. The risk-return tradeoff principle applies not only to investments in different
4 firms, but also to different securities issued by the same firm. As discussed earlier,
5 the securities issued by a utility vary considerably in risk because they have different
6 characteristics and priorities. Long-term debt secured by a mortgage on property is
7 senior among all capital in its claim on a utility's net revenues and is, therefore, the
8 least risky because mortgage bondholders have a direct claim on the utility's
9 property. Following first mortgage bonds are other debt instruments also holding
10 contractual claims on the utility's net revenues, such as debentures. The last investors
11 in line are common shareholders. They only receive the net revenues, if any, that
12 remain after all other claimants have been paid. As a result, the minimum rate of
13 return that investors require from a utility's common stock, the most junior and
14 riskiest of its securities, must be considerably higher than the yield offered by the
15 utility's senior, long-term debt.

1 **Q. WHAT DOES THE ABOVE DISCUSSION IMPLY WITH RESPECT TO**
2 **ESTIMATING THE COST OF EQUITY FOR A UTILITY?**

3 A. Although the cost of equity cannot be observed directly, it is a function of the returns
4 available from other investment alternatives and the risks to which the equity capital
5 is exposed. Because it is unobservable, the cost of equity for a particular utility must
6 be estimated by analyzing information about capital market conditions generally,
7 assessing the relative risks of the utility specifically, and employing various
8 quantitative methods that focus on investors' required rates of return. These various
9 quantitative methods typically attempt to infer investors' required rates of return from
10 stock prices, by extrapolating interest rates, or through an analysis of other financial
11 data.

12 **Q. DID YOU RELY ON A SINGLE METHOD TO ESTIMATE THE COST OF**
13 **EQUITY?**

14 A. No. Despite the theoretical appeal of or precedent for using a particular method to
15 estimate the cost of equity, no single approach can be regarded as wholly reliable.
16 Therefore, I use multiple methods to estimate the cost of equity. It is essential that
17 estimates of investors' minimum required rate of return produced by one method be
18 compared with those produced by other methods, and that all cost of equity estimates
19 be required to pass fundamental tests of reasonableness and economic logic.

20 **B. Discounted Cash Flow Model**

21 **Q. HOW ARE DCF MODELS USED TO ESTIMATE THE COST OF EQUITY?**

22 A. The use of DCF models to estimate the cost of equity is essentially an attempt to
23 replicate the market valuation process which led to the price investors are willing to
24 pay for a share of a company's common stock. It is predicated on the assumption that

1 investors evaluate the risks and expected rates of return from all securities in the
2 capital markets. Given these expected rates of return, the price of each share of stock
3 is adjusted by the market so that investors are adequately compensated for the risks to
4 which they are exposed. Therefore, we can look to the market to determine what
5 investors believe a share of common stock is worth, and by estimating the cash flows
6 they expect to receive from the stock in the way of future dividends and stock price,
7 their required rate of return can be mathematically imputed. In other words, the cash
8 flows that investors expect from a stock are estimated, and given the stock's current
9 market price, we can "back-into" the discount rate, or cost of equity, investors
10 presumably used in arriving at that price.

11 **Q. WHAT MARKET VALUATION PROCESS UNDERLIES DCF MODELS?**

12 A. DCF models are derived from a theory of valuation which posits that the price of a
13 share of common stock is equal to the present value of the expected cash flows (i.e.,
14 future dividends and stock price) that will be received while holding the stock,
15 discounted at investors' required rate of return, or the cost of equity. Notationally,
16 the general form of the DCF model is as follows:

17
$$P_0 = \frac{D_1}{(1 + K_e)^1} + \frac{D_2}{(1 + K_e)^2} + \dots + \frac{D_t}{(1 + K_e)^t} + \frac{P_t}{(1 + K_e)^t}$$

- 18 where: P_0 = Current price per share;
19 P_t = Future price per share in period t;
20 D_t = Expected dividend per share in period t;
21 K_e = Cost of equity.

1 Q. HAS THIS GENERAL FORM OF THE DCF MODEL CUSTOMARILY BEEN
2 SIMPLIFIED FOR USE IN ESTIMATING THE COST OF EQUITY IN RATE
3 CASES?

4 A. Yes. In an effort to reduce the number of required estimates and computational
5 difficulties, the general form of the DCF model has been simplified to a “constant
6 growth” form. In order to convert the general form of the DCF model to the constant
7 growth DCF model, a number of assumptions must be made. These include:

- 8 • A constant growth rate for both dividends and earnings;
- 9 • A stable dividend payout ratio;
- 10 • The discount rate exceeds the growth rate;
- 11 • A constant growth rate for book value and price;
- 12 • A constant earned rate of return on book value;
- 13 • No sales of stock at a price above or below book value;
- 14 • A constant price-earnings ratio;
- 15 • A constant discount rate (i.e., no changes in risk or interest rate levels and a
16 flat yield curve); and
- 17 • All of the above extend to infinity.

18 Given these assumptions, the general form of the DCF model can be reduced to the
19 more manageable formula of:

20
$$P_0 = \frac{D_1}{K_e - g}$$

21 where: g = Investors’ long-term growth expectations.

22 The cost of equity (“K_e”) can be isolated by rearranging terms:

1

$$K_e = \frac{D_1}{P_0} + g$$

2 The constant growth form of the DCF model recognizes that the rate of return to
3 stockholders consists of two parts: 1) dividend yield (D_1/P_0); and 2) growth (g). In
4 other words, investors expect to receive a portion of their total return in the form of
5 current dividends and the remainder through price appreciation.

6 While the constant growth form of the DCF model provides a more
7 manageable formula to estimate the cost of equity, it is important to note that the
8 assumptions required to convert the general form of the DCF model to the constant
9 growth form are never strictly met in practice. In some instances, where earnings are
10 derived solely from stable activities, and earnings, dividends, and book value track
11 fairly closely, the constant growth form of the DCF model may be a reasonable
12 working approximation of stock valuation. However, in other cases, where the
13 circumstances cause the required assumptions to be severely violated, the constant
14 growth DCF model may produce widely divergent and meaningless results. This is
15 especially the case if the firm's earnings or dividends are unstable, or if investors are
16 expecting the stock price to be affected by factors other than earnings and dividends.

17 **Q. HOW DID YOU ESTIMATE THE COST OF EQUITY USING THE DCF**
18 **MODEL?**

19 A. Because neither Monarch nor SouthWest has publicly traded common stock, the DCF
20 model cannot be used to estimate the cost of equity directly. For this reason, and to
21 avoid measurement error associated with applying the DCF model to a single firm, I
22 initially applied the constant growth form of the DCF model to the proxy group of the
23 seven publicly traded water and wastewater utilities identified earlier; namely, the

1 firms included in *Value Line's* Water Utility Industry predominantly engaged in
2 providing water and wastewater utility service.

3 **Q. HOW IS THE CONSTANT GROWTH FORM OF THE DCF MODEL**
4 **TYPICALLY USED TO ESTIMATE THE COST OF EQUITY?**

5 A. The first step in implementing the constant growth DCF model is to determine the
6 expected dividend yield ($D1/P0$) for the firm in question. This is usually calculated
7 based on an estimate of dividends to be paid in the coming year divided by the current
8 price of the stock.

9 **Q. HOW DID YOU CALCULATE THE DIVIDEND YIELD COMPONENT OF**
10 **THE CONSTANT GROWTH DCF MODEL FOR THE WATER AND**
11 **WASTEWATER UTILITY GROUP?**

12 A. Because estimating the cost of equity using the DCF model is an attempt to replicate
13 how investors arrived at an observed stock price, all of its components should be
14 contemporaneous. Price, dividend, and growth data from different points in time, or
15 averaged over long time periods, violate the matching principle underlying the DCF
16 model. Therefore, dividend yield was calculated by dividing an estimate of dividends
17 to be paid by each of the water and wastewater utilities in the group over the next
18 twelve months, obtained from the index to *Value Line's* June 5, 2020 edition, by the
19 average closing price of each firm's stock during the month of May 2020. The
20 expected dividends, representative price, and resulting dividend yield for each of the
21 seven water and wastewater utilities are displayed on Schedule BHF-4. As also
22 shown there, the average dividend yield for this industry proxy group is 1.91%.

1 **Q. EXPLAIN HOW ESTIMATES OF INVESTORS' LONG-TERM GROWTH**
2 **EXPECTATIONS ARE CUSTOMARILY DEVELOPED FOR USE IN THE**
3 **CONSTANT GROWTH DCF MODEL.**

4 A. In constant growth DCF theory, earnings, dividends, book value, and market price are
5 all assumed to grow in lockstep, and the growth horizon of the DCF model is infinite.
6 But implementation of the DCF model is more than just a theoretical exercise; it is an
7 effort to replicate the mechanism investors used to arrive at observable stock prices.
8 Therefore, the only "g" that matters in using the DCF model to estimate the cost of
9 equity is that which investors expect and have embodied in current market prices.

10 **Q. WHAT DRIVES INVESTORS' GROWTH EXPECTATIONS?**

11 A. Trends in earnings, which ultimately support future dividends and share price, play a
12 pivotal role in determining investors' long-term growth expectations. Security
13 analysts' growth forecasts are generally regarded as the closest single measure of the
14 expected long-term growth rate of the constant growth DCF model. While being
15 primarily based on the outlook for a firm, they also reflect the utility's historical
16 experience and other factors considered by investors in forming their long-term
17 growth expectations. Moreover, various empirical studies have found that security
18 analysts' projections are a superior source of DCF growth rates. The 5-year earnings
19 growth projections by security analysts for each of the seven water and wastewater
20 utilities reported by *Value Line*, Thomson Reuters' *Institutional Brokers Estimate*
21 *System* ("I/B/E/S"), and *Zacks Investment Research* ("Zacks") are displayed on
22 Schedule BHF-5, with the averages for the group being 7.2%, 8.3%, and 8.2%,
23 respectively. Also shown on Schedule BHF-5 are the 10-year and 5-year historical

1 earnings growth rates reported by *Value Line* for each of the seven utilities, which
2 average 7.1% and 7.8%, respectively.

3 **Q. HOW ELSE ARE INVESTOR EXPECTATIONS OF FUTURE LONG-TERM**
4 **GROWTH PROSPECTS FOR A FIRM OFTEN ESTIMATED FOR USE IN**
5 **THE CONSTANT GROWTH DCF MODEL?**

6 A. In DCF theory and practice, growth in book equity comes from the reinvestment of
7 earnings within the business and the effects of external financing. Accordingly,
8 conventional applications of the constant growth DCF model often examine the
9 relationships between variables that determine the “sustainable” growth attributable
10 to these two factors.

11 **Q. HOW IS A FIRM’S SUSTAINABLE GROWTH ESTIMATED?**

12 A. The sustainable growth rate is calculated by the formula:

13
$$g = br + sv$$

14 Where “b” is the expected earnings retention ratio (one minus the dividend payout
15 ratio), “r” is the expected rate of return earned on book equity, “s” is the percent of
16 common equity expected to be issued annually as new common stock, and “v” is the
17 equity accretion ratio. The “br” term represents the growth from reinvesting earnings
18 within the firm while the “sv” term represents the growth from external financing.
19 This external financing growth results because existing shareholders share in a
20 portion of any excess received from selling new shares at a price above book value.

21 **Q. WHAT GROWTH RATE DOES THE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH METHOD**
22 **SUGGEST FOR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY GROUP?**

23 A. The sustainable growth rate for each firm in the proxy group based on *Value Line’s*
24 projections for 2023–25 is developed in Schedule BHF-6. As shown there, the

1 sustainable growth method implies an average long-term growth rate for the water
2 and wastewater utility group of 6.5%.

3 **Q. WHAT ARE OTHER PROJECTED AND HISTORICAL GROWTH RATES**
4 **FOR THE INDUSTRY GROUP?**

5 A. Schedule BHF-7 displays *Value Line* projected growth rates and 10- and 5-year
6 historical growth rates in book value per share, dividends per share, and stock price
7 for each of the seven water and wastewater utilities in the industry group. The
8 averages for the proxy group range from 0.2% to 15.0%. Besides the fact that several
9 of these growth rates, when combined with the industry group's 1.91% dividend
10 yield, imply implausible cost of equity estimates, the variation in these other growth
11 rates results in them providing limited guidance as to the prospective growth that
12 investors expect.

13 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR CONCLUSION AS TO THE GROWTH THAT INVESTORS**
14 **ARE EXPECTING FROM THE WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY**
15 **PROXY GROUP?**

16 A. After excluding clearly unreliable indicators of growth, the plausible growth rates
17 shown on Schedules BHF-5, BHF-6, and BHF-7 indicate a range for the water and
18 wastewater utility group of between approximately 6.5% and 8.2%. Meanwhile,
19 *Zacks* reports projected earnings growth rates for its water utility industry of 10.3%.
20 Giving the greatest weight to earnings growth rates and lesser to sustainable growth, I
21 conclude that investors expect long-term growth from the water and wastewater
22 utility group in the 7.0% to 8.0% range.

1 Q. WHAT CURRENT DCF COST OF EQUITY ESTIMATES DOES THIS
2 GROWTH RATE RANGE IMPLY FOR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER
3 UTILITY PROXY GROUP?

4 A. Summing the publicly traded water and wastewater utility group's average dividend
5 yield of approximately 1.9% with a 7.0% to 8.0% growth rate range indicates a DCF
6 cost of equity for the industry group of between approximately 8.9% and 9.9%.

7 Q. IS THIS DCF COST OF EQUITY RANGE DIRECTLY APPLICABLE TO
8 MONARCH?

9 A. No. As will be discussed in more detail in the next section on the CAPM, it is well
10 accepted in the financial literature that investors require a higher return from smaller
11 firms than from larger firms, all other things equal. As shown on Schedule BHF-9,
12 the average market capitalization ("market cap") of the firms in the water and
13 wastewater proxy group is almost \$6 billion. While neither Monarch nor SouthWest
14 has a market cap *per se* because they are not publicly traded, one can be estimated by
15 multiplying SouthWest's \$274 million book equity by the average market-to-book
16 ratio of the firms in the proxy group of 3.22 times (Schedule BHF-9), which implies a
17 market cap of approximately \$882 million. This market caps is less than one-sixth
18 the size of the average firm in the proxy group. Accordingly, to make the DCF cost
19 of equity range for the proxy group applicable to Monarch, an adjustment is necessary
20 to account for its smaller size relative to all but one of the firms in the water and
21 wastewater utility group.

22 Q. WHAT IS THE MAGNITUDE OF THE ADJUSTMENT NECESSARY TO
23 ACCOUNT FOR THE SMALLER SIZE OF MONARCH RELATIVE TO THE
24 PROXY GROUP?

1 A. In the lower portion of Schedule BHF-9, the generally accepted schedule of size
2 premiums by market cap published by Duff & Phelps for 2020 is reproduced. In the
3 far right columns of the table in the upper portion of Schedule BHF-9, the market cap
4 of each water and wastewater utility in the proxy group is displayed along with its
5 corresponding size premium, with the average size premium for the firms in the proxy
6 group being 1.15%. Meanwhile, from the schedule of size premiums at the bottom of
7 Schedule BHF-9, the size premium for a firm with a market cap of \$882 million is
8 1.59%. Thus, the adjustment necessary to account for Monarch's smaller size relative
9 to the firms in the water and wastewater utility group and, in turn, to make the DCF
10 cost of equity range for the proxy group applicable to Monarch, is the difference
11 between a size premium of 1.59% and the average for the proxy group of 1.15%, or
12 0.44%.

13 **Q. WHAT COST OF EQUITY FOR MONARCH IS IMPLIED BY YOUR DCF**
14 **ANALYSIS?**

15 A. Adding the 0.44% adjustment necessary to account for Monarch's smaller size
16 relative to the firms in the water and wastewater utility group to the 8.9% to 9.9%
17 percent DCF cost of equity range determined above produces a DCF cost of equity
18 range for Monarch of 9.34% to 10.34%.

19 **C. Capital Asset Pricing Model**

20 **Q. HOW ELSE DID YOU ESTIMATE THE COST OF EQUITY?**

21 A. The cost of equity to the water and wastewater utility group was also estimated using
22 the CAPM, which is a theory of market equilibrium that serves as the basis for current
23 financial education and management. Under the CAPM, investors are assumed fully
24 diversified, so that the relevant risk of an individual asset (*e.g.*, common stock) is its

1 volatility relative to the market as a whole, which is measured using a “beta”
2 coefficient. Beta reflects the tendency of a stock’s price to follow changes in the
3 market, with stocks having a beta less than 1.00 being considered less risky and
4 stocks with a beta greater than 1.00 being regarded as more risky. The CAPM is
5 mathematically expressed as:

$$6 \quad R_j = R_f + \beta_j (R_m - R_f)$$

7 where: R_j = required rate of return for stock j;

8 R_f = risk-free interest rate;

9 R_m = expected return on the market portfolio; and

10 β_j = beta, or systematic risk, for stock j.

11 While the CAPM is not without controversy, it is routinely referenced in the financial
12 literature and regulatory proceedings, and firms’ beta values are widely reported.

13 **Q. HOW DID YOU APPLY THE CAPM?**

14 A. I applied the CAPM using two methods to determine the risk premium for the market
15 as a whole, or the $(R_m - R_f)$ term in the CAPM formula. The first was based on
16 historical rates of return and the second was based on forward-looking estimates of
17 investors’ required rates of return. In both instances, the companies included in the
18 S&P 500 index were used as a proxy for the market portfolio and the 30-year U.S.
19 Treasury bond served as the risk-free investment.

20 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE FIRST METHOD BASED ON HISTORICAL**
21 **RATES OF RETURN.**

22 A. Under the historical rate of return approach, equity risk premiums are calculated by
23 first measuring the rate of return (including dividends and capital gains and losses)
24 actually realized on an investment in common stocks over historical time periods.

1 The historical return on bonds is then subtracted from that earned on common stocks
2 to measure equity risk premiums. Widely used in academia, the historical rate of
3 return approach is based on the assumption that, given a sufficiently large number of
4 observations over long historical periods, average market rates of return will converge
5 to investors' required rates of return. From a more practical perspective, investors
6 may base their expectations for the future on, or may have come to expect that they
7 will earn, rates of return corresponding to those in the past.

8 **Q. WHAT IS THE MARKET RISK PREMIUM BASED ON HISTORICAL**
9 **RATES OF RETURN?**

10 A. The most exhaustive study of historical rates of return, and the one most frequently
11 cited in regulatory proceedings, is that contained in Duff & Phelps' (formerly
12 Ibbotson Associates and Morningstar) *Market Results for Stocks, Bonds, Bills and*
13 *Inflation*.⁶ In its most recent publication, Duff & Phelps reports that the annual rate of
14 return realized on the S&P 500 averaged 11.88% over the period 1926 through 2019
15 while the annual average income rate of return on 30-year Treasury bonds over this
16 same period averaged 4.94%. Thus, the market risk premium based on historical
17 average annual rates of return is 6.94%.

18 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SECOND METHOD BASED ON FORWARD-**
19 **LOOKING REQUIRED RATES OF RETURN.**

20 A. Consistent with the CAPM being an expectational (i.e., forward-looking) model, the
21 second method estimated the market risk premium using current indicators of
22 investors' required rates of return. For the market portfolio, the cost of equity was

⁶ Duff & Phelps, *2020 Stocks, Bonds, Bills and Inflation (S&P) Yearbook (2020)*.

1 estimated by applying the DCF model to the firms in the S&P 500 paying cash
2 dividends, with each firm's dividend yield and growth rate being weighted by its
3 proportionate share of total market value. The expected dividend yield for each firm
4 was obtained from *Value Line*, with the expected growth rate being based on the
5 earnings forecasts published for each firm by *Value Line*, *I/B/E/S*, and *Zacks*. As
6 shown in footnote (b) on Schedule BHF-8, summing the 2.55% expected dividend
7 yield for this market group, which is composed primarily of non-regulated firms, with
8 the average *Value Line*, *I/B/E/S*, and *Zacks* projected growth rate of 8.70% produces a
9 required rate of return from the market portfolio (R_m) of 11.25%.

10 **Q. WHAT IS THE MARKET RISK PREMIUM BASED ON FORWARD-**
11 **LOOKING REQUIRED RATES OF RETURN?**

12 A. From the 11.25% required rate of return on the market portfolio, a market risk
13 premium is calculated by subtracting the average yield on 30-year Treasury bonds
14 during May 2020 of 1.38%. This produces a forward-looking market risk premium of
15 9.87%.

16 **Q. WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP IN APPLYING THE CAPM?**

17 A. Having calculated market risk premiums of 6.94% and 9.87% using historical rates of
18 return and forward-looking rates of return, respectively, the next step is to calculate
19 specific risk premiums for the risk associated a water and wastewater utility. This is
20 done by multiplying the alternative market risk premium estimates by a beta of 0.77,
21 which is the average beta obtained from *Value Line* for the water and wastewater
22 utilities-in the proxy group and shown on Schedule BHF-9. This produces water and
23 wastewater utility industry risk premiums of 5.35% and 7.62%.

1 **Q. WHAT ARE THE RESULTING THEORETICAL CAPM COST OF EQUITY**
2 **ESTIMATES FOR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER INDUSTRY?**

3 A. Summing the industry risk premiums of 5.35% and 7.62% with the May 2020 30-year
4 U.S. Treasury bond yield of 1.38% produces theoretical CAPM cost of equity
5 estimates for the water and wastewater utility industry of 6.73% and 8.99%.

6 **Q. ARE THESE THEORETICAL CAPM COST OF EQUITY ESTIMATES**
7 **ACCURATE MEASURES OF INVESTORS' REQUIRED RATE OF**
8 **RETURN?**

9 A. No. These cost of equity estimates are based on CAPM theory. However, as
10 explained by Morningstar in its *2015 Classic Yearbook* edition of *Stocks, Bonds, Bills*
11 *and Inflation*:

12 One of the most remarkable discoveries of modern finance
13 is that of a relationship between company size and return.
14 Historically on average, small companies have higher
15 returns than those of large ones The relationship
16 between company size and return cuts across the entire size
17 spectrum; it is not restricted to the smallest stocks.⁷

18 In other words, in addition to the systematic risk measured by beta, investors'
19 required rate of return depends on a firm's relative size. To account for this,
20 Morningstar has developed size premiums that need to be added to the theoretical
21 CAPM cost of equity estimates to account for the level of a firm's market
22 capitalization in determining the CAPM cost of equity.

23 **Q. WHAT ARE THE CURRENT CAPM COST OF EQUITY ESTIMATES FOR**
24 **MONARCH ONCE SIZE EFFECTS ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT?**

⁷ Morningstar, Inc., *2015 Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation (SBBBI) Classic Yearbook* at 99 (2015).
(Footnote omitted).

1 A. As discussed earlier, the size premium for Monarch is 1.59%, which means that the
2 theoretical CAPM cost of equity estimates need to be increased by this amount to
3 account for its size relative to the S&P 500. As shown on Schedule BHF-8,
4 increasing the theoretical CAPM cost of equity estimates by a 1.59% size premium
5 results in current CAPM cost of equity estimates for Monarch based on historical
6 rates of return and forward-looking rates of return of 8.32% and 10.58%, respectively.

7 **D. Comparable Earnings Method**

8 **Q. HOW ELSE DID YOU ESTIMATE THE COST OF EQUITY FOR**
9 **MONARCH?**

10 A. Often referred to as the comparable earnings method, I also looked to the rates of
11 return that other firms of comparable risk and that compete for investors' capital are
12 expected to earn on their book equity. Reference to the expected return on book
13 equity of other water and wastewater utility companies demonstrates the level of
14 earnings that Monarch needs in order to offer investors a competitive return, be able
15 to attract capital on reasonable terms, and maintain its financial integrity.

16 **Q. WHAT RETURN ON BOOK EQUITY ARE WATER AND WASTEWATER**
17 **UTILITY COMPANIES EXPECTED TO EARN?**

18 A. Schedule BHF-10 displays the return on book equity projected for each of the seven
19 publicly traded water and wastewater utilities in the proxy group for the 2020, 2021,
20 and the 2023-25 timeframes, calculated by dividing *Value Line's* projected earnings
21 per share by average book value per share. As shown there, the average expected
22 book ROE for the group is 10.3% in 2020, 10.8% for 2021, and 12.1% for 2023-
23 2025.

1 **E. Recommended Rate of Return on Equity**

2 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR CONCLUSION AS TO THE CURRENT COST OF EQUITY**
3 **RANGE FOR MONARCH?**

4 A. The DCF method indicates a cost of equity range for Monarch of between
5 approximately 9.3% and 10.3%, while the CAPM indicates a cost of equity range of
6 between approximately 8.3% and 10.6%. Meanwhile, the comparable earnings
7 method implies a fair rate of return on book equity for water and wastewater utilities
8 of between 10.3% and 12.1%. Taken together, I conclude that investors currently
9 require a ROE from Monarch in the range of 9.25% to 10.25%.

10 **Q. WHAT ROE DO YOU RECOMMEND FOR MONARCH?**

11 A. As discussed earlier, the outlook for the U.S. economy is more uncertain than it has
12 been in decades because of the coronavirus pandemic. While the various actions
13 taken by the Fed to contain the economic and capital market damage from the
14 pandemic are expected to keep interest rates suppressed, the uncertainties surrounding
15 the extent and duration of an economic recovery, coupled with the extraordinary
16 volatility in stock market prices, have dramatically increased the risk of investing in
17 common stocks. So that Monarch is able to offer investors a competitive return,
18 attract capital on reasonable terms, and maintain its financial integrity, the allowed
19 ROE should reflect the higher risk and capital market requirements from common
20 stocks. Additionally, to encourage Monarch to continue acquiring operationally and
21 financially distressed water and wastewater systems in Texas, its ROE must be
22 sufficient to cost-justify its initial investment and necessary additional capital
23 improvements. Taken together, I recommend an ROE for Monarch from the upper
24 end of my 9.25% to 10.25% cost of equity range, or 10.0%.

1 **Q. HAVE YOU CONDUCTED ANY CHECKS OF REASONABLENESS OF**
2 **YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE FOR MONARCH?**

3 A. Yes. I evaluated the reasonableness of my recommended 10.0% ROE for Monarch in
4 two ways. The first was using a risk premium method based on ROEs previously
5 authorized for other utilities (i.e., natural gas local distribution companies and electric
6 utilities) by state regulatory commissions, and the second was by examining the
7 ROEs previously granted electric utilities by the PUCT. A risk premium analysis
8 based on allowed ROEs for water and wastewater companies was not performed
9 because I am not aware of similar historical ROE data being published for these
10 utilities.

11 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RISK PREMIUM METHOD TO ESTIMATE THE**
12 **COST OF EQUITY?**

13 A. The risk premium method to estimate investors' required rate of return is an extension
14 of the risk-return tradeoff observed with bonds to common stocks. The cost of equity
15 is estimated by determining the additional return investors require to forego the
16 relative safety of a bond and bear the greater risks associated with common stock, and
17 then adding this equity risk premium to the current yield on bonds.

18 **Q. DESCRIBE GENERALLY THE APPLICATION OF THE RISK PREMIUM**
19 **METHOD USING AUTHORIZED ROES.**

20 A. Application of the risk premium method based on authorized ROEs is predicated on
21 the presumption that allowed returns reflect regulatory commissions' best estimates
22 of the cost of equity, however determined, at the time they issued their final orders.
23 A current risk premium is estimated based on the difference between past authorized

1 ROEs and then-prevailing interest rates. This risk premium is then added to current
2 interest rates to estimate the cost of equity.

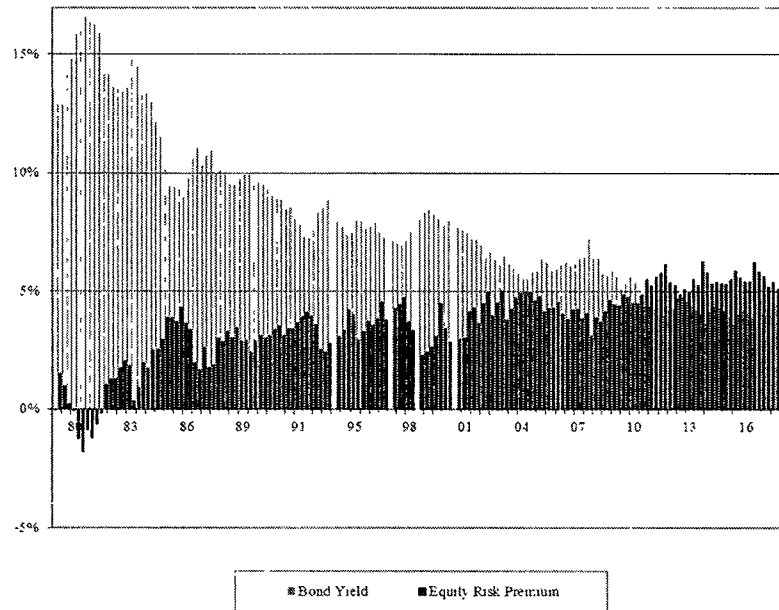
3 **Q. WHAT WAS THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF THE DATA USED TO APPLY**
4 **THIS RISK PREMIUM METHOD?**

5 A. Regulatory Research Associates, Inc. (“RRA”) and its predecessor have compiled the
6 ROEs authorized for major electric and gas utilities by regulatory commissions across
7 the U.S. The average ROE authorized natural gas distribution utilities published by
8 RRA in each quarter between 1980 and March 2020 are displayed on Schedule
9 BHF-11, with the average ROE authorized electric utilities in each quarter over this
10 same time period are shown on Schedule BHF-12. As shown there, the ROEs granted
11 gas distribution companies and electric utilities over this approximately 40-year
12 period have averaged 11.54% and 11.68%, respectively, while the average public
13 utility bond yield has averaged approximately 7.9%, resulting in an average risk
14 premiums of 3.65% for gas distribution companies and 3.79% for electric utilities.

15 **Q. ARE THESE 3.65% AND 3.79% AVERAGE RISK PREMIUMS THE**
16 **RELEVANT VALUE FOR ESTIMATING THE COST OF EQUITY?**

17 A. No. It is necessary to account for the fact that authorized ROEs do not move in
18 lockstep with interest rates. In particular, when interest rate levels are relatively high,
19 ROEs tend to be lower (i.e., equity risk premiums narrow), and when interest rates are
20 relatively low, authorized ROEs are greater (i.e., equity risk premiums increase).
21 This inverse relationship can be observed in the data for gas distribution companies
22 displayed on Schedule BHF-11, which is shown graphically below (a similar inverse
23 relationship exists for electric utilities). As evident there, the higher the level of
24 interest rates (shaded bars), the lower the equity risk premiums (the solid bars

1 calculated as the difference between authorized ROEs and bond yields), and vice
2 versa:



3 The implication of this inverse relationship is that for a one percent increase or
4 decrease in interest rates, the cost of equity only rises or falls approximately one-half
5 of a percent, respectively.

6 **Q. HOW DID YOU ACCOUNT FOR THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN**
7 **EQUITY RISK PREMIUMS AND INTEREST RATES IN ESTIMATING THE**
8 **COST OF EQUITY USING PAST AUTHORIZED ROES?**

9 A. To account for the fact that equity risk premiums are lower when interest rates are
10 high and higher when interest rates are low, I developed alternative regression
11 equations that relate past authorized equity risk premiums to average public utility
12 bond yields for the gas distribution companies and for electric utilities. The first
13 equation for each utility industry group was a simple linear regression between equity

1 risk premiums and interest rates, with the second equation being adjusted for first
2 order autocorrelation using the Prais-Winsten algorithm. As shown at the bottom of
3 both Schedule BHF-11 and Schedule BHF-12, substituting the May 2020 yield on
4 single-A public utility bonds of 3.14% into the various regression equations indicates
5 that the equity risk premium for gas distribution companies is currently between
6 approximately 5.89% and 6.08%, and for electric utilities the equity risk premium is
7 between 6.03% and 6.17%.

8 **Q. WHAT CURRENT COSTS OF EQUITY DO THESE RISK PREMIUM**
9 **RANGES IMPLY FOR THE TWO GROUP OF UTILITIES?**

10 A. Adding the 5.89% and 6.08% equity risk premiums developed on Schedule BHF-11
11 for gas distribution companies to the May 2020 yield on single-A utility bonds of
12 3.14% produces a current risk premium cost of equity range of between 9.03% and
13 9.22%. Meanwhile, adding the 6.03% and 6.17% equity risk premiums for electric
14 utilities results in cost of equity estimates of between 9.17% and 9.31%.

15 **Q. DO THESE RISK PREMIUM COST OF EQUITY ESTIMATES NEED TO BE**
16 **ADJUSTED TO MAKE THEM APPLICABLE TO MONARCH?**

17 A. Yes. Just as the DCF cost of equity estimates for the water and wastewater utility
18 group required adjustment to account for the smaller size of Monarch relative to the
19 proxy group, so too do these risk premium costs of equity estimates for gas
20 distribution and electric utilities need to be adjusted to reflect their much larger size.
21 Specifically, the average market cap of the LDCs followed by *Value Line* is
22 approximately \$4.7 billion, while that of the electric utilities that *Value Line* follows
23 is approximately \$22.7 billion. Again referring to the schedule of size premiums on
24 Schedule BHF-10, the 9.03% to 9.22% cost of equity estimates for gas distribution

1 companies needs to be increased approximately 80 basis points to reflect Monarch's
 2 smaller size versus the gas utilities' \$4.7 billion (i.e., 1.59% minus 0.79%), and the
 3 9.30% to 9.43% cost of equity estimates for electric utilities needs to be increased
 4 approximately 1.1% (i.e., 1.59% minus 0.50%) to reflect that their average market
 5 cap is \$22.7 billion. Thus, these risk premium analyses imply that a fair ROE for
 6 Monarch based on the ROEs allowed gas distribution and electric utilities is between
 7 9.83% and 10.02%, and 10.40% and 10.53%, respectively. These ranges fully
 8 support the reasonableness of my recommended 10.0% ROE for Monarch.

9 **Q. HOW DOES YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE COMPARE WITH THE ROES**
 10 **THAT THE PUCT HAS AUTHORIZED ELECTRIC UTILITIES?**

11 A. In the table below, the ROEs authorized electric utilities in Texas between 2015 and
 12 the present are listed:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Docket</u>	<u>Utility</u>	<u>ROE</u>
May 2015	43950	Cross Texas Trans.	9.60%
Sep. 2015	44746	Wind Energy Trans.	9.60%
Dec. 2015	43695	Southwestern PS	9.70%
Aug. 2016	44941	El Paso Electric	9.70%
Jan. 2017	45524	Southwestern PS	9.70%
Oct. 2017	46957	Oncor	9.80%
Dec. 2017	46831	El Paso Electric	9.65%
Mar. 2018	46449	SW Electric Power	9.60%
Dec. 2018	47527	Southwestern PS	9.50%
Dec. 2018	48371	Entergy Texas	9.65%
Dec. 2018	48401	Texas-New Mexico	9.65%
Mar. 2020	49421	CenterPoint	9.40%
Apr. 2020	499494	AEP Texas	9.40%

13 The ROEs allowed electric utilities by the PUCT over the last five years have ranged
 14 between 9.4% and 9.8%. Because most of these electric utilities have multi-billion

1 dollar market caps, size adjustments are again necessary to make the allowed ROEs
2 comparable to a smaller Monarch. Even a modest size adjustment of, say, 0.50% to
3 0.75% to reflect Monarch's lower market cap indicates that my recommended 10.0%
4 ROE is reasonable.

5 **Q. IS THERE A HISTORY OF CASES THAT PROVIDE A MEANINGFUL**
6 **GUIDE TO THE RATE OF RETURN THE PUCT HAS AUTHORIZED**
7 **WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITIES?**

8 A. No. There have been only a handful of final orders deciding rates of return for water
9 and wastewater companies in the almost six years since their rates became subject to
10 the Commission's jurisdiction in 2014. In Docket No. 45720, Rio Concho Aviation,
11 Inc. requested the Commission's presumptive ROE for Class B water companies, but
12 the PUCT Staff's recommended rate of return was accepted when no rebuttal
13 testimony was filed by the utility.⁸ Similarly, the PUCT's Staff's recommendation
14 was accepted in Docket No. 46747 when no rate of return testimony was provided by
15 Cypress Garden Mobile Home Subdivision.⁹ In Docket No. 46245, Double Diamond
16 Utilities, the Commission adopted the PUCT Staff's recommended ROE in this
17 contentious case.¹⁰ I understand that all the other water and wastewater cases filed
18 with the PUCT over the last six years have been settled.

19 **VI. OVERALL RATE OF RETURN**

20 **Q. WHAT OVERALL RATE OF RETURN IS MONARCH REQUESTING?**

⁸ *Application of Rio Concho Aviation, Inc. for a Rate/Tariff Change*, Docket No. 45720, Order (Jun. 29, 2017).

⁹ *Application of Cypress Gardens Mobile Home Subdivision for Authority to Change Rates*, Docket No. 46747, Final Order (Sept. 25, 2019).

¹⁰ *Application of Double Diamond Utility Company, Inc for Water and Sewer Rate/Tariff Change*, Docket No. 46245, Order on Rehearing (Dec. 12, 2019).

1 A. As developed on Schedule BHF-1, Monarch is requesting that it be allowed the
2 opportunity to earn an overall rate of return of 8.32% on its invested capital. This rate
3 of return is the result of combining representative water and wastewater utility
4 industry capital structure ratios 45.0% debt and 55.0% equity with its average cost of
5 debt of 6.26% and an ROE of 10.0%.

6 **Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY IN THIS CASE?**

7 A. Yes, it does.

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Summary of Qualifications

M.B.A. and Ph.D. in finance, accounting, and economics; Certified Public Accountant. Extensive consulting experience involving regulated industries, valuation of closely-held businesses, and other economic analyses. Previously held managerial and technical positions in government, academia, and business, and taught at the undergraduate, graduate, and executive education levels. Broad experience in technical research, computer modeling, and expert witness testimony.

Employment

Principal,
FINCAP, Inc.
(Sep. 1979 to present)

Economic consulting firm specializing in regulated industries and valuation of closely-held businesses. Assignments have involved electric, gas, telecommunication, and water/sewer utilities, with clients including utilities, consumer groups, municipalities, regulatory agencies, and cogenerators. Areas of participation have included revenue requirements, rate of return, rate design, tariff analysis, avoided cost, forecasting, and negotiations. Other assignments have involved some seventy valuations as well as various economic (e.g., damage) analyses, typically in connection with litigation. Presented expert witness testimony before courts and regulatory agencies on over one hundred occasions.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, University
of Texas at Austin
(Sep. 1979 to May. 1981)

Taught undergraduate courses in finance: Fin. 370 – Integrative Finance and Fin. 357 – Managerial Finance.

*Assistant Director, Economic Research
Division,*
Public Utility Commission of Texas
(Sep. 1976 to Aug. 1979)

Division consisted of approximately twenty-five financial analysts, economists, and systems analysts responsible for rate of return, rate design, special projects, and computer systems. Directed Staff participation in rate cases, presented testimony on approximately thirty-five occasions, and was involved in some forty other cases ultimately settled. Instrumental in the initial development of rate of return and financial policy for newly-created agency. Performed independent research and managed State and Federal funded projects. Assisted in preparing appeals to the Texas Supreme Court and testimony presented before the Interstate Commerce Commission and Department of Energy. Maintained communications with financial community, industry representatives, media, and consumer groups. Appointed by Commissioners as Acting Director.

BRUCE H. FAIRCHILD

Assistant Professor, College of Business Administration,
University of Colorado at Boulder
(Jan. 1977 to Dec. 1978)

Taught graduate and undergraduate courses in finance: Fin. 305 – Introductory Finance, Fin. 401 – Managerial Finance, Fin. 402 – Case Problems in Finance, and Fin. 602 – Graduate Corporate Finance.

Teaching Assistant,
University of Texas at Austin
(Jan. 1973 to Dec. 1976)

Taught undergraduate courses in finance and accounting: Acc. 311 – Financial Accounting, Acc. 312 – Managerial Accounting, and Fin. 357 – Managerial Finance. Elected to College of Business Administration Teaching Assistants' Committee.

Internal Auditor,
Sears, Roebuck and Company, Dallas,
Texas
(Nov. 1970 to Aug. 1972)

Performed audits on internal operations involving cash, accounts receivable, merchandise, accounting, and operational controls, purchasing, payroll, etc. Developed operating and administrative policy and instruction. Performed special assignments on inventory irregularities and Justice Department Civil Investigative Demands.

Accounts Payable Clerk,
Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corp.,
Houston, Texas
(May. 1969 to Aug. 1969)

Processed documentation and authorized payments to suppliers and creditors.

Education

Ph D , Finance, Accounting, and Economics,
University of Texas at Austin
(Sep. 1974 to May 1980)

Doctoral program included coursework in corporate finance, investment theory, accounting, and economics. Elected to honor society of Phi Kappa Phi. Received University outstanding doctoral dissertation award.

Dissertation: *Estimating the Cost of Equity to Texas Public Utility Companies*

M B A., Finance and Accounting,
University of Texas at Austin,
(Sep. 1972 to Aug. 1974)

Awarded Wright Patman Scholarship by World and Texas Credit Union Leagues.

Professional Report: *Planning a Small Business Enterprise in Austin, Texas*

B B A , Accounting and Finance,
Southern Methodist University, Dallas,
Texas
(Sep. 1967 to Dec. 1971)

Dean's List 1967-1971 and member of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity.

Other Professional Activities

Certified Public Accountant, Texas Certificate No. 13,710 (October 1974); entire exam passed in May 1972. Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Honorary).

Participated as session chairman, moderator, and paper discussant at annual meetings of Financial Management Association, Southwestern Finance Association, American Finance Association, and other professional associations.

Visiting lecturer in Executive M.B.A program at the University of Stellenbosch Graduate Business School, Belleville, South Africa (1983 and 1984).

Associate Editor of *Austin Financial Digest*, 1974-1975. Wrote and edited a series of investment and economic articles published in a local investment advisory service.

BRUCE H. FAIRCHILD

Military

Texas Army National Guard, Feb. 1970 to Sep. 1976. Specialist 5th Class with duty assignments including recovery vehicle operator for armor unit and company clerk for finance unit.

Bibliography**Monographs**

- “On the Use of Security Analysts’ Growth Projections in the DCF Model,” with William E. Avera, *Earnings Regulation Under Inflation*, J. R. Foster and S. R. Holmberg, eds., Institute for Study of Regulation (1982).
- “An Examination of the Concept of Using Relative Customer Class Risk to Set Target Rates of Return in Electric Cost-of-Service Studies”, with William E. Avera, Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON) (1981); portions reprinted in *Public Utilities Fortnightly* (Nov. 11, 1982).
- “The Spring Thing (A) and (B)” and “Teaching Notes”, with Mike E. Miles, a two-part case study in the evaluation, management, and control of risk; distributed by *Harvard's Intercollegiate Case Clearing House*; reprinted in *Strategy and Policy: Concepts and Cases*, A. A. Strickland and A. J. Thompson, Business Publications, Inc. (1978) and *Cases in Managing Financial Resources*, I. Matur and D. Loy, Reston Publishing Co., Inc. (1984).
- “Energy Conservation in Existing Residences, Project Director for development of instruction manual and workshops promoting retrofitting of existing homes, *Governor's Office of Energy Resources and Department of Energy* (1977-1978).
- “Linear Algebra,” “Calculus,” “Sets and Functions,” and “Simulation Techniques,” contributed to and edited four mathematics programmed learning texts for MBA students, *Texas Bureau of Business Research* (1975).

Articles and Notes

- “How to Value Personal Service Practices,” with Keith Wm. Fairchild, *The Practical Accountant* (August 1989).
- “The Impact of Regulatory Climate on Utility Capital Costs: An Alternative Test,” with Adrien M. McKenzie, *Public Utilities Fortnightly* (May 25, 1989).
- “North Arctic Industries, Limited,” with Keith Wm. Fairchild, *Case Research Journal* (Spring 1988).
- “Regulatory Effects on Electric Utilities' Cost of Capital Reexamined,” with Louis E. Buck, Jr., *Public Utilities Fortnightly* (September 2, 1982).
- “Capital Needs for Electric Utility Companies in Texas: 1976-1985”, *Texas Business Review* (January-February 1979), reprinted in “The Energy Picture: Problems and Prospects”, J. E. Pluta, ed., *Bureau of Business Research* (1980).
- “Some Thoughts on the Rate of Return to Public Utility Companies,” with William E. Avera, *Proceedings of the NARUC Biennial Regulatory Information Conference* (1978).
- “Regulatory Problems of EFTS,” with Robert McLeod, *Issues in Bank Regulation* (Summer 1978) reprinted in *Illinois Banker* (January 1979).
- “Regulation of EFTS as a Public Utility,” with Robert McLeod, *Proceedings of the Conference on Bank Structure and Competition* (1978).
- “Equity Management of REA Cooperatives,” with Jerry Thomas, *Proceedings of the Southwestern Finance Association* (1978).
- “Capital Costs Within a Firm,” *Proceedings of the Southwestern Finance Association* (1977).
- “The Cost of Capital to a Wholly-Owned Public Utility Subsidiary,” *Proceedings of the Southwestern Finance Association* (1977).

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Selected Papers and Presentations

- “Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Audits of Common Carriers (Procedures for Audit Compliance)”, Energy Transfer Accounting Employee Education, Dallas and Houston, Texas (December 2018).
- “Perspectives on Texas Utility Regulation”, TSCPA 2016 Energy Conference, Austin, Texas (May 16, 2016).
- “Legislative Changes Affecting Texas Utilities,” Texas Committee of Utility and Railroad Tax Representatives, Fall Meeting, Austin, Texas (September 1995).
- “Rate of Return,” “Origins of Information,” Economics,” and “Deferred Taxes and ITC's,” New Mexico State University and National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Public Utility Conferences on Regulation and the Rate-Making Process, Albuquerque, New Mexico (October 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, and 1995, and September 1989); Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (April 1993); and Baltimore, Maryland (May 1994 and 1995).
- “Developing a Cost-of-Service Study,” 1994 Texas Section American Water Works Association Annual Conference, Amarillo, Texas (March 1994).
- “Financial Aspects of Cost of Capital and Common Cost Considerations,” Kidder, Peabody & Co. Two-Day Rate Case Workshop for Regulated Utility Companies, New York, New York (June 1993).
- “Cost-of-Service Studies and Rate Design,” General Management of Electric Utilities (A Training Program for Electric Utility Managers from Developing Countries), Austin, Texas (October 1989 and November 1990 and 1991).
- “Rate Base and Revenue Requirements,” The University of Texas Regulatory Institute Fundamentals of Utility Regulation, Austin, Texas (June 1989 and 1990).
- “Determining the Cost of Capital in Today's Diversified Companies,” New Mexico State University Public Utilities Course Part II, Advanced Analysis of Pricing and Utility Revenues, San Francisco, California (June 1990).
- “Estimating the Cost of Equity,” Oklahoma Association of Tax Representatives, Tulsa, Oklahoma (May 1990).
- “Impact of Regulations,” Business and the Economy, Leadership Dallas, Dallas, Texas (November 1989).
- “Accounting and Finance Workshop” and “Divisional Cost of Capital,” New Mexico State University Current Issues Challenging the Regulatory Process, Albuquerque, New Mexico (April 1985 and 1986) and Santa Fe, New Mexico (March 1989).
- “Divisional Cost of Equity by Risk Comparability and DCF Analyses,” NARUC Advanced Regulatory Studies Program, Williamsburg, Virginia (February 1988) and USTA Rate of Return Task Force, Chicago, Illinois (June 1988).
- “Revenue Requirements,” Revenue, Pricing, and Regulation in Texas Water Utilities, Texas Water Utilities Conference, Austin, Texas (August 1987 and May 1988).
- “Rate Filing – Basic Ratemaking,” Texas Gas Association Accounting Workshop, Austin, Texas (March 1988).
- “The Effects of Regulation on Fair Market Value: P.H. Robinson – A Case Study,” Annual Meeting of the Texas Committee of Utility and Railroad Tax Representatives, Austin, Texas (September 1987).
- “How to Value Closely-held Businesses,” TSCPA 1987 Entrepreneurs Conference, San Antonio, Texas (May 1987).
- “Revenue Requirements” and “Determining the Rate of Return”, New Mexico State University Regulation and the Rate-Making Process, Southwestern Water Utilities Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico (July 1986) and El Paso, Texas (November 1980).
- “How to Evaluate Personal Service Practices,” TSCPA CPE Exposition 1985, Houston and Dallas, Texas (December 1985).
- “How to Start a Small Business – Accounting and Record Keeping,” University of Texas Management Development Program, Austin, Texas (October 1984).

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- “Project Financing of Public Utility Facilities”, TSCPA Conference on Public Utilities Accounting and Ratemaking, San Antonio, Texas (April 1984).
- “Valuation of Closely-Held Businesses,” Concho Valley Estate Planning Council, San Angelo, Texas (September 1982).
- “Rating Regulatory Performance and Its Impact on the Cost of Capital,” New Mexico State University Seminar on Regulation and the Cost of Capital, El Paso, Texas (May 1982).
- “Effect of Inflation on Rate of Return,” Cost of Capital Conference and Workshop, Pinehurst, North Carolina (April 1981).
- “Original Cost Versus Current Cost Regulation: A Re-examination,” Financial Management Association, New Orleans, Louisiana (October 1980).
- “Capital Investment Analysis for Electric Utilities,” The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas (June 1980).
- “The Determinants of Capital Costs to the Electric Utility Industry,” with Cedric E. Grice, Southwestern Finance Association, San Antonio, Texas (March 1980).
- “The Entrepreneur and Management: A Case Study,” Small Business Administration Seminar, Austin, Texas (October 1979).
- “Capital Budgeting by Public Utilities: A New Perspective,” with W. Clifford Atherton, Jr., Financial Management Association, Boston, Massachusetts (October 1979).
- “Issues in Regulated Industries – Electric Utilities,” University of Texas at Dallas 4th Annual Public Utilities Conference, Dallas, Texas (July 1979).
- “Investment Conditions and Strategies in Today's Markets,” American Society of Women Accountants, Austin, Texas (January 1979).
- “Attrition: A Practical Problem in Determining a Fair Return to Public Utility Companies,” Financial Management Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota (October 1978).
- “The Cost of Equity to Wholly-Owned Electric Utility Subsidiaries,” with William L. Beedles, Financial Management Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota (October 1978).
- “PUC Retrofitting Program,” Texas Electric Cooperatives Spring Workshop, Austin, Texas (May 1978).
- “The Economics of Regulated Industries,” Consumer Economics Forum, Houston, Texas (November 1977).
- “Public Utilities as Consumer Targets – Is the Pressure Justified?” University of Texas at Dallas-2nd Annual Public Utilities Conference, Dallas, Texas (July 1977).

BRUCE H. FAIRCHILD
SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY BEFORE REGULATORY AGENCIES

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
1.	Arkansas Electric Cooperative	Arkansas PSC	U-3071	Aug-80	Wholesale Rate Design
2.	East Central Oklahoma Electric Cooperative	Oklahoma CC	26925	Sep-80	Retail Rate Design
3.	Kansas Gas & Electric Company	Kansas CC	115379-U	Nov-80	PURPA Rate Design Standards
4.	Kansas Gas & Electric Company	Kansas CC	128139-U	May-81	Attrition
5.	City of Austin Electric Department	City of Austin	--	Jun-81	PURPA Rate Design Standards
6.	Tarrant County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1	Texas Water Commission	--	Oct-81	Wholesale Rate Design
7.	Owentown Gas Company	Texas RRC	2720	Jan-82	Revenue Requirements and Retail Rate Design
8.	Kansas Gas & Electric Company	Kansas CC	134792-U	Aug-82	Attrition
9.	Mississippi Power Company	Mississippi PSC	U-4190	Sep-82	Working Capital
10.	Lone Star Gas Company	Texas RRC	3757; 3794	Feb-83	Rate of Return on Equity
11.	Kansas Gas & Electric Company	Kansas CC	134792-U	Feb-83	Rate of Return on Equity
12.	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	Oklahoma CC	28002	Oct-83	Rate of Return on Equity
13.	Morgas Company	Texas RRC	4063	Nov-83	Revenue Requirements
14.	Seagull Energy	Texas RRC	4541	Jul-84	Rate of Return
15.	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	FCC	84-800	Nov-84	Rate of Return on Equity
16.	Kansas Gas & Electric Company, Kansas City Power & Light Company, and Kansas Electric Power Cooperatives	Kansas CC	142098-U; 142099-U; 142100-U	May-85	Nuclear Plant Capital Costs and Allowance for Funds Used During Construction
17.	Lone Star Gas Company	Texas RRC	5207	Oct-85	Overhead Cost Allocation
18.	Westar Transmission Company	Texas RRC	5787	Nov-85 Jan-86 Jul-86	Rate of Return, Rate Design, and Gas Processing Plant Economics
19.	City of Houston	Texas Water Commission	RC-022; RC-023	Nov-86	Line Losses and Known and Measurable Changes
20.	ENSTAR Natural Company	Alaska PUC	TA 50-4; R-87-2; U-87-2	Nov-86 May-87 May-87	Cost Allocation, Rate Design, and Tax Rate Changes
21.	Brazos River Authority	Texas Water Commission	RC-020	Jan-87	Revenue Requirements and Rate Design
22.	East Texas Industrial Gas Company	Texas RRC	5878	Feb-87	Revenue Requirements and Rate Design

Bruce H. Fairchild
Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
23.	Seagull Energy	Texas RRC	6629	Jun-87	Revenue Requirements
24.	ENSTAR Natural Company	Alaska PUC	U-87-42	Jul-87 Sep-87 Sep-87	Cost Allocation, Rate Design, and Contracts
25.	High Plains Natural Gas Company	Texas RRC	6779	Sep-87	Rate of Return
26.	Hughes Texas Petroleum	Texas RRC	2-91,855	Jan-88	Interim Rates
27.	Cavallo Pipeline Company	Texas RRC	7086	Sep-88	Revenue Requirements
28.	Union Gas System, Inc.	Kansas CC	165591-U	Mar-89 Aug-89	Rate of Return
29.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska PUC	U-88-70	Mar-89	Cost Allocation and Bypass
30.	Morgas Co.	Texas RRC	7538	Aug-89	Rate of Return and Cost Allocation
31.	Corpus Christi Transmission Company	Texas RRC	7346	Sep-89	Revenue Requirements
32.	Amoco Gas Co.	Texas RRC	7550	Oct-89	Rate of Return and Cost Allocation
33.	Iowa Southern Utilities	Iowa Utilities Board	RPU-89-7	Nov-89 Mar-90	Rate of Return on Equity
34.	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	FCC	89-624	Feb-90 Apr-90	Rate of Return on Equity
35.	Lower Colorado River Authority	Texas PUC	9427	Mar-90 Aug-90 Aug-90	Revenue Requirements
36.	Rio Grande Valley Gas Company	Texas RRC	7604	May-90	Consolidated FIT and Depreciation
37.	Southern Union Gas Company	El Paso PURB	--	Oct-90	Disallowed Expenses and FIT
38.	Iowa Southern Utilities	Iowa Utilities Board	RPU-90-8	Nov-90 Feb-91	Rate of Return on Equity
39.	East Texas Gas Systems	Texas RRC	7863	Dec-90	Revenue Requirements
40.	San Jacinto Gas Transmission	Texas RRC	7865	Dec-90	Revenue Requirements
41.	Southern Union Gas Company	Austin; Texas RRC	-- 7878	Feb-91 Feb-91	Rate of Return and Acquisition Adjustment
42.	Southern Union Gas Company	Port Arthur; Texas RRC	-- 8033	Mar-91 Aug-91 Oct-91	Rate of Return and Acquisition Adjustment
43.	Cavallo Pipeline Company	Texas RRC	8016	Jun-91	Revenue Requirements

Bruce H. Fairchild
Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
44.	New Orleans Public Service Inc.	New Orleans City Council	CD-91-1	Jun-91 Mar-92	Rate of Return on Equity
45.	Houston Pipe Line Company	Texas RRC	8017	Jul-91	Rate of Return
46.	Southern Union Gas Company	El Paso PURB	--	Aug-91 Sep-91	Acquisition Adjustment
47.	Southwestern Gas Pipeline, Inc.	Texas RRC	8040	Jan-92 Feb-92	Rate Design and Settlement
48.	City of Fort Worth	Texas Water Commission	8748-A 9261-A	Mar-92 Aug-92 Dec-92 Oct-94 Nov-94	Interim Rates, Revenue Requirements, and Public Interest
49.	Southern Union Gas Company	Oklahoma Corp. Com.	--	Jun-92	Rate of Return
50.	Minnegasco	Minnesota PUC	G-008/GR-92-400	Jul-92 Dec-92	Rate of Return
51.	Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority	Texas PUC	11266	Sep-92	Cost Allocation and Bond Funds
52.	Dorchester Intra-State Gas System	Texas RRC	8111	Oct-92 Nov-92	Rate Impact of System Upgrade
53.	Corpus Christi Transmission Company GP and GPII	Texas RRC	8300 8301	Oct-92 Oct-92	Revenue Requirements
54.	East Texas Industrial Gas Company	Texas RRC	8326	Mar-93	Revenue Requirements
55.	Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company	Arkansas PSC	93-081-U	Apr-93 Oct-93	Rate of Return on Equity
56.	Texas Utilities Electric Company	Texas PUC	11735	Jun-93 Jul-93	Impact of Nuclear Plant Construction Delay
57.	Minnegasco	Minnesota PUC	G-008/GR-93-1090	Nov-93 Apr-94	Rate of Return
58.	Gulf States Utilities Company	Municipalities	--	May-94 Oct-94 Nov-94	Rate of Return on Equity
59.	Louisiana Power & Light Company	Louisiana PSC	U-20925	Aug-94 Feb-95	Rate of Return on Equity
60.	San Jacinto Gas Transmission	Texas RRC	8429	Sep-94	Revenue Requirements
61.	Cavallo Pipeline Company	Texas RRC	8465	Sep-94	Revenue Requirements
62.	Eastrans Limited Partnership	Texas RRC	8385	Oct-94	Revenue Requirements
63.	Gulf States Utilities Company	Louisiana PSC	U-19904	Oct-94	Rate of Return on Equity

Bruce H. Fairchild
Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
64.	Entergy Services, Inc.	FERC	ER95-112-000	Mar-95 Nov-95	Rate of Return on Equity
65.	East Texas Gas Systems	Texas RRC	8435	Apr-95	Revenue Requirements
66.	System Energy Resources, Inc.	FERC	ER95-1042-000	May-95 Dec-95 Jan-96	Rate of Return on Equity
67.	Minnegasco	Minnesota PUC	G-008/GR-95-700	Aug-95 Dec-95	Rate of Return
68.	Entex	Louisiana PSC	U-21586	Aug-95	Rate of Return
69.	City of Fort Worth	Texas NRCC	SOAH 582-95-1084	Nov-95	Public Interest of Contract
70.	Seagull Energy Corporation	Texas RRC	8589	Nov-95	Revenue Requirements
71.	Corpus Christi Transmission Company LP	Texas RRC	8449	Feb-96	Revenue Requirements
72.	Missouri Gas Energy	Missouri PSC	GR-96-285	Apr-96 Sep-96 Oct-96	Rate of Return
73.	Entex	Mississippi PSC	96-UA-202	May-96	Rate of Return
74.	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Louisiana PSC	U-22084	May-96	Rate of Return on Equity (Gas)
75.	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Louisiana PSC	U-22092	May-96 Oct-96	Rate of Return on Equity
76.	American Gas Storage, L.P.	Texas RRC	8591	Sep-96	Revenue Requirements
77.	Entergy Louisiana, Inc.	Louisiana PSC	U-20925	Sep-96 Oct-96	Rate of Return on Equity
78.	Lone Star Pipeline and Gas Company	Texas RRC	8664	Oct-96 Jan-97	Rate of Return
79.	Entergy Arkansas, Inc.	Arkansas PSC	96-360-U	Oct-96 Sep-97	Rate of Return on Equity
80.	East Texas Gas Systems	Texas RRC	8658	Nov-96	Revenue Requirements
81.	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Texas PUC	16705	Nov-96 Jul-97	Rate of Return on Equity
82.	Eastrans Limited Partnership	Texas RRC	8657	Nov-96	Revenue Requirements
83.	Enserch Processing, Inc.	Texas RRC	8763	Nov-96	Interim Rates
84.	Entergy New Orleans, Inc.	City of New Orleans	UD-97-1	Feb-97 Mar-97 May-98	Rate of Return on Equity

Bruce H. Fairchild
Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
85.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska PUC	U-96-108	Mar-97 Apr-97	Service Area Certificate
86.	San Jacinto Gas Transmission	Texas RRC	8741	Sep-97	Revenue Requirements
87.	Missouri Gas Energy	Missouri PSC	GR-98-140	Nov-97 Apr-98 May-98	Rate of Return
88.	Corpus Christi Transmission Company LP	Texas RRC	8762	Dec-97	Revenue Requirements
89.	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Texas PUC	17751	Feb-98	Excess Cost Over Market
90.	Southern Union Gas Company	Texas RRC	8878	May-98	Rate of Return
91.	Entergy Louisiana, Inc.	Louisiana PSC	U-20925	May-98 Jul-98	Financial Integrity
92.	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Louisiana PSC	U-22092	May-98 Jul-98	Financial Integrity
93.	ACGC Gathering Company, LLC	Texas RRC	8896	Sep-98	Cost-based Rates
94.	American Gas Storage, L.P.	Texas RRC	8855	Oct-98	Revenue Requirements
95.	Duke Energy Intrastate Network	Texas RRC	8940	Jun-99	Rate of Return
96.	Aquila Energy Corporation	Texas RRC	8970	Aug-99	Revenue Requirements
97.	San Jacinto Gas Transmission	Texas RRC	8974	Sep-99	Revenue Requirements
98.	Southern Union Gas Company	El Paso PURB	--	Oct-99	Rate of Return
99.	TXU Lone Star Pipeline	Texas RRC	8976	Oct-99 Feb-00	Rate of Return
100.	Sharyland Utilities, L.P.	Texas PUC	21591	Nov-99	Rate of Return
101.	TXU Lone Star Gas Distribution	Texas RRC	9145	Apr-00 Aug-00	Rate of Return
102.	Rotherwood Eastex Gas Storage	Texas RRC	9136	May-00	Revenue Requirements
103.	Eastex Gas Storage & Exchange, Inc.	Texas RRC	9137	May-00	Revenue Requirements
104.	Eastex Gas Storage & Exchange, Inc.	Texas RRC	9138	Jul-00	Revenue Requirements
105.	East Texas Gas Systems	Texas RRC	9139	Jul-00	Revenue Requirements
106.	Eastrans Limited Partnership	Texas RRC	9140	Aug-00	Revenue Requirements
107.	Reliant Energy – Entex	City of Tyler	--	Oct-00	Rate of Return
108.	City of Fort Worth	Texas NRCC	SOAH 582-00-1092	Dec-00	CCN – Rates and Financial Ability
109.	Entergy Services, Inc.	FERC	RTO1-75	Dec-00	Rate of Return on Equity

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Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
110	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska PUC	U-00-88	Jun-01 Aug-01 Nov-01 Sep-02 Dec-02	Revenue Requirements, Cost Allocation, and Rate Design
111.	TXU Gas Distribution	Texas RRC	9225	Jul-01	Rate of Return
112.	Centana Intrastate Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	9243	Aug-01	Rate of Return
113.	Maxwell Water Supply Corp.	Texas NRCC	SOAH-582-01-0802	Oct-01 Mar-02 Apr-02	Reasonableness of Rates
114.	Reliant Energy Arkla	Arkansas PSC	01-243-U	Dec-01 Jun-01	Rate of Return
115.	Entergy Services, Inc.	FERC	ER01-2214-000	Mar-02	Rate of Return on Equity
116.	TXU Lone Star Pipeline	Texas RRC	9292	Apr-02	Rate of Return
117.	Southern Union Gas Company	El Paso PURB	--	Apr-02	Rate of Return
118.	San Jacinto Gas Transmission Co.	Texas RRC	9301	May-02	Rate of Return
119.	Duke Energy Intrastate Network	Texas RRC	9302	May-02	Rate of Return
120.	Reliant Energy Arkla	Oklahoma CC	200200166	May-02	Rate of Return
121.	TXU Gas Distribution	Texas RRC	9313	Jul-02 Sep-02	Rate of Return
122.	Entergy Mississippi, Inc.	Mississippi PSC	2002-UN-256	Aug-02	Rate of Return on Equity
123.	Aquila Storage & Transportation LP	Texas RRC	9323	Sep-02	Revenue Requirements
124.	Panther Pipeline Ltd.	Texas RRC	9291	Oct-02	Revenue Requirements
125.	SEMCO Energy	Michigan PSC	U-13575	Nov-02	Revenue Requirements
126.	CenterPoint Energy Entex	Louisiana PSC	U-26720	Jan-03	Rate of Return
127.	Crosstex CCNG Transmission Ltd.	Texas RRC	9363	May-03	Revenue Requirements
128.	TXU Gas Company	Texas RRC	9400	May-03 Jan-04	Rate of Return
129.	Eastrans Limited Partnership	Texas RRC	9386	May-03	Rate of Return
130.	CenterPoint Energy Entex	City of Houston		Jun-03	Rate of Return
131.	East Texas Gas Systems, L.P.	Texas RRC	9385	Jun-03	Rate of Return
132.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	U-03-084	Aug-03 Nov-03	Line Extension Surcharge
133.	CenterPoint Energy Arkla	Louisiana PSC		Nov-03	Rate of Return
134.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	U-03-091	Feb-04	Cost Separation and Taxes

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Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
135.	Sid Richardson Pipeline, Ltd.	Texas RRC	9532	Jun-04 Nov-04	Revenue Requirements
136.	ETC Katy Pipeline, Ltd.	Texas RRC	9524	Sep-04	Revenue Requirements
137.	CenterPoint Energy Entex	Mississippi PSC	03-UN-0831	Sep-04	Rate Formula
138.	Centana Intrastate Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	9527	Sep-04	Rate of Return
139.	SEMCO Energy	Michigan PSC	U-14338	Dec-04	Revenue Requirements
140.	Atmos Energy – Energas	Texas RRC	9539	Feb-05	Regulatory Policy
141.	Crosstex North Texas Pipeline, L.P.	Texas RRC	9613	Sep-05	Revenue Requirements
142.	SiEnergy, L.P.	Texas RRC	9604	Dec-05	Rate of Return, Income Taxes, and Cost Allocation
143.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	TA-140-4	Feb-06	Connection Fees
144.	SEMCO Energy	Michigan PSC	U-14984	May-06 Dec-06	Revenue Requirements
145.	Atmos Energy – Mid-Tex	Texas RRC	9676	May-06 Oct-06	Revenue Requirements
146.	EasTrans Limited Partnership	Texas RRC	9659	Jun-06	Rate of Return
147.	Kinder Morgan Texas Pipeline, L.P.	Texas RRC	9688	Jul-06	Rate of Return
148.	Crosstex CCNG Transmission Ltd.	Texas RRC	9660	Aug-06	Revenue Requirements
149.	Enbridge Pipelines (North Texas), LP	Texas RRC	9691	Oct-06	Rate of Return
150.	Panther Interstate Pipeline Energy	FERC	CP03-338-00	Mar-07	Revenue Requirements
151.	El Paso Electric Company	Texas PUC	34494	Jul-07	CCN
152.	El Paso Electric Company	NM PRC	07-00301-UT	Jul-07	CCN
153.	Atmos Energy	Kansas CC	08-ATMG- 280-RTS	Sep-07 Feb-08	Rate of Return on Equity
154.	Centana-Intrastate Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	9759	Sep-07	Rate of Return
155.	Texas Gas Service Company	Texas RRC	9770	Nov-07	Rate of Return
156.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	U-08-25	Jun-08	Rate Class Switching
157.	ConocoPhillips Transportation Alaska	Alaska RCA	TL-131-301	Oct-08	Rate of Return
158.	ExxonMobil Pipeline Co.	Alaska RCA	TL-140-304	Nov-08	Rate of Return
159.	Crosstex North Texas Pipeline, L.P.	Texas RRC	9843	Dec-08	Revenue Requirements
160.	Koch Alaska Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	TL 128-308	Dec-08	Rate of Return
161.	Unocal Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	TL 118-312	Dec-08	Rate of Return

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Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
162.	ETC Katy Pipeline, Ltd.	Texas RRC	9841	Dec-08	Revenue Requirements
163.	Oklahoma Natural Gas	Oklahoma CC	200800348	Jan-09	Rate of Return on Equity
164.	Entergy Mississippi, Inc.	Mississippi PSC	EC-123-0082	Mar 09	Rate of Return on Equity
165.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	U-09-69 U-09-70	Jun-09 Jul-09 Oct-09	Revenue Requirements, Cost Allocation, and Rate Design
166.	EasTrans, LLC	Texas RRC	9857	Jun-09	Rate of Return
167.	Oklahoma Natural Gas	Oklahoma CC	200900110	Jun-09	Rate of Return
168.	Crosstex CCNG Transmission Ltd.	Texas RRC	9858	Jun-09	Revenue Requirements
169.	ConocoPhillips Transportation Alaska	Alaska RCA	TL-137-301	Jul-09	Rate of Return
170.	ENSTAR Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	U-08-142	Jul-09	Gas Cost Adjustment
171.	Kinder Morgan Texas Pipeline, LLC	Texas RRC	9889	Jul-09	Rate of Return
172.	Koch Alaska Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	TL 133-308	Aug-09	Rate of Return
173.	ExxonMobil Pipeline Co.	Alaska RCA	TL-147-304	Nov-09	Rate of Return
174.	Texas Gas Service Company	El Paso PURB	--	Dec-09	Rate of Return
175.	Unocal Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	TL126-312	Dec-09	Rate of Return
176.	Kuparuk Transportation Company	Alaska RCA	P-08-05	Apr-10	Rate of Return
177.	Trans-Alaska Pipeline System	FERC	ISO9-348-000	Apr 10 Oct 10	Rate of Return
178.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	9988	May 10 Aug 10	Rate of Return
179.	SEMCO Energy Gas Company	Michigan PSC	U-16169	Jun 10 Dec 10	Revenue Requirements
180.	ConocoPhillips Transportation Alaska	Alaska RCA	TL-137-301	Jul 10	Rate of Return
181.	Koch Alaska Pipeline Company, LLC	Alaska RCA	TL-138-308	Aug 10	Rate of Return
182.	CPS Energy	Texas PUC	36633	Sep 10 Apr 11	Rate of Return for MOU
183.	ExxonMobil Pipeline Co.	Alaska RCA	TL-151-304	Dec 10	Rate of Return
184.	Unocal Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	TL132-312	Feb 11	Rate of Return
185.	New Mexico Gas Company	NM PRC	11-00042-UT	Mar 11	Rate of Return
186.	ConocoPhillips Transportation Alaska	Alaska RCA	TL-143-301	May 11	Rate of Return

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Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
187.	Enbridge Pipelines (Southern Lights)	FERC	IS11-146-000	Jun 11 Nov 11	Rate of Return
188.	Koch Alaska Pipeline Company, LLC	Alaska RCA	TL-138-___	Jul 11	Rate of Return
189.	Unocal Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	TL126-___	Dec 11	Rate of Return
190.	Kansas Gas Service	Kansas CC	12-KGSC-835-RTS	May 12 Oct 12	Rate of Return
191.	ExxonMobil Pipeline Co.	Alaska RCA	TL-157-304	Jun 12	Rate of Return
192.	ConocoPhillips Transportation Alaska	Alaska RCA	TL-149-301	Jul 12	Rate of Return
193.	Seaway Crude Pipeline Company	FERC	IS12-226-000	Aug 12 Feb 13	Rate of Return
194.	Cross Texas Transmission, LLC	Texas PUC	40604	Aug 12 Oct 12 Nov 12	Revenue Requirements
195.	Wind Energy Transmission Texas	Texas PUC	40606	Aug 12 Nov 12	Revenue Requirements
196.	Lone Star Transmission LLC	Texas PUC	40798	Nov 12	Revenue Requirements
197.	West Texas Gas Company	Texas RRC	10235	Jan 13	Rate of Return
198.	Cross Texas Transmission, LLC	Texas PUC	41190	Feb 13	Revenue Requirements
199.	ExxonMobil Pipeline Co.	Alaska RCA	TL-162-304	Apr 13	Rate of Return
200.	EasTrans, LLC	Texas RRC	10276	Jul 13	Rate of Return
201.	ConocoPhillips Transportation Alaska	Alaska RCA	TL-152-301	Jul 13	Rate of Return
202.	BP Pipelines (Alaska) Inc.	Alaska RCA	TL-143-311	Sep 13	Rate of Return
203.	Wind Energy Transmission Texas	Texas PUC	41923	Oct 13	Revenue Requirements
204.	Oliktok Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	P-13-013	Nov 13	Rate of Return
205.	Aqua Texas Southeast Region-Gray	Texas CEQ	2013-2007-UCR	Apr 14	Revenue Requirements
206.	Entergy Mississippi	Mississippi PSC	EC-123-0082	Jun 14	Rate of Return on Equity
207.	Westlake Ethylene Pipeline	Texas RRC	10358	Jul 14 Aug 15	Rates
208.	ExxonMobil Pipeline Co.	Alaska RCA	TL-164-304	Jul 14	Rate of Return
209.	ConocoPhillips Transportation Alaska	Alaska RCA	TL-154-301	Aug 14	Rate of Return
210.	Enstar Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	TA-262-4	Sep 14 Jun 15	Revenue Requirements, Cost Allocation, and Rate Design

Bruce H. Fairchild
Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
211.	Oliktok Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	TL-44-334	Mar 15	Rate of Return
212.	Entergy Arkansas, Inc.	Arkansas PSC	15-0150U	Apr 15 Oct 15 Dec 15	Rate of Return on Equity
213.	Wind Energy Transmission Texas	Texas PUC	44746	Jun 15	Revenue Requirements
214.	Texas City	Texas RRC	10408	Jun 15 Nov 15	Pipeline Annual Assessment
215.	Oklahoma Natural Gas	Oklahoma CC	201500213	Jul 15 Nov 15	Rate of Return
216.	PTE Pipeline LLC	Alaska RCA	P-12-015	Sep 15	Rate of Return
217.	Northeast Transmission Development, LLC	FERC	ER16-453	Dec 15	Formula Rates
218.	Oncor Electric Delivery	Texas PUC	45188	Dec 15	Public Interest of Acquisition
219.	Corix Utilities (Texas)	Texas PUC	45418	Dec 15 Oct 16	Rate of Return
220.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	10488	Dec 15	Rate of Return
221.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	10506	Mar 16 Jun 16	Rate of Return
222.	Kansas Gas Service	Kansas CC	16-KGSG-491-RTS	May 16 Sep 16	Rate of Return on Equity
223.	Enstar Natural Gas Company	Alaska RCA	TA-285-4	Jun 16 Apr 17	Revenue Requirements, Cost Allocation, and Rate Design
224.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	10526	Jun 16	Rate of Return
225.	West Texas LPG Pipeline	Texas RRC	10455	Aug 16 Jan 17	Rates and Rate of Return
226.	Liberty Utilities	Texas PUC	46356	Sep 16 Feb 17 Jun 17	Revenue Requirements and Rate of Return
227.	DesertLink LLC	FERC	ER17-135	Oct 16	Formula Rates
228.	Houston Pipe Line Co.	Texas RRC	10559	Nov 16	Revenue Requirements
229.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	10656	Jun 17	Rate of Return
230.	Trans-Pecos Pipeline	Texas RRC	10646	Sep 17 Feb 18	Revenue Requirements
231.	Comanche Trail Pipeline	Texas RRC	10647	Sep 17 Feb 18	Revenue Requirements
232.	Alpine High Pipeline	Texas RRC	10665	Oct 17 Feb 18	Revenue Requirements

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Summary of Testimony Before Regulatory Agencies
(Continued)

No.	Utility Case	Agency	Docket	Date	Nature of Testimony
233.	SiEnergy, LP	Texas RRC	10679	Jan 18	Rate of Return
234.	Targa Midland Gas Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	10690	Jan 18	Revenue Requirements
235.	ET Fuel, LP	Texas RRC	10706	Apr 18	Revenue Requirements
236.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	10739	Jun 18	Rate of Return
237.	Kansas Gas Service	Kansas CC	18-KGSG- 560-RTS	Jun 18 Nov 18	Rate of Return on Equity
238.	Oliktok Pipeline Company	Alaska RCA	P-18-0__	Jul 18	Rate of Return
239.	Red Bluff Express, LLC	Texas RRC	10752	Jul 18	Revenue Requirements
240.	PTE Pipeline LLC	Alaska RCA	P-18-0__	Jul 18	Rate of Return
241.	Agua Blanca, LLC	Texas RRC	10761	Aug 18	Revenue Requirements
242.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	10766	Aug 18	Rate of Return
243.	Republic Transmission LLC	FERC	ER19-__	Dec 18	Formula Rates
244.	Gulf Coast Express Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	10825	Feb 19	Revenue Requirements
245.	Cook Inlet Natural Gas Storage Alaska, LLC	Alaska RCA	U-18-043	Mar 19 Apr 19	Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes and Working Capital
246.	Impulsora Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	10829	Mar 19	Revenue Requirements
247.	SEMCO Energy Gas Co.	Michigan PSC	U-20479	May 19 Oct 19	Revenue Requirements
248.	Liberty Utilities (Fox River) LLC	AAA	01-18-0002- 2510	Jul 19 Oct 19	Revenue Requirements
249.	AMP Intrastate Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	10887	Aug 19	Revenue Requirements
250.	Corix Utilities (Texas) Inc.	Texas PUC	49923	Aug 19	TCJA Tax Expense Reduction
251.	Colonial Pipeline Company	FERC	OR18-7-002	Nov 19 Feb 20 May 20	Rate of Return
252.	Texas Gas Service	Texas RRC	10928	Dec 19 Apr 20	Rate of Return
253.	Mississippi Power Company	Mississippi PSC	2019-UN-219	Feb 20	Rate of Return on Equity
254.	Corix Utilities (Texas)	Texas PUC	50557	Mar 20	Rate of Return
255.	Southcross CCNG Transmission	Texas RRC	10967	May 20	Revenue Requirements
256.	Kinder Morgan Border Pipeline LLC	Texas RRC	10980	Jun 20	Revenue Requirements

OVERALL RATE OF RETURN

<u>Capital Component</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>	<u>Component Cost</u>	<u>Weighted Cost</u>
Long-term Debt	45.00%	6.26%	2.82%
Common Equity	55.00%	10.00%	5.50%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>		<u>8.32%</u>

WATER AND SEWER PROXY GROUP

Company (b)	2017		2018		2019		Projected 2020		Projected 2023-2025	
	Long-term Debt	Common Equity	Long-term Debt	Common Equity	Long-term Debt	Common Equity	Long-term Debt	Common Equity	Long-term Debt	Common Equity
American States Water Co.	38.0%	62.0%	40.5%	59.5%	44.4%	55.6%	46.0%	54.0%	49.5%	50.5%
American Water Works Co	54.7%	45.3%	56.3%	43.7%	58.5%	41.5%	58.5%	41.5%	59.0%	41.0%
California Water Service Group	42.7%	57.3%	49.3%	50.7%	50.2%	49.8%	49.0%	51.0%	47.0%	53.0%
Essential Utilities, Inc	50.6%	49.4%	54.4%	45.6%	43.1%	56.9%	49.0%	51.0%	55.0%	45.0%
Middlesex Water Company	37.5%	62.5%	37.8%	62.2%	41.5%	58.5%	42.5%	57.5%	39.0%	61.0%
SJW Group	48.2%	51.8%	32.7%	67.3%	59.0%	41.0%	51.0%	49.0%	35.5%	64.5%
York Water Company	43.0%	57.0%	42.5%	57.5%	41.3%	58.7%	38.5%	61.5%	36.0%	64.0%
Average	45.0%	55.0%	44.8%	55.2%	48.3%	51.7%	47.8%	52.2%	45.9%	54.1%

(a) *The Value Line Investment Survey* (April 10, 2020)

MONARCH UTILITIES I, LP

Description (a)	Amounts (000s)	Costs	Annual Expense
Capital Lease Obligation	391	4.619%	18
5.77% fixed rate term loan due 2022	127	5.770%	7
7.37% fixed rate term loan due 2022	1,797	7.370%	132
6.10% fixed rate term loan due 2031	20,000	6.100%	1,220
Deferred Financing Costs (b)	(124)		11
Totals	\$ 22,191		\$ 1,389
AVERAGE COST OF DEBT		<u>6.26%</u>	

- (a) Monarch Utilities I, LP Audited Financial Statements--- December 31, 2019 and 2018
- (b) Company books and records

DCF MODEL -- DIVIDEND YIELD

<u>Company</u>		<u>Expected Dividend (a)</u>	<u>Price (b)</u>	<u>Dividend Yield (c)</u>
American States Water Co.	AWR	\$ 1.28	\$ 77.38	1.65%
American Water Works Co.	AWK	\$ 2.20	\$ 120.13	1.83%
California Water Service Group	CWT	\$ 0.85	\$ 45.06	1.89%
Essential Utilities, Inc.	WTRG	\$ 0.98	\$ 40.77	2.40%
Middlesex Water Company	MSEX	\$ 1.03	\$ 62.56	1.65%
SJW Group	SJW	\$ 1.28	\$ 57.92	2.21%
York Water Company	YORW	\$ 0.72	\$ 42.20	1.71%
AVERAGE				<u>1.91%</u>

(a) *The Value Line Investment Survey* (June 5, 2020).

(b) Fidelity Investments Stock Research "Price History" (Average of daily May 2020 closing prices).

(c) Expected Dividend / Price.

DCF MODEL -- EARNINGS GROWTH RATES

<u>Company</u>	<u>Projected Growth</u>			<u>Historical Growth</u>	
	<u>Value Line (a)</u>	<u>I/B/E/S (b)</u>	<u>Zacks (c)</u>	<u>10-Year (a)</u>	<u>5-Year (a)</u>
American States Water Co	6.5%	N/A	4.9%	9.5%	5.0%
American Water Works Co.	8.5%	8.3%	8.1%	NMF	6.5%
California Water Service Group	6.5%	N/A	N/A	4.5%	4.5%
Essential Utilities, Inc.	10.0%	N/A	5.9%	7.0%	1.5%
Middlesex Water Company	6.0%	N/A	N/A	8.0%	12.0%
SJW Group	6.0%	N/A	14.0%	8.0%	18.5%
York Water Company	7.0%	N/A	N/A	5.5%	6.5%
AVERAGE	<u>7.2%</u>	<u>8.3%</u>	<u>8.2%</u>	<u>7.1%</u>	<u>7.8%</u>

(a) *The Value Line Investment Survey* (April 10, 2020).

(b) *REFINITIV Stock Reports* (June 5, 2020).

(c) *Zacks Quotes and Research* (Retrieved June 8, 2020)

NMF -- No meaningful figure N/A -- Not applicable.

DCF MODEL -- SUSTAINABLE GROWTH RATES (a)

Company	2023-25 Projected				Shares Outstanding		Earnings Retention Growth			External Financing Growth					Sustainable Growth	
	Earnings per Share	Dividends per Share	Book Value per Share	Price per Share	2019	2023-25 Proj	Retention Ratio	Return on Equity	"b x r"	2023-2025 Market-to-Book Ratio	Growth Rate in Shares	"s"	"v"	"s x v"		
	American States Water Co	\$ 2.90	\$ 1.85	\$ 21.35	\$ 70.00	36.85	37.50	36.2%	13.6%	4.9%	3.28	0.4%	1.1%	69.5%		0.8%
American Water Works Co	\$ 4.90	\$ 2.90	\$ 42.50	\$ 115.00	180.81	189.00	40.8%	11.5%	4.7%	2.71	0.9%	2.4%	63.0%	1.5%	6.2%	
California Water Service Group	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.05	\$ 16.05	\$ 45.00	48.53	53.00	47.5%	12.5%	5.9%	2.80	1.8%	5.0%	64.3%	3.2%	9.1%	
Essential Utilities, Inc	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.30	\$ 19.55	\$ 47.50	220.76	230.00	36.6%	10.5%	3.8%	2.43	0.8%	2.0%	58.8%	1.2%	5.0%	
Middlesex Water Company	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.25	\$ 17.35	\$ 52.50	17.43	18.00	50.0%	14.4%	7.2%	3.03	0.6%	2.0%	67.0%	1.3%	8.5%	
SJW Group	\$ 3.65	\$ 1.58	\$ 39.15	\$ 80.00	28.46	30.00	56.7%	9.3%	5.3%	2.04	1.1%	2.2%	51.1%	1.1%	6.4%	
York Water Company	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.95	\$ 12.50	\$ 37.50	13.01	12.80	40.6%	12.8%	5.2%	3.00	-0.3%	-1.0%	66.7%	-0.6%	4.6%	
AVERAGE									5.3%						1.2%	6.5%

(a) The Value Line Investment Survey (April 10, 2020)

DCF MODEL -- OTHER PROJECTED AND HISTORICAL GROWTH RATES

Company	Net Book Value (a)			Dividends per Share (a)			Price per Share		
	Pro- jected	Historical		Pro- jected	Historical		Pro- jected (a)	Historical (b)	
		10-Year	5-Year		10-Year	5-Year		10-Year	5-Year
American States Water Co.	5.5%	5.5%	4.0%	9.5%	8.0%	7.5%	-2.5%	15.6%	15.0%
American Water Works Co.	5.0%	2.5%	4.0%	8.5%	16.0%	10.5%	-1.1%	19.1%	17.7%
California Water Service Group	1.0%	4.5%	4.5%	5.5%	2.5%	3.5%	0.0%	9.2%	13.5%
Essential Utilities, Inc	6.5%	8.0%	9.0%	7.5%	7.5%	8.0%	3.9%	11.2%	9.0%
Middlesex Water Company	1.5%	4.5%	6.0%	5.5%	2.5%	4.0%	-4.3%	13.6%	23.2%
SJW Group	6.5%	5.5%	8.0%	7.0%	4.5%	5.0%	8.4%	8.4%	14.2%
York Water Company	4.5%	4.5%	4.0%	5.5%	3.5%	4.0%	-2.9%	12.0%	12.8%
AVERAGE	4.4%	5.0%	5.6%	7.0%	6.4%	6.1%	0.2%	12.7%	15.0%

(a) *The Value Line Investment Survey* (April 10, 2020).

(b) Fidelity Investments Stock Research "Price History" (Average of daily May 2010 and 2015 closing prices)

CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL

	Historical Rates of Return (a)	Forward- Looking Rates of Return (b)
Market Required Rate of Return	11.88%	11.25%
Long-term Government Bond Return (a,c)	4.94%	1.38%
Market Risk Premium (d)	6.94%	9.87%
Water and Sewer Proxy Group Beta (e)	0.77	0.77
Water and Sewer Utility Risk Premium (f)	5.35%	7.62%
Risk-free Rate of Interest (c)	1.38%	1.38%
Theoretical CAPM Cost of Equity Estimate (g)	6.73%	8.99%
Size Premium (e)	1.59%	1.59%
CAPM Cost of Equity Estimates (h)	8.32%	10.58%

(a) Duff & Phelps, *Summary of Statistics of Annual Total Returns, Income Returns, and Capital Appreciation Returns of Basic U S Asset Classes (1926-2019)*

(b) Calculated by applying DCF model applied to S&P 500 firms paying dividends (May 7, 2020):

Expected Dividend Yield	2.55%
Projected Earnings Growth Rate:	
Value Line	9.53%
I/B/E/S	7.62%
Zacks	8.95%
Average	8.70%
Market Required Rate of Return	11.25%

(c) May 2020 yield on 30-year U S Treasury bonds (Federal Reserve) 1.38%

(d) Market Required Rate of Return minus Long-term Government Bond Return

(e) Schedule BHF-9

(f) Market risk premium times beta

(g) Sum of Risk Premium and Risk-free Rate of Interest

(h) Sum of Unadjusted CAPM Cost of Equity Estimate and Size Premium

BOND RATINGS, BETA, MARKET CAPITALIZATION, AND SIZE PREMIUMS

Risk Measures

Company	Bond Rating		Beta (c)	Market-to-Book Ratio (d)	Market Capitalization	
	Moody's (a)	S&P (b)			(millions) (c)	Size Premium
American States Water Co	A2	A+	0.65	4.51	\$ 3,100	1.10%
American Water Works Co	Baa1	A	0.85	3.40	\$ 22,900	0.50%
California Water Service Group	N/R	A+	0.65	2.87	\$ 2,500	1.34%
Essential Utilities, Inc	Baa2	A	0.90	2.35	\$ 9,600	0.73%
Middlesex Water Company	N/R	A	0.75	3.87	\$ 1,100	1.47%
SJW Group	N/R	A-	0.80	1.74	\$ 1,700	1.34%
York Water Company	N/R	A-	0.80	3.77	\$ 600	1.59%
PROXY GROUP AVERAGE	Baa1	A	0.77	3.22	\$ 5,929	1.15%

CRSP Deciles Size Premiums (e)

Decile	Market Capitalization of Smallest Company (in millions)	Market Capitalization of Largest Company (in millions)	Size Premium (Return in Excess of CAPM)
1-Largest	\$ 31,090,379	-	\$ 1,061,355,011 -0.28%
2	13,142,606	-	30,542,936 0.50%
3	6,618,604	-	13,100,225 0.73%
4	4,312,546	-	6,614,962 0.79%
5	2,688,889	-	4,311,252 1.10%
6	1,669,856	-	2,685,865 1.34%
7	993,855	-	1,668,282 1.47%
8	515,621	-	993,847 1.59%
9	230,024	-	515,602 2.22%
10- Smallest	1,973	-	229,748 4.99%

(a) Moody's com (June 14, 2020)

(b) StandardandPoors com (Retrieved June 14, 2020)

(c) *The Value Line Investment Survey* (June 5, 2020)

(d) Schedule BHF-4 and *The Value Line Investment Survey* (April 10, 2020)

(e) *Duff & Phelps, 2019 CRSP Deciles Size Study -- Supplementary Data Exhibits*

COMPARABLE EARNINGS METHOD

<u>Company</u>	<u>Projected Earned Return on Book Equity (a)</u>		
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2023-25</u>
American States Water Co.	13.4%	13.7%	13.6%
American Water Works Co.	10.7%	11.1%	11.5%
California Water Service Group	9.4%	10.4%	12.5%
Essential Utilities, Inc	8.3%	8.9%	10.5%
Middlesex Water Company	12.1%	13.5%	14.4%
SJW Group	7.3%	7.8%	9.3%
York Water Company	10.7%	10.5%	12.8%
AVERAGE	<u>10.3%</u>	<u>10.8%</u>	<u>12.1%</u>

(a) *The Value Line Investment Survey* (April 10, 2020).

RISK PREMIUM METHOD

Year	Qtr	Allowed ROE (a)	Single-A Utility Bond Yield (b)	Risk Premium	Year	Qtr.	Allowed ROE (a)	Single-A Utility Bond Yield (b)	Risk Premium
1980	1	13.45%	13.49%	-0.04%	2000	3	11.33%	8.25%	3.08%
	2	14.38%	12.87%	1.51%		4	12.50%	8.03%	4.47%
	3	13.87%	12.88%	0.99%	2001	1	11.16%	7.74%	3.42%
	4	14.35%	14.11%	0.24%		2	10.75%	7.93%	2.82%
1981	1	14.69%	14.77%	-0.08%		4	10.65%	7.68%	2.97%
	2	14.61%	15.82%	-1.21%	2002	1	10.67%	7.65%	3.02%
	3	14.86%	16.65%	-1.79%		2	11.64%	7.50%	4.14%
	4	15.70%	16.57%	-0.87%		3	11.50%	7.19%	4.31%
1982	1	15.55%	16.72%	-1.17%		4	10.78%	7.15%	3.63%
	2	15.62%	16.26%	-0.64%	2003	1	11.38%	6.93%	4.45%
	3	15.72%	15.88%	-0.16%		2	11.36%	6.40%	4.96%
	4	15.62%	14.56%	1.06%		3	10.61%	6.64%	3.97%
1983	1	15.41%	14.15%	1.26%		4	10.84%	6.35%	4.49%
	2	14.84%	13.58%	1.26%	2004	1	11.10%	6.09%	5.01%
	3	15.24%	13.52%	1.72%		2	10.25%	6.48%	3.77%
	4	15.41%	13.38%	2.03%		3	10.37%	6.13%	4.24%
1984	1	15.39%	13.56%	1.83%		4	10.66%	5.94%	4.72%
	2	15.07%	14.72%	0.35%	2005	1	10.65%	5.74%	4.91%
	3	15.37%	14.47%	0.90%		2	10.52%	5.52%	5.00%
	4	15.33%	13.38%	1.95%		3	10.47%	5.51%	4.96%
1985	1	15.03%	13.31%	1.72%		4	10.40%	5.82%	4.58%
	2	15.44%	12.95%	2.49%	2006	1	10.63%	5.85%	4.78%
	3	14.64%	12.11%	2.53%		2	10.50%	6.37%	4.13%
	4	14.44%	11.49%	2.95%		3	10.45%	6.19%	4.26%
1986	1	14.05%	10.18%	3.87%		4	10.14%	5.86%	4.28%
	2	13.28%	9.41%	3.87%	2007	1	10.44%	5.90%	4.54%
	3	13.09%	9.39%	3.70%		2	10.12%	6.09%	4.03%
	4	13.62%	9.31%	4.31%		3	10.03%	6.22%	3.81%
1987	1	12.61%	8.96%	3.65%		4	10.27%	6.08%	4.19%
	2	13.13%	9.77%	3.36%	2008	1	10.38%	6.15%	4.23%
	3	12.56%	10.61%	1.95%		2	10.17%	6.32%	3.85%
	4	12.73%	11.05%	1.68%		3	10.49%	6.42%	4.07%
1988	1	12.94%	10.32%	2.62%		4	10.34%	7.23%	3.11%
	2	12.48%	10.71%	1.77%	2009	1	10.24%	6.37%	3.87%
	3	12.79%	10.94%	1.85%		2	10.11%	-0.39%	3.72%
	4	12.98%	9.98%	3.00%		3	9.88%	5.74%	4.14%
1989	1	12.99%	10.13%	2.86%		4	10.27%	5.66%	4.61%
	2	13.25%	9.94%	3.31%	2010	1	10.24%	5.83%	4.41%
	3	12.56%	9.53%	3.03%		2	9.99%	5.61%	4.38%
	4	12.94%	9.50%	3.44%		3	9.93%	5.09%	4.84%
1990	1	12.60%	9.72%	2.88%		4	10.09%	5.34%	4.75%
	2	12.81%	9.91%	2.90%	2011	1	10.10%	5.60%	4.50%
	3	12.34%	9.93%	2.41%		2	9.85%	5.38%	4.47%
	4	12.77%	9.89%	2.88%		3	9.65%	4.81%	4.84%
1991	1	12.69%	9.58%	3.11%		4	9.88%	4.37%	5.51%
	2	12.53%	9.50%	3.03%	2012	1	9.63%	4.39%	5.24%
	3	12.43%	9.33%	3.10%		2	9.83%	4.23%	5.60%
	4	12.38%	9.02%	3.36%		3	9.75%	3.98%	5.77%
1992	1	12.42%	8.91%	3.51%		4	10.07%	3.92%	6.15%
	2	11.98%	8.86%	3.12%	2013	1	9.57%	4.18%	5.39%
	3	11.87%	8.47%	3.40%		2	9.47%	4.23%	5.24%
	4	11.94%	8.53%	3.41%		3	9.60%	4.74%	4.86%
1993	1	11.75%	8.07%	3.68%		4	9.83%	4.76%	5.07%
	2	11.71%	7.81%	3.90%	2014	1	9.54%	4.56%	4.98%
	3	11.39%	7.28%	4.11%		2	9.84%	4.32%	5.52%
	4	11.15%	7.22%	3.93%		3	9.45%	4.20%	5.25%
1994	1	11.12%	7.55%	3.57%		4	10.28%	4.03%	6.25%
	2	10.81%	8.29%	2.52%	2015	1	9.47%	3.66%	5.81%
	3	10.95%	8.51%	2.44%		2	9.43%	4.10%	5.33%
	4	11.64%	8.87%	2.77%		3	9.75%	4.35%	5.40%
1995	2	11.00%	7.53%	3.07%		4	9.68%	4.35%	5.33%
	3	11.07%	7.72%	3.35%	2016	1	9.48%	4.18%	5.30%
	4	11.56%	7.37%	4.19%		2	9.42%	3.90%	5.52%
1996	1	11.45%	7.44%	4.01%		3	9.47%	3.61%	5.86%
	2	10.88%	7.98%	2.90%		4	9.60%	4.04%	5.56%
	3	11.25%	7.96%	3.29%	2017	1	9.60%	4.18%	5.42%
	4	11.32%	7.62%	3.70%		2	9.47%	4.06%	5.41%
1997	1	11.31%	7.76%	3.55%		3	10.14%	3.91%	6.23%
	2	11.70%	7.88%	3.82%		4	9.68%	3.84%	5.84%
	3	12.00%	7.49%	4.51%	2018	1	9.68%	4.03%	5.65%
	4	11.01%	7.25%	3.76%		2	9.43%	4.24%	5.19%
1998	2	11.37%	7.12%	4.25%		3	9.69%	4.28%	5.41%
	3	11.41%	6.99%	4.42%		4	9.53%	4.45%	5.08%
	4	11.69%	6.97%	4.72%	2019	1	9.55%	4.25%	5.30%
1999	1	10.82%	7.11%	3.71%		2	9.73%	3.96%	5.77%
	2	10.82%	7.48%	3.34%		3	9.80%	3.45%	6.35%
	4	10.33%	8.05%	2.28%		4	9.73%	3.40%	6.33%
2000	1	10.71%	8.29%	2.42%	2020	1	9.35%	3.30%	6.05%
	2	11.08%	8.45%	2.63%					
				Average			11.54%	7.90%	3.65%

Unadjusted

Risk Premium = Intercept + (Slope X Interest Rate) (d)

RP	=	0.07371	+	-0.47149	X	3.14%
RP	=	0.07371	+	-0.01480		
RP	=	5.89%				

Adjusted (Using Iterative Prus-Winsten algorithm)

Risk Premium = Intercept + (Slope X Interest Rate) (d)

RP	=	0.07696	+	-0.51387	X	3.14%
RP	=	0.07696	+	-0.01614		
RP	=	6.08%				

(a) Regulatory Research Associates, Inc., Major Rate Case Decisions, (April 20, 2020, January 24, 2002, January 18, 1995, and January 16, 1990)
(b) Mergent Public Utility Manual (2003), Mergent Bond Record (September 2005), Moody's Credit Perspectives (Various Editions)
(c) No decisions reported for following quarter
(d) Moody's Investor Services single-A utility bond yield for May 2020

RISK PREMIUM METHOD – ELECTRIC UTILITIES

Year	Qtr	Allowed ROE (a)	Single-A Utility Bond Yield (b)	Risk Premium	Year	Qtr	Allowed ROE (a)	Single-A Utility Bond Yield (b)	Risk Premium
1980	1	13.97%	13.49%	0.48%	2000	1	11.06%	8.29%	2.77%
	2	14.25%	12.87%	1.38%		2	11.11%	8.45%	2.66%
	3	14.30%	12.88%	1.42%		3	11.68%	8.25%	3.43%
	4	14.32%	14.11%	0.21%		4	12.08%	8.03%	4.05%
1981	1	14.87%	14.77%	0.10%	2001	1	11.38%	7.74%	3.64%
	2	15.03%	15.82%	-0.79%		2	10.88%	7.93%	2.95%
	3	15.31%	16.65%	-1.34%		3	10.78%	7.71%	3.07%
	4	15.58%	16.57%	-0.99%		4	11.50%	7.68%	3.82%
1982	1	15.71%	16.72%	-1.01%	2002	1	10.87%	7.65%	3.22%
	2	15.60%	16.26%	-0.66%		2	11.41%	7.50%	3.91%
	3	15.83%	15.88%	-0.05%		3	11.06%	7.19%	3.87%
	4	15.97%	14.56%	1.41%		4	11.20%	7.15%	4.05%
1983	1	15.53%	14.15%	1.38%	2003	1	11.47%	6.93%	4.54%
	2	15.10%	13.58%	1.52%		2	11.16%	6.40%	4.76%
	3	15.39%	13.52%	1.87%		3	9.95%	6.64%	3.31%
	4	15.35%	13.38%	1.97%		4	11.09%	6.35%	4.74%
1984	1	15.08%	13.56%	1.52%	2004	1	11.00%	6.09%	4.91%
	2	15.07%	14.72%	0.35%		2	10.54%	6.48%	4.06%
	3	15.38%	14.47%	0.91%		3	10.33%	6.13%	4.20%
	4	15.69%	13.38%	2.31%		4	10.91%	5.94%	4.97%
1985	1	15.51%	13.31%	2.20%	2005	1	10.51%	5.74%	4.77%
	2	15.27%	12.95%	2.32%		2	10.05%	5.52%	4.53%
	3	14.91%	12.11%	2.80%		3	10.84%	5.51%	5.33%
	4	15.11%	11.49%	3.62%		4	10.75%	5.82%	4.93%
1986	1	14.35%	10.18%	4.17%	2006	1	10.38%	5.85%	4.53%
	2	14.27%	9.41%	4.86%		2	10.68%	6.37%	4.31%
	3	13.18%	9.39%	3.79%		3	10.06%	6.19%	3.87%
	4	13.52%	9.31%	4.21%		4	10.39%	5.86%	4.53%
1987	1	12.92%	8.96%	3.96%	2007	1	10.27%	5.90%	4.37%
	2	13.15%	9.77%	3.38%		2	10.27%	6.09%	4.18%
	3	13.17%	10.61%	2.56%		3	10.02%	6.22%	3.80%
	4	12.79%	11.05%	1.74%		4	10.56%	6.08%	4.48%
1988	1	12.74%	10.32%	2.42%	2008	1	10.45%	6.15%	4.30%
	2	12.70%	10.71%	1.99%		2	10.57%	6.32%	4.25%
	3	12.68%	10.94%	1.74%		3	10.47%	6.42%	4.05%
	4	12.98%	9.98%	3.00%		4	10.33%	7.23%	3.10%
1989	1	13.04%	10.13%	2.91%	2009	1	10.29%	6.37%	3.92%
	2	13.22%	9.94%	3.28%		2	10.55%	6.39%	4.16%
	3	12.38%	9.53%	2.85%		3	10.46%	5.74%	4.72%
	4	12.84%	9.50%	3.34%		4	10.54%	5.66%	4.88%
1990	1	12.67%	9.72%	2.95%	2010	1	10.66%	5.83%	4.83%
	2	12.85%	9.91%	2.94%		2	10.08%	5.61%	4.47%
	3	12.54%	9.93%	2.61%		3	10.26%	5.09%	5.17%
	4	12.69%	9.89%	2.80%		4	10.30%	5.34%	4.96%
1991	1	12.67%	9.58%	3.09%	2011	1	10.32%	5.60%	4.72%
	2	12.67%	9.50%	3.17%		2	10.23%	5.38%	4.85%
	3	12.49%	9.33%	3.16%		3	10.36%	4.81%	5.55%
	4	12.45%	9.02%	3.43%		4	10.29%	4.37%	5.92%
1992	1	12.37%	8.91%	3.46%	2012	1	10.84%	4.39%	6.45%
	2	11.83%	8.86%	2.97%		2	9.92%	4.23%	5.69%
	3	12.03%	8.47%	3.56%		3	9.78%	3.98%	5.80%
	4	12.12%	8.53%	3.59%		4	10.05%	3.92%	6.13%
1993	1	11.84%	8.07%	3.77%	2013	1	10.24%	4.18%	6.06%
	2	11.64%	7.81%	3.83%		2	9.84%	4.23%	5.61%
	3	11.15%	7.28%	3.87%		3	10.06%	4.74%	5.32%
	4	11.07%	7.22%	3.85%		4	9.90%	4.76%	5.14%
1994	1	11.20%	7.55%	3.65%	2014	1	10.23%	4.56%	5.67%
	2	11.13%	8.29%	2.84%		2	9.83%	4.32%	5.51%
	3	12.75%	8.51%	4.24%		3	9.90%	4.20%	5.70%
	4	11.41%	8.87%	2.54%		4	9.78%	4.03%	5.75%
1995	1	11.96%	7.93%	4.03%	2015	1	10.37%	3.66%	6.71%
	2	11.36%	7.72%	3.64%		2	9.73%	4.10%	5.63%
	3	11.33%	7.37%	3.96%		3	9.40%	4.35%	5.05%
	4	11.53%	7.44%	4.09%		4	9.62%	4.35%	5.27%
1996	1	11.28%	7.98%	3.30%	2016	1	10.29%	4.18%	6.11%
	2	11.46%	7.96%	3.50%		2	9.60%	3.90%	5.70%
	3	10.76%	7.62%	3.14%		3	9.76%	3.61%	6.15%
	4	11.58%	7.76%	3.82%		4	9.57%	4.04%	5.53%
1997	1	11.30%	7.88%	3.42%	2017	1	9.87%	4.18%	5.69%
	2	11.62%	7.49%	4.13%		2	9.63%	4.06%	5.57%
	3	12.00%	7.49%	4.51%		3	9.66%	3.91%	5.75%
	4	11.11%	7.25%	3.86%		4	9.74%	3.84%	5.90%
1998	1	11.31%	7.11%	4.20%	2018	1	9.75%	4.03%	5.72%
	2	12.20%	7.12%	5.08%		2	9.54%	4.24%	5.30%
	3	11.80%	6.99%	4.81%		3	9.67%	4.28%	5.39%
	4	11.83%	6.97%	4.86%		4	9.42%	4.45%	4.97%
1999	1	10.58%	7.11%	3.47%	2019	1	9.73%	4.25%	5.48%
	2	10.94%	7.48%	3.46%		2	9.58%	3.96%	5.62%
	3	10.63%	7.85%	2.78%		3	9.55%	3.45%	6.10%
	4	11.08%	8.05%	3.03%		4	9.65%	3.40%	6.25%
					2020	1	9.58%	3.30%	6.28%
					Average		11.68%	7.89%	3.79%

Unadjusted:

Risk Premium = Intercept + (Slope X Interest Rate) (c)

RP	=	0.07515	+	-0.47245	X	3.14%
RP	=	0.07515	+	-0.01483		
RP	=	6.03%				

Adjusted (Using Iterative Prins-Winsten algorithm).

Risk Premium = Intercept + (Slope X Interest Rate) (c)

RP	=	0.07755	+	-0.50322	X	3.14%
RP	=	0.07755	+	-0.01580		
RP	=	6.17%				

(a) Regulatory Research Associates, Inc., Major Rate Case Decisions, (April 20, 2020, January 24, 2002, January 18, 1995, and January 16, 1990)
 (b) Mergent Public Utility Manual (2003), Mergent-Bond Record (September 2005) Moody's Credit Perspectives (Various Editions)
 (c) Moody's Investor Services for May 2020

WORKPAPER -- STOCK PRICES

		May 2020	May 2015	May 2010
American States Water Co.	AWR	77.38	38.55	18.22
American Water Works Co	AWK	120.13	53.22	21.00
California Water Service Group	CWT	45.06	23.92	18.71
Essential Utilities, Inc.	WTRG	40.77	26.51	14.13
Middlesex Water Company	MSEX	62.56	22.03	17.49
SJW Group	SJW	57.92	29.85	25.79
York Water Company	YORW	42.20	23.11	13.64

