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SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-22-04394 PUC DOCKET NO. 53719

APPLICATION OF ENTERGY TEXAS, § STATE OFFICE INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO CHANGE § OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

RESPONSE OF ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. TO STAFF'S FOURTH REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: STAFF 4:1 THROUGH 3

Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI" or the "Company") files its Response to Staff's Fourth Request for Information. The response to such request is attached and is numbered as in the request. An additional copy is available for inspection at the Company's office in Austin, Texas.

ETI believes the foregoing response is correct and complete as of the time of the response, but the Company will supplement, correct or complete the response if it becomes aware that the response is no longer true and complete, and the circumstance is such that failure to amend the answer is in substance misleading. The parties may treat this response as if it were filed under oath.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen F. Gates
Kristen Yates

ENTERGY SERVICES, LLC

919 Congress Avenue, Suite 701

Austin, Texas 78701 Office: (512) 487-3962

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Attachments: STAFF 4:1 THROUGH 3

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Response of Entergy Texas, Inc. to Staff's Fourth Request for Information has been sent by either hand delivery, electronic delivery, facsimile, overnight delivery, or U.S. Mail to the party that initiated this request in this docket on this the 13th day of September 2022.

Kristen F. Gates
Kristen Yates

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS DOCKET NO. 53719

Response of: Entergy Texas, Inc.

Prepared By: Brad Fleming

to the First Set of Data Requests

Sponsoring Witness: Allison P. Lofton

of Requesting Party: Commission Staff

Beginning Sequence No. PI1418

Ending Sequence No. PI1418

Question No.: STAFF 4-1 Part No.: Addendum:

Question:

ETI's witness Gregory Wilson recommended an annual accrual of \$14,555,000 for self-insurance reserve. Please locate on which Excel spreadsheet and tab (schedule), the recommended annual accrual of \$14,555,000 for self-insurance reserve is included to calculate the revenue requirement. Please indicate if ETI has used different amount for annual accrual rather than the amount recommended by Mr. Wilson. Also, please indicate the FERC account number(s).

Response:

Entergy Texas, Inc. used the annual accrual amount recommended by Gregory S. Wilson in his Direct Testimony on page 4, Q8. Please see Proforma AJ26 -Property Insurance Reserve located in the workpapers to Schedule P, WP/Schedule P – Volume 2, on pages 116 and 117.

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS DOCKET NO. 53719

Response of: Entergy Texas, Inc. to the Fourth Set of Data Requests of Requesting Party: Commission Staff

Prepared By: Counsel, Gregory S. Wilson Sponsoring Witness: Gregory S. Wilson Beginning Sequence No. EV1505 Ending Sequence No. EV1540

Question No.: STAFF 4-2 Part No.: Addendum:

Question:

Mr. Wilson mentioned in his testimony (Page 4 of 16, Line 27-30) the following: "The Commission last approved ETI's storm cost accrual in Docket 41791, consisting of \$4.972 million to provide for average annual expected storm losses plus an annual accrual of \$3.570 million for 20 years to restore the reserve from its deficit. It also set the target balance at \$15,512,000." Please provide a copy of final order or settlement documents or other documents showing approval of these numbers.

Response:

Please see the Final Order in Docket No. 41791, Interchange Item No. 510, at Finding of Fact Nos. 19 and 42. Specifically, Finding of Fact No. 19 provides that "The Signatories agreed to the levels of storm cost accruals included in the application." Finding of Fact No. 42 provides that "The level of annual storm cost accrual stated in [Entergy Texas Inc.'s ("ETI")] application is reasonable." See also the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement, Interchange Item No. 499, at page 3 ("Storm Reserve. Accruals. The Signatories stipulate to the levels of storm cost accruals included in the Company's application."); Supplemental Testimony of William B. Abbott, Interchange Item No. 497, at page 5 ("A storm cost accrual amount as requested by ETI in its application."); and Testimony in Support of Unanimous Stipulation of Michael Considine, Interchange Item No. 500, at page 6 of 8 ("Agreed amounts for storm reserve accruals and decommissioning expense.").

The storm cost accruals included in the application were described in Gregory S. Wilson's Direct Testimony in Docket No. 41791, which is provided as attachment (TP-53719-00PUS004-X002). Specifically, Mr. Wilson stated, at page 5:

Q7. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS.

A. As shown on Exhibit GSW-2, I proposed an annual accrual of \$8,540,000 and a new target property insurance reserve of \$15,512,000. The accrual is composed of two elements. The first is \$4,972,000 to provide for average annual expected losses from all storms that do not exceed \$100 million. As I explain subsequently, the \$4.972 million annual accrual is calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation run on the loss history of the Company. The second is

\$3,570,000 accrued annually for twenty years to achieve the target reserve of \$15,512,000 from the current reserve level of negative \$55.9 million.

DOCKET NO. 41791

APPLICATION OF ENTERGY	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
TEXAS, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO	§	
CHANGE RATES AND RECONCILE	§	OF TEXAS
FUEL COSTS	§	

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

GREGORY S. WILSON

ON BEHALF OF

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.

SEPTEMBER 2013

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. DIRECT TESTIMONY OF GREGORY S. WILSON 2013 RATE CASE

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EXHIBITS

Exhibit GSW-1	Gregory S. Wilson Resume
Exhibit GSW-2	Calculation of Recommended Accrual
Exhibit GSW-3	Texas Major Storm Damage Adjusted to Current Cost Level
Exhibit GSW-4	Example of Loss Trending Methodology
Exhibit GSW-5	Calculation of Recommended Accrual with \$500,000 Threshold
Exhibit GSW-6	Calculation of O&M Amounts Charged to Expense with \$500,000 Threshold

Page 1 of 19

1		I. <u>INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS</u>
2	Q1.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION, BUSINESS
3		AFFILIATION, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
4	A.	My name is Gregory S. Wilson. I am a consulting actuary specializing in
5		the area of property-casualty actuarial matters. I am a Vice President and
6		Principal at Lewis & Ellis, Inc. ("L&E"). My business address is
7		2929 N. Central Expressway, Suite 200, Richardson, Texas 75080.
8		
9	Q2.	PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT
10		BACKGROUND.
11	A.	I received a Bachelor of Science degree in applied mathematics from the
12		University of Rhode Island in 1976.
13		In 1992, I became a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society
14		("FCAS"), having attained that designation by completing all of the
15		required examinations. I am also a member of the American Academy of
16		Actuaries.
17		I was employed by Amica Mutual Insurance Company until 1994.
18		Most recently, I was a vice president, serving as chief actuary and
19		supervising the actuarial department.
20		In 1994, I joined PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, where I provided
21		actuarial consulting services to a wide variety of clients including
22		insurance companies, state insurance regulators, self-insured entities, and

23

non-insurance corporations.

I joined L&E in 2001, where I continue to provide actuarial consulting services to a wide variety of clients. I have testified before the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") in Docket Nos. 16705, 33309, 33310, 37695 and 39896, and submitted written testimony in Docket Nos. 20150, 22356, 30123, 34800, 37744, and 37364. I have also testified on self-insurance issues before the Missouri Public Service Commission in conjunction with a utility rate filing. My resume is attached as Exhibit GSW-1.

Α.

Q3. WHAT IS AN ACTUARY?

This term can be defined in terms of required education and in terms of the functions an actuary usually performs. The highest designation a property-casualty actuary can have is FCAS. This designation is obtained through a rigorous process involving separate examinations on topics such as mathematics, probability and statistics, theory of credibility, theory of risk and insurance, economics, insurance coverages, ratemaking, loss reserving, insurance accounting and regulation, and individual risk rating.

An actuary estimates the financial implications of future contingent events. In this particular case, my analysis of the future financial consequences is performed in accordance with the Actuarial Standards of Practice, as well as the Statement of Principles Regarding Property and Casualty Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Reserves adopted by the Casualty Actuarial Society.

II. <u>PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY</u>

2 Q4. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

The general purpose of my testimony is to offer an independent opinion of the reasonableness of the approach Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI" or "Company") proposes to take with respect to protecting its Transmission and Distribution ("T&D") assets through self-insurance. The specific purpose of my testimony is: (1) to estimate the annual accruals needed to provide for the expected property losses incurred by ETI for the storm damage losses that are not covered by insurance and for which Section 36.064 of the Texas Public Utility Regulatory Act permits a provision to be made; and (2) to estimate a target amount to accumulate in the self-insurance reserve along with a recommended time period over which these accruals are to be made.

My testimony also includes a cost benefit analysis demonstrating that self-insurance at the levels proposed by ETI is a lower cost alternative to purchasing insurance and is in the public interest, consistent with the P.U.C. Subst. Rule 25.231(b)(1)(G).

Α.

Q5. WHAT DOES THIS RULE PROVIDE?

20 A. This rule provides as follows:

Accruals credited to reserve accounts for self-insurance under a plan requested by an electric utility and approved by the commission. The commission shall consider approval of a self insurance plan in a rate case in which expenses or rate base treatment are requested for such a plan. For the

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Page 4 of 19

purposes of this section, a self insurance plan is a plan providing for accruals to be credited to reserve accounts. The reserve accounts are to be charged with property and liability losses which occur, and which could not have been reasonably anticipated and included in operating and maintenance expenses, and are not paid or reimbursed by commercial insurance. The commission will approve a selfinsurance plan to the extent it finds it to be in the public interest. In order to establish that the plan is in the public interest, the electric utility must present a cost benefit analysis performed by a qualified independent insurance consultant who demonstrates that, with consideration of all costs, self-insurance is a lower-cost alternative than commercial insurance and the ratepayers will receive the benefits of the self insurance plan. The cost benefit analysis shall present a detailed analysis of the appropriate limits of self insurance, an analysis of the appropriate annual accruals to build a reserve account for self insurance, and the level at which further accruals should be decreased or terminated.

21 Q6. WHAT HAS THE COMMISSION ESTABLISHED AS THE PROPERTY

INSURANCE EXPENSE AND RESERVE TARGET FOR ETI?

reserve balance should be \$17,595,000.

A. The Commission ruled in Docket No. 39896 that ETI's storm cost accrual shall be increased to \$8.37 million annually, consisting of \$4.4 million to provide for average annual expected storm losses, plus an annual accrual of \$3.87 million for 20 years to restore the reserve from its current deficit. It also ruled in Docket No. 39896 that the reasonable and necessary

1 Q7. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS.

As shown on Exhibit GSW-2, I proposed an annual accrual of \$8,540,000 and a new target property insurance reserve of \$15,512,000. The accrual is composed of two elements. The first is \$4,972,000 to provide for average annual expected losses from all storms that do not exceed \$100 million. As I explain subsequently, the \$4.972 million annual accrual is calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation run on the loss history of the Company. The second is \$3,570,000 accrued annually for twenty years to achieve the target reserve of \$15,512,000 from the current reserve level of negative \$55.9 million.

Α.

Α.

III. <u>SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE BACKGROUND</u>

Q8. PLEASE STATE THE PURPOSE OF A SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE
 AND EXPLAIN HOW IT WOULD OPERATE.

The purpose of ETI's self-insurance reserve is to provide for occurrences resulting in storm-related T&D and other property loss of at least \$50,000.

Each year, an amount of money would be accrued in the self-insurance reserve to provide for losses expected to occur in the calendar year. In addition to this amount, an accrual would be made to raise the self-insurance reserve to a level that would serve as a financial buffer in the event that actual losses exceed the accrued annual expected loss amount. Accruals would be made to this reserve until it reaches the

1	recommended target level, at which point contributions to the reserve
2	would reduce to the lower of annual expected losses or actual losses.

A.

4 Q9. WHAT HAPPENS IF THE ANNUAL AGGREGATE LOSSES EXCEED 5 THE AMOUNT ACCRUED IN ANY GIVEN YEAR?

If the annual aggregate losses exceed the amount accrued in any given year, the remaining reserve would be drawn upon to provide the needed additional amounts. If the annual aggregate losses are less than the amount accrued for that purpose, the excess annual accrual would remain in the self-insurance reserve, serving to bring the self-insurance reserve closer to its target level.

Α.

Q10. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO BUILD THE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE UP TO A CERTAIN TARGETED LEVEL?

The range of expected losses from storm damage covered by the self-insurance reserve varies considerably from year to year, as will the actual losses that ETI will incur. The self-insurance reserve needs to be sufficient to cover the losses for each year, knowing that any given year's actual losses may be very different from the average expected losses. Hence, a reserve large enough to provide for some variation in the annual aggregate amount of losses is needed.

1 Q11. IS THE SELF-INSURANCE PROGRAM OF ETI IN THE CUSTOMERS'

2 INTEREST?

A. Yes. The self-insurance program of ETI is in the best interest of the Company's customers. As will be shown later, it provides a lower cost alternative than purchasing insurance for all losses. At the same time, it provides for utility rate stability by providing for a self-insurance reserve to absorb the variation in the experience from the expected annual losses so that customers' rates will not reflect dramatically different self-insurance losses from one year to the next.

IV. ANNUAL EXPECTED LOSSES

12 Q12. HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD ETI ACCRUE ANNUALLY IN THE SELF-

INSURANCE RESERVE TO COVER THE EXPECTED LOSSES FOR

14 EACH YEAR?

A. The amount I recommend to be accrued annually for expected losses for the self-insurance reserve is \$4,972,000. This amount is the expected value of the annual losses incurred by ETI from all storm damage, except those over \$100 million, adjusted to reflect current conditions and current cost levels. The recommended amount of \$4,972,000 is calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation run on the loss history (shown on Exhibit GSW-3) of the Company. A Monte Carlo simulation is a statistical technique incorporating a computer program to simulate loss experience

over a longer period of time than the period captured in the available loss history.

The program simulates individual losses on an annual basis for ETI for 5,000 iterations of annual experience. A statistical distribution is estimated from ETI's trended loss experience and input into the model. The model is run 5,000 times, each time simulating a possible outcome. From these 5,000 iterations of simulated experience, I was able to determine that the average annual indicated loss over this period was \$4,890,000.

Exhibit GSW-4 contains an example showing how each historic loss was adjusted to reflect the current cost levels using the Handy-Whitman index of cost trends of electric utility construction for the South Central Region. The Handy-Whitman index data is a standard type of database used to measure cost changes for utility companies. The loss in the example occurred on June 12, 2012, for \$690,695. The Handy-Whitman index on July 1, 2012, was 592; on January 1, 2012 it was 582. Interpolating between these two points to June 12, 2012, produces an expected index of 590.956. As of January 1, 2013, the Handy-Whitman index was 607. Thus, the change from June 12, 2012, to January 1, 2013, was 607 divided by 590.956, or 1.027 (2.7% increase). Multiplying the loss of \$690,695 by 1.027 gives a cost-adjusted loss of \$709,343. This procedure was used for each loss of \$50,000 or greater that occurred

1		during the experience period. This approach is reasonable because it
2		adjusts historic costs to current dollar levels.
3		
4	Q13.	WERE ANY OTHER ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THE HISTORICAL
5		DATA?
6	A.	Yes. The majority of the losses from Hurricanes Rita, Gustav and Ike
7		were removed from the historical data because those losses were
8		securitized and recovery for those losses was not through the insurance
9		reserve.
10		
11	Q14.	WERE ANY ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THE MONTE CARLO
12		SIMULATION TO ADJUST FOR POTENTIAL SECURITIZATION?
13	A.	Yes. The results from the simulation were adjusted by removing any
14		simulated year where the total storm loss exceeded \$100,000,000. I am
15		informed by the Company that any loss that exceeds this amount is likely
16		to be securitized.
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18		V. <u>TARGET RESERVE</u>
19	Q15.	WHAT IS THE TARGET AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED TO PROVIDE
20		FOR AN ADEQUATE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE?
21	A.	The recommended total target amount of the reserve is \$15,512,000
22		which is the amount of O&M damage expected to result from a 25-year
23		storm with total losses under \$100 million. The Company needs to

1		provide for anticipated T&D and other property losses resulting from
2		severe storms in order to ensure safe, reliable, and adequate service to
3		ratepayers.
4		
5	Q16.	WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO ACCRUE MORE TO THE SELF-
6		INSURANCE RESERVE THAN THE \$4,972,000 FOR EXPECTED
7		LOSSES?
8	A.	The \$4,972,000 accrual is intended to cover only the average annua
9		expected loss from storm damage. These losses can range from very low
10		to millions of dollars in any one year. The storm damage reserve needs to
11		be built up to provide for extreme or catastrophic events in any one year.
12		
13	Q17.	HOW WAS YOUR TARGET RESERVE OF \$15,512,000 DEVELOPED?
14	A.	As indicated above, I ran a Monte Carlo simulation on the loss history of
15		ETI. From the 5,000 iterations of simulated experience, I was able to
16		determine that in any 25-year period, the largest expected loss totaling
17		less than \$100 million is approximately \$15,512,000.
18		
19	Q18.	WHY IS THIS RESERVE LEVEL APPROPRIATE?
20	A.	This reserve level is the amount that should be carried by ETI to make an
21		actuarially sound provision for coverage of the self-insured losses. The
22		target reserve will be sufficient if annual losses are equal to or less than
23		the target in a given year provided the reserve is already in place at its

target amount; but if the actual losses exceed the amount accrued for the expected annual amount for several years in a row, the self insurance reserve may be depleted.

For example, once the reserve level has been reached, if there are several years with losses of approximately \$4,000,000, the reserve will remain unused. However, if there are two consecutive years with annual aggregate losses of more than \$12,000,000 each year, the self-insurance reserve would be in a deficit position. The deficit amount would need to be collected from future ratepayers.

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- Q19. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE BALANCE OF THE
- 12 RESERVE?
- 13 A. The Commission found in Docket No. 39896 that the reasonable and
- 14 necessary reserve balance in rate base for property insurance should be
- 15 \$17,595,000. As shown on Rate Filing Package Schedule 11-B, page 1 of
- 16 2, the current balance reflects a deficit of \$55,920,521.

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- 18 Q20. WHAT ARE THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS OF THE ANNUAL
- 19 ACCRUAL TO THE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE INDICATED BY
- 20 YOUR ANALYSIS?
- 21 A. The annual amount to be accrued each year is \$8,542,000, which is
- composed of two elements. First, there is \$4,972,000 each year to
- provide for the year's annual expected losses from storm damages.

Second, there should be an accrual of \$3,570,000 each year for twenty years to provide for the variation in annual losses from year to year by building the total self insurance reserve from the current deficit balance of \$56 million up to the \$15.512 million level. I have recommended a twenty-year period to balance the interests of future ratepayers versus past ratepayers.

Α.

Q21. ARE THESE CALCULATIONS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACTUARIAL PROCEDURES?

Yes. The process reflects generally accepted actuarial procedures. However, I have made certain adjustments to reflect the nature of ratemaking for public utilities. For example, it would be customary to project losses to the anticipated cost level of the future time period during which rates will be in effect. Because of the historical test year approach to utility ratemaking and the adjustment of expense items based on known and measurable quantities only, I have limited loss adjustments to the cost levels. The dates to which the losses were adjusted reflect the dates of the most recent indices available at the time the adjustments were made. On the other hand, common actuarial practice would be to project the cost of expected losses to the future period when they will be incurred, a level that would be greater than the figure contained in my testimony.

In addition, no adjustment has been made to reflect future increased exposure to loss. For example, in 2013 ETI may own more

1		property in the service area that is exposed to loss than it had in years
2		prior to 2000. This would increase the exposure to loss, and lead to a
3		higher recommended reserve.
4		
5	Q22.	HOW WILL THE SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE ACCRUALS OPERATE?
6	A.	The excess of annual expected losses over actual self-insured losses, to
7		the extent there is any such excess, will accrue to the self-insurance target
8		reserve and cause ETI to reach its target earlier, all other things being
9		equal. Any deficiency between the annual expected losses and the actual
10		self-insured layer losses in any calendar year will serve to extend the
11		period over which the Company can expect to reach its target.
12		
13		VI. <u>ALTERNATIVE CALCULATION OF INSURANCE RESERVE</u>
14	Q23.	AT THE OPEN MEETING IN DOCKET NO. 39896, THE
15		COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSED CHANGING THE THRESHOLD FOR
16		STORM COST INSURANCE RESERVE FROM \$50,000 TO
17		SOMETHING HIGHER, SUCH AS \$450,000. DID YOU MAKE ANY
18		ESTIMATE OF THE IMPACT OF INCREASING THE INSURANCE
19		RESERVE THRESHOLD?
20	A.	Yes.

1	Q24.	WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON THE INSURANCE RESERVE LEVEL?
2	A.	If the current \$50,000 threshold is raised to \$500,000, the indicated annual
3		accrual for ETI would decrease to \$8,178,000. The target reserve would
4		decrease to \$15,199,000.
5		
6	Q25.	ARE THERE OTHER IMPACTS OF CHANGING THE INSURANCE
7		RESERVE LEVEL?
8	A.	Yes.
9		
10	Q26.	WHAT OTHER IMPACTS ARE THERE?
11	A.	If the threshold is increased, more of the storm losses will be treated as
12		Operations and Maintenance ("O&M") expense, and will need to be
13		included in ETI's rates as O&M expense. Approximately \$837,000 in
14		O&M expense that was paid from the insurance reserve during the test
15		year will not be included in the reserve calculation and will need to be
16		added to ETI's ongoing O&M expense level.
17		
18	Q27.	THERE WAS ALSO DISCUSSION DURING THE DOCKET NO. 39896
19		OPEN MEETING REGARDING CHANGING THE THRESHOLD TO A
20		DEDUCTIBLE. IS THAT REASONABLE?
21	A.	I do not think so. While the insurance expense amount is called a
22		threshold, in reality it is a franchise deductible. That is, it is a condition
23		where nothing is paid until the loss hits the deductible, and once the

1	deductible	is	reached,	the	entire	amount	is	paid.	These	types	of
2	deductibles	h a	ve typicall	y bee	en used	l by large	COI	nmercial	l entities	S .	

The franchise deductible is used by many utilities for their selfinsured reserve in Texas, including ETI, Oncor, and Centerpoint.

Α.

Q28. IS THE USE OF THE FRANCHISE DEDUCTIBLE CONCEPT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF RATEPAYERS?

Yes. O&M expenses that a utility incurs as a result of storm damage that is not charged to the insurance reserve would be reflected in higher O&M and included in the revenue requirement charged to customers. If these dollars are instead charged to the insurance reserve, they will be included in the calculation of the insurance reserve and therefore in establishing the rate base in the next rate case. Because the insurance reserve is estimated using data over several years, the full amount of expense in any one year will not be completely felt in the subsequent rate case. This leads to more stability in rates and works to the benefit of the ratepayer in spreading out the recovery of the expense over a period of time greater than one year.

20 Q29. DO YOU RECOMMEND CHANGING THE THRESHOLD FOR THE 21 SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE IN THIS CASE?

22 A. No. I believe that the current level is appropriate because it provides rate stability for the ratepayers.

1		VII. COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS
2	Q30.	HOW DID YOU DETERMINE THAT SELF-INSURANCE IS A LOWER
3		COST ALTERNATIVE FOR THOSE T&D AND OTHER PROPERTY
4		LOSSES THAT ARE STORM-RELATED AND GREATER THAN
5		\$50,000?
6	A.	There are at least two ways to consider the cost-benefit of self-insuring
7		these losses. The first is by considering the manner in which insurance
8		companies set premiums and the second is by an actual comparison to
9		estimated insurance premiums for the self-insurance coverage.
10		
11	Q31.	WHAT ASPECTS OF AN INSURANCE COMPANY'S PREMIUM
12		DETERMINATION PROCESS DID YOU CONSIDER IN CONCLUDING
13		THAT THE SELF-INSURANCE APPROACH FOR THE DESIGNATED
14		LAYER OF LOSSES IS APPROPRIATE?
15	A.	Insurance companies include provisions in their premiums for all costs
16		associated with the transfer of the insurance risk. Hence, they include
17		provisions for losses, loss adjustment expenses, non-loss related
18		expenses, premium taxes, and a profit.
19		A self-insurance reserve, such as ETI's reserve, does not need to
20		include many of the provisions other than those for losses and loss-related
21		expenses. For example, a self-insurance reserve does not need to pay
22		premium taxes and other state-imposed fees. An insurance company
23		needs to make a profit on the business it transacts. A self-insurance

reserve, on the other hand, is not intended to generate a profit and, hence, no provision for profit needs to be included in the accrual provisions. Insurance companies also incur costs associated with the acquisition of insured risks. The largest of these expenses is that associated with the payment of commissions to insurance agents or brokers to place the business. A self-insurance reserve does not include any provision for commissions. Finally, an insurance company must expend resources to underwrite risks, market its products, and maintain overhead expenses. A self-insurance reserve does not need to provide for these costs.

In summary, self-insurance saves the costs of premium taxes, commissions, profit, and many of the general expenses associated with the operation of an insurance company.

Q32. WHAT OTHER COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS HAVE YOU RELIED UPON TO SHOW THAT THE COST FOR THE SELF-INSURED LAYER IS LOWER THAN THE COST OF INSURANCE FOR THE SAME LAYER OF INSURANCE AND IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMPANY'S CUSTOMERS?

A. Comparing the cost of self-insurance versus the cost of buying insurance establishes that it is more cost effective for ETI to self-insure, even if there is a company willing to insure it. For example, ETI's broker contacted the US, London and Bermuda insurance markets to discuss a T&D policy for ETI. Only one company would even discuss the possibility of providing

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coverage to ETI for windstorm damage. The broker received an indicative premium for T&D coverage for damage caused by named storms only, and the amount was for limited coverage in excess of a \$15 million retention. Coverage is limited based on the strength of the storm, as measured by the Saffir-Simpson scale. Coverage would be \$25 million for a Category 2 storm, ranging up to \$150 million for a Category 5 storm. The premium for this coverage is estimated at \$21.25 million per year. Thus, under this named storm only proposal, ETI would have to pay over \$20 million per year, and still be responsible for at least the first \$15 million of loss. ETI would also need to accrue additional amounts for losses lower than the deductible, losses for non-named storms, the deductible itself, and to recover the current deficit. As discussed in more detail below, my estimate of the total annual cost to purchase the insurance and accrue amounts sufficient to cover the costs is approximately \$34 million. Therefore, it is clear that the combination of the high premium cost and the high retention indicates that self-insurance is the most cost effective method of providing protection for ETI's T&D assets.

The cost of buying insurance is as follows. The premium for ETI to purchase T&D property insurance with a \$15,000,000 deductible is estimated at \$21,250,000 annually. This amount would only cover those losses from named storms that exceed the \$15,000,000 deductible. ETI, however, would still need to maintain a reserve to cover the first

1		\$15 million of losses, as well as the losses from non-named storms.
2		Eliminating the named storms from the ETI history results in an expected
3		loss of \$4,130,000. In addition, even if ETI secures commercial
4		insurance, the insurance premium would not address the current deficit in
5		the reserve balance of almost \$60 million, so an accrual of \$3,570,000
6		would also be needed to reduce the deficit. An amount to fund the
7		\$15,000,000 deductible would also need to be accrued. I would
8		recommend that it be accrued over a three-year period, since the
9		insurance policy would be for three years. As a result, even with the
10		purchase of commercial insurance to cover some of the storm loss, the
11		recommended accrual total would be \$33,950,000 = [(\$21,250,000) +
12		(\$4,130,000) + (\$3,570,000) + (\$5,000,000)].
13		In contrast, the cost of self-insurance is \$8,542,000.
14		
15		VIII. <u>CONCLUSION</u>
16	Q33.	WHAT DO YOU CONCLUDE REGARDING ETI'S REQUEST FOR
17		SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE TO T&D PROPERTY LOSSES?
18	A.	I have conducted an analysis that meets the Commission's rule
19		requirements and have demonstrated that self-insurance is necessary and
20		desirable given the lack of reasonably priced commercial insurance.
21		
22	Q34.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

23

A.

Yes, at this time.

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GREGORY S. WILSON, FCAS, MAAA Vice President and Principal

CURRENT POSITION

Mr. Wilson is a Vice President and Principal with Lewis & Ellis, Inc.

EXPERIENCE:

Mr. Wilson's responsibilities include evaluating the adequacy of insurance company reserve levels in conjunction with actuarial certification for the annual statement as well as state insurance department examinations. He also performs rate level analyses for his clients and assists them prepare filings for the state insurance departments. He also evaluates the adequacy of loss reserves for several self-insured companies.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Wilson was a Principal Consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. His responsibilities were similar to his current responsibilities. In addition, he reviewed retrospective rating calculations for several companies involved in class action litigation in Texas. He also performed several funding analyses for governmental entities.

Prior to joining PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Mr. Wilson was Vice President of Amica Mutual Insurance Company in Providence, Rhode Island. There, he supervised all aspects of ratemaking, from procedures to recommendations, helped negotiate the purchase of reinsurance, determine

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IBNR, develop a strategy for Massachusetts Automobile and develop other states' residual market strategies, in particular, New York and New Jersey.

EDUCATION

Mr. Wilson received his Bachelor's degree in Applied Mathematics from the University of Rhode Island.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Wilson is a former member of the Casualty Actuarial Society's Examination Committee, Committee on Ratemaking and Committee on Reserving. He is also a Past President of the Southwest Actuarial Forum.

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Entergy Texas, Inc. Calculation of Recommended Accrual

Expected Annual Storm Loss 4,972,000

Incremental Amount to Build

Storm Reserve 3,570,000

Total Annual Accrual 8,542,000

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Entergy Texas, Inc. Texas Major Storm Damage Adjusted to Current Cost Level 1996-2013

	Actual	Trended
<u>Year</u>	Loss	<u>Loss</u>
1986	5,262,243	13,198,693
1987	1,038,215	2,600,543
1988	102,057	247,603
1989	2,333,835	5,367,809
1990	266,670	596,991
1991	6,195	13,703
1992	1,094,037	2,410,198
1993	31,879	69,543
1994	3,008,906	6,397,901
1995	1,574,297	3,233,981
1996	2,078,255	4,240,584
1997	14,158,018	29,193,865
1998	6,363,563	12,770,805
1999	1,698,071	3,402,829
2000	4,048,245	7,902,807
2001	3,624,745	6,835,651
2002	2,651,346	4,919,003
2003	1,680,753	3,080,497
2004	946,375	1,639,077
2005	2,628,245	4,141,178
2006	1,231,691	1,741,224
2007	25,577,619	32,162,066
2008	10,012,187	11,739,727
2009	1,064,872	1,218,687
2010	431,534	473,391
2011	3,675,150	3,891,032
2012	4,198,957	4,285,316
2013	180,094	180,094
	86,249,720	133,817,833

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Entergy Texas, Inc. <u>Example of Loss Trending Methodology</u>

1)	Date of Loss	12-Jun-12
2)	Amount of Loss	\$690,695
3)	Handy-Whitman Index - Electric Utility Construction South Central Region - Distribution Plant	
	a) January, 2012	582
	b) July, 2012	592
	c) May 1, 2012	590.956
	d) January, 2013	607
4)	Trend Factor (3d) / (3c)	1.027
5)	Cost-Adjusted Losses (2) x (4)	\$709,343

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Entergy Texas, Inc. Calculation of Recommended Accrual With \$500,000 Threshold

Expected Annual Storm Loss 4,618,000

Incremental Amount to Build

Storm Reserve 3,560,000

Total Annual Accrual 8,178,000

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Entergy Texas, Inc.
Calcualtion of O&M Amounts
Charged to Expense
With \$500,000 Threshold
April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2013

		O&M Expense	O&M Charged to	
Date of	Total Loss From	Charged to Storm	Storm Reserve with	O&M Charged to
Storm	Storm	Reserve	Threshold	O&M Expense
04/02/12	253,215	57,133	0	57,133
04/20/12	638,011	155,997	155,997	0
05/10/12	700,043	162,329	162,329	0
05/31/12	517,884	115,757	115,757	0
06/06/12	886,605	207,956	207,956	0
06/12/12	3,002,904	690,695	690,695	0
07/13/12	324,613	64,802	0	64,802
07/17/12	185,431	44,564	0	44,564
07/21/12	521,997	105,974	105,974	0
07/28/12	203,649	42,677	0	42,677
08/05/12	75,795	15,556	0	15,556
08/06/12	114,862	25,567	0	25,567
08/10/12	213,206	45,307	0	45,307
08/18/12	357,832	74,586	0	74,586
08/28/12	157,606	41,350	0	41,350
09/30/12	197,522	45,863	0	45,863
11/03/12	185,517	33,851	0	33,851
11/26/12	319,501	71,452	0	71,452
12/04/12	138,394	32,820	0	32,820
12/09/12	174,960	33,443	0	33,443
12/16/12	121,741	27,821	0	27,821
12/20/12	1,375,283	396,054	396,054	0
12/25/12	2,902,928	827,214	827,214	0
01/09/13	312,225	89,687	0	89,687
02/25/13	287,236	76,850	0	76,850
03/10/13	69,395	13,557	0	13,557
Total	14,238,355	3,498,863	2,661,976	836,887

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ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS DOCKET NO. 53719

Response of: Entergy Texas, Inc. to the Fourth Set of Data Requests of Requesting Party: Commission Staff

Prepared By: Counsel Sponsoring Witness: N/A

Beginning Sequence No. EV1541 Ending Sequence No. EV1541

Question No.: STAFF 4-3 Part No.: Addendum:

Question:

Were there any changes in the self-insurance reserve in the last rate case - Docket No. 48371 from the amounts established in Docket No. 41791?

Response:

No, the Commission did not approve any changes to the self-insurance reserve in Docket No. 48371.