BEFORE THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW BEFORE HONORABLE RICHARD MCGILL, ALJ

| IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| PETITION OF JERSEY CENTRAL |) |
| POWER & LIGHT COMPANY FOR |) |
| REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF |) |
| INCREASES IN AND OTHER |) |
| ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS RATES AND |) OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 16310-2012N |
| CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE, |) |
| AND FOR APPROVAL OF OTHER |) BPU DOCKET NO. ER12111052 |
| PROPOSED TARIFF REVISIONS IN |) |
| CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND |) |
| FOR APPROVAL OF AN |) |
| ACCELERATED RELIABILITY |) |
| ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM |) |
| ("2012 BASE RATE FILING") |) |
| | |

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW I. KAHAL ON BEHALF OF THE DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL

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| 1 | | I. QUALIFICATIONS |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | Q. | PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS. |
| 3 | A. | My name is Matthew I. Kahal. I am employed as an independent consultant retained in |
| 4 | | this matter by the Division of Rate Counsel (Rate Counsel). My business address is |
| 5 | | 10480 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 300, Columbia, Maryland 21044. |
| 6 | Q. | PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND. |
| 7 | A. | I hold B.A. and M.A. degrees in economics from the University of Maryland and have |
| 8 | | completed course work and examination requirements for the Ph.D. degree in economics. |
| 9 | | My areas of academic concentration included industrial organization, economic |
| 10 | | development and econometrics. |
| 11 | Q. | WHAT IS YOUR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND? |
| 12 | A. | I have been employed in the area of energy, utility and telecommunications consulting for |
| 13 | | the past 35 years working on a wide range of topics. Most of my work has focused on |
| 14 | | electric utility integrated planning, plant licensing, environmental issues, mergers and |
| 15 | | financial issues. I was a co-founder of Exeter Associates, and from 1981 to 2001 I was |
| 16 | | employed at Exeter Associates as a Senior Economist and Principal. During that time, |
| 17 | | I took the lead role at Exeter in performing cost of capital and financial studies. In recent |
| 18 | | years, the focus of much of my professional work has shifted to electric utility markets, |
| 19 | | power procurement and industry restructuring. |
| 20 | | Prior to entering consulting, I served on the Economics Department faculties at |
| 21 | | the University of Maryland (College Park) and Montgomery College teaching courses on |
| 22 | | economic principles, development economics and business. |
| 23 | | A complete description of my professional background is provided in |
| 24 | | Appendix A. |

| 1 | Q. | HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED AS AN EXPERT WITNESS BEFORE |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSIONS? |
| 3 | A. | Yes. I have testified before approximately two-dozen state and federal utility |
| 4 | | commissions, federal courts and the U.S. Congress in more than 380 separate regulatory |
| 5 | | cases. My testimony has addressed a variety of subjects including fair rate of return, |
| 6 | | resource planning, financial assessments, load forecasting, competitive restructuring, rate |
| 7 | | design, purchased power contracts, merger economics and other regulatory policy issues. |
| 8 | | These cases have involved electric, gas, water and telephone utilities. A list of these |
| 9 | | cases is set forth in Appendix A, with my statement of qualifications. |
| 10 | Q. | WHAT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU ENGAGED IN SINCE |
| 11 | | LEAVING EXETER AS A PRINCIPAL IN 2001? |
| 12 | A. | Since 2001,1 have worked on a variety of consulting assignments pertaining to electric |
| 13 | | restructuring, purchase power contracts, environmental controls, cost of capital and other |
| 14 | | regulatory issues. Current and recent clients include the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. |
| 15 | | Air Force, U.S. Department of Energy, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, |
| 16 | | Connecticut Attorney General, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, New Jersey |
| 17 | | Division of Rate Counsel, Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities, Louisiana Public |
| 18 | | Service Commission, Arkansas Public Service Commission, the Maryland Public Service |
| 19 | | Commission, the Maine Public Advocate, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, |
| 20 | | the Maryland Energy Administration, and MCI. |
| 21 | Q. | HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE NEW JERSEY |
| 22 | | BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES? |
| 23 | A. | Yes. I have testified on cost of capital and other matters before the Board of Public |
| 24 | | Utilities (Board or BPU) in gas, water and electric cases during the past 20 years. |
| 25 | | A listing of those cases is provided in my attached Statement of Qualifications. This |

| 1 | | includes the submission of testimony on rate of return issues in the recent electric and gas |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | service rate cases of New Jersey Natural Gas Company (BPU Docket No. GR07110889), |
| 3 | | Elizabethtown Gas (BPU Docket No. GR09030195) and Public Service Electric and Gas |
| 4 | | Company (BPU Docket Nos. GR05100845 and GR09050422), and United Water New |
| 5 | | Jersey, Inc. (BPU Docket No. WR09120987). I participated in the previous Atlantic City |
| 6 | | Electric Company rate cases on a rate of return issues, including submitting testimony in |
| 7 | | BPU Docket Nos. ER09080664 and ER11080469. In all of these cases, my testimony |
| 8 | | and other work was on behalf of the Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel"). |
| 9 | Q. | ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT |
| 10 | | COMPANY ("JCP&L" OR "THE COMPANY")? |
| 11 | A. | Yes. Although JCP&L has not had a recent base rate case, I have participated in a |
| 12 | | number of JCP&L dockets over the years on behalf of Rate Counsel. This includes |
| 13 | | JCP&L's restructuring/stranded cost case and cases concerning securities issuances and |
| 14 | | reviews of purchase capacity contracts. |

II. OVERVIEW

| 2 A. Summary of Recommendation | 2 | A. | Summary of Recommendation |
|--------------------------------|---|----|---------------------------|
|--------------------------------|---|----|---------------------------|

Q.

A.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. I have been asked by Rate Counsel in this case to develop a recommendation concerning the fair rate of return on the jurisdictional electric distribution utility rate base of JCP&L. This includes both a review of the Company's proposal concerning rate of return and the preparation of an independent study of the cost of common equity. I am providing my recommendation to Rate Counsel's revenue requirement consultant, Mr. Robert Henkes, for use in calculating the Company's annual revenue requirement in this case.

WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S RATE OF RETURN PROPOSAL IN THIS CASE?

As presented in the Company's Schedule SRS-4, the Company requests an authorized overall rate of return of 8.89 percent. The proposed capital structure is indicated as being the Company's actual capital structure at June 30, 2012, adjusted for planned 2013 debt issuances, which includes 53.8 percent common equity and 46.2 percent long-term debt. This capital structure is somewhat more equity rich than the industry proxy groups that the Company and I have used in this case, as discussed later in my testimony. This proposed capital structure excludes any recognition of short-term debt. The Company requests a return on the common equity component of 11.53 percent. The overall rate of return, capital structure and cost of debt recommendations are sponsored by witness Steven R. Staub, and the cost of equity recommendation is sponsored by the Company's consultant, Ms. Pauline Ahern. Ms. Ahern's 11.53 percent return on equity ("ROE") recommendation is based on the results of her various studies. Specifically, using several methodologies she identifies a cost of equity range for JCP&L of 11.45 to 11.60 percent, inclusive of certain cost "adders."

| 1 | Q. | WHAT IS JCP&L'S CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED RETURN ON EQUITY? |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | A. | In JCP&L's last base rate case (BPU Docket No. ER02080506, order dated June 1, |
| 3 | | 2005), the Company was awarded a return on equity of 9.75 percent. As my testimony |
| 4 | | demonstrates, capital costs have declined considerably since that last case and during the |
| 5 | | past decade. Thus, in this case JCP&L is seeking an increase in its authorized rate of |
| 6 | | return on equity of nearly two full percentage points, despite this undeniable and |
| 7 | | substantial capital cost reduction. |
| 8 | Q. | WHAT IS JCP&L'S CORPORATE STRUCTURE? |
| 9 | A. | JCP&L is a wholly-owned subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corporation, which is a corporate |
| 10 | | holding company that owns several other major electric utility operating companies in |
| 11 | | Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Maryland. In addition, FirstEnergy has extensive |
| 12 | | non-regulated operations (mostly merchant generation and energy marketing). |
| 13 | | FirstEnergy acquired through mergers and acquisitions the utilities and other assets of the |
| 14 | | former GPU (which previously owned JCP&L) and Allegheny Energy. |
| 15 | Q. | WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDATION AT THIS TIME ON RATE OF |
| 16 | | RETURN? |
| 17 | A. | As summarized on Schedule MIK-1, page 1 of 1, I am recommending at this time a return |
| 18 | | on JCP&L's jurisdictional electric distribution rate base of 7.76 percent. This includes a |
| 19 | | return on common equity of 9.25 percent and a hypothetical capital structure of |
| 20 | | 50 percent long-term debt and 50 percent common equity. My capital structure |
| 21 | | recommendation rejects the Company's proposed 54 percent equity / 46 percent long- |
| 22 | | term debt capital structure as improper, as explained further in Section III of my |
| 23 | | testimony. However, I concur with the Company's decision to exclude short-term debt |
| 24 | | from capital structure and instead directly assign it to the financing of Construction Work |

| 1 | in Progress ("CWIP"). This recommendation is conditioned on a commitment by JCP&L |
|---|---|
| 2 | to continue this accounting practice. |

Q. WHAT IS YOUR COST OF DEBT RECOMMENDATION?

A.

A. I am using at this time a long-term cost of debt of 6.26 percent, which is higher than the 5.82 percent proposed by witness Staub on behalf of the Company in its filed case. The 6.26 percent cost of debt figure is the actual cost rate at June 30, 2012, inclusive of appropriate recognition of debt-related expenses. Mr. Staub's lower cost rate of 5.82 percent is a projected embedded cost of debt that includes \$500 million of new debt, anticipated to be issued (but to my knowledge not yet issued) in 2013. This new debt is too far beyond the end of the historical test year to be included in the Company's embedded cost of debt and rate of return in this case. Hence, I have excluded this new debt even though doing so increases the overall rate of return.

Q. HOW DOES MS. AHERN DEVELOP HER 11.45 TO 11.60 PERCENT ROE RESULTS?

Ms. Ahern utilizes three basic cost of equity methods: (1) Discounted Cash Flow (DCF); (2) the Risk Premium; and (3) Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM). These three methods are applied to three proxy groups – a group of nine vertically-integrated electric companies, a group of six combination electric/gas utility companies, and a group of non-regulated, non-utility companies that operate in various industries. She reports cost of equity estimates of 8.9 to 10.4 percent using the DCF model, 11.1 to 11.8 percent using the Risk Premium Method and 11.3 percent using the CAPM. Her cost of equity results for the non-utility companies are summarized as being 10.6 to 11.1 percent. Ms. Ahern averages together these results, obtaining a range of 10.7 to 11.15 percent. Finally, she includes two JCP&L-specific "adders" (flotation expense and credit risk) to obtain the final range for JCP&L of 11.45 to 11.60 percent, with 11.53 percent being the midpoint.

| 1 | | Ms. Ahern's studies (and adders), other than her electric utility DCF studies, |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | greatly overstate any realistic estimate of JCP&L's cost of equity and fair return. I |
| 3 | | explain these infirmities and overstatements in detail in Section V of my testimony. |
| 4 | Q. | HOW HAVE YOU DEVELOPED YOUR 9.25 PERCENT ROE |
| 5 | | RECOMMENDATION? |
| 6 | A. | I rely primarily on the use of the DCF model as applied to a proxy group of electric |
| 7 | | distribution utility companies. This produces a range of about 8.3 to 9.5 percent, with a |
| 8 | | midpoint of 8.9 percent. As a secondary analysis, I have applied the DCF model to Ms. |
| 9 | | Ahern's proxy group of vertically-integrated and combination electric/gas electric utility |
| 10 | | companies (removing two companies, as discussed later in my testimony). This proxy |
| 11 | | group study results in a DCF return range estimate of 8.4 to 8.9 percent, with an |
| 12 | | 8.7 percent midpoint. Ms. Ahern's electric utility proxy group is less appropriate in this |
| 13 | | case because it measures (to some degree) the risks associated with generation assets and |
| 14 | | supply, whereas this case sets rates for JCP&L's distribution service. JCP&L ratepayers |
| 15 | | already pay for the risks associated with generation supply in the Basic Generation |
| 16 | | Service ("BGS") charges or in competitive service rates. |
| 17 | | I also have conducted a cost of equity study using the CAPM method, which |
| 18 | | produces even lower results – a cost of equity range of about 7 to 9 percent. However, |
| 19 | | I place little weight on the CAPM results. |
| 20 | | In my opinion, these cost of equity study results, taking into account the recent |
| 21 | | conditions in financial markets, support the reasonableness of my 9.25 percent return on |
| 22 | | equity recommendation for JCP&L at this time, a reduction of 0.5 percent from JCP&L's |
| 23 | | last rate case. In fact, the 9.25 percent is a conservative recommendation given current |
| 24 | | market conditions and my cost of equity evidence. |

| _ | TICLE DOE DE COL CITELED I MICHIEL DIFFERDO | ~~~ · ~ · ~ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
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| () | YOUR ROE RECOMMENDATION DIFFERS | GREATLY FROM THAT OF |
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2 MS. AHERN. HOW DO YOU ACCOUNT FOR THE LARGE DIFFERENCE?
3 A. As explained later, our respective DCF studies do not differ significantly, with both her

studies and mine supporting a cost of equity of about 9 percent or possibly slightly higher. Moreover, the utility DCF studies are the only credible and reliable cost of equity evidence in this case. Ms. Ahern, however, then proceeds to place most of her emphasis on additional methods that are highly unconventional, unrealistic and even poorly explained. In addition, she includes JCP&L-specific "adders" to her proxy group cost of equity results that are improper and impose capital costs premiums that cannot be supported. The 11.53 percent ROE would over compensate JCP&L investors at the

DO YOU CONSIDER JCP&L TO BE A LOW-RISK UTILITY COMPANY?

Yes, very much so. JCP&L provides monopoly electric utility delivery service in its New Jersey service territory, subject to the regulatory oversight of the Board. The Company has a very favorable business risk profile, as emphasized by credit rating agencies, and strong cash flow metrics. One credit rating agency has observed that during 2009 to 2011, the Company paid out 170 percent of its earnings to its corporate parent, demonstrating its very strong financial posture. There is no indication of any material increase in business or financial risk for JCP&L either over time or relative to other electric utilities in recent years. In Section III of my testimony I discuss the business risk attributes for the Company (i.e., along with its parent) including the views of credit rating agencies. This information supports my view that my proxy group DCF results are applicable to JCP&L without the need for a risk adder.

expense of customers.

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| • | \cap | DO YOU HAVE | ANV OTHER | DECOMMEND | VALUE I |
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| • | O. | | ANY OTHER | KECUMINEINDA | 4 HUNS (|

A.

| A. | Yes. I have concerns that JCP&L's credit rating is lower than it should be, based on its |
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| | own business risk attributes, due to its corporate affiliation with FirstEnergy. As |
| | explained in more detail in Section III, I recommend that the Company explore further |
| | "ring fencing" measures that it might take to both improve and protect its credit rating. |
| | The Company should report its findings to the Board within 90 days of an order in this |
| | case. |

Q. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "RING FENCING," AND WHY IS THIS

IMPORTANT FOR JCP&L AND ITS CUSTOMERS?

The evidence from credit rating reports demonstrates that JCP&L's credit ratings are adversely affected by its status as a wholly-owned subsidiary of FirstEnergy, including FirstEnergy's extensive and risky merchant power operations. "Ring fencing" refers to corporate structural protections and business practices that can help separate the utility subsidiary from its riskier parent and corporate affiliates. These measures, if properly designed, could help the utility avoid becoming involved in a bankruptcy in the event of a parent (or affiliate) bankruptcy and/or reduce the likelihood that the utility subsidiary would be downgraded by credit rating agencies due to the parent being downgraded. Properly designed ring fencing measures can help to protect the financial health of the utility, avoid unwarranted credit downgradings, and provide reassurance to utility bond investors.

JCP&L maintains that its corporate structure and business practices already incorporate ring fencing attributes, but these measures appear to be insufficient. I discuss this issue further in Section III of my testimony and recommend investigation of stronger protections that JCP&L might implement.

B. <u>Capital Cost Trends in Recent Years</u>

A.

| Q. | HAVE YOU EXAMINED GENERAL TRENDS IN CAPITAL COSTS IN |
|----|--|
| | RECENT YEARS? |

Yes. I show the capital cost trends since 2002, through calendar year 2012, on page 1 of Schedule MIK-2. Pages 2, 3 and 4 of that Schedule show monthly data for January 2007 through April 2013. The indicators provided include the annualized inflation rate (as measured by the Consumer Price Index), 10-year Treasury yields, 3-month Treasury bill yields and Moody's single A and triple B yields on long-term utility bonds. While there is some fluctuation, these data series show a general declining trend in capital costs. For example, in the very early part of this 10-year period, utility bond yields averaged about 7 to 8 percent, with 10-year Treasury yields of 4 to 5 percent. By 2011, single A utility bond yields had fallen to an average of 5.1 percent, with 10-year Treasury yields declining to an average of 2.8 percent. Within the past year (i.e., calendar 2012 into early 2013), Treasury and utility long-term bond rates have declined even further to near or below the lowest levels in many decades.

For the past three years, short-term Treasury rates have been close to zero, with three-month Treasury bills averaging about 0.1 percent. These extraordinarily low rates (which are also reflected in non-Treasury debt instruments) are the result of an intentional policy of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors (the Fed) to make liquidity available to the U.S. economy and to promote economic activity. The Fed has also sought to exert downward pressure on long-term interest rates through its policy of "quantitative easing." Quantitative easing is a policy whereby the Fed engages on an ongoing basis in the purchase of financial assets (such as Treasury bonds or agency mortgage backed debt),

¹ By law, the Fed has a "dual mandate" to pursue policies both to ensure price stability (i.e., low inflation) and to promote full employment.

both to support the market prices of financial assets and to increase the U.S. money supply. The intent of quantitative easing is to keep the cost of capital low (which increases the value of financial assets such as utility stocks) and make credit both cheaper and more abundant. Although that program ended in the summer of 2012, the Fed announced in September 2012 a continuation of its near zero short-term interest rate policy at least through 2015, and an indefinite continuation of quantitative easing. In its December 12, 2012 meeting, the Fed stated that its low interest rate and accommodative policies would continue at least until a much lower U.S. unemployment rate is achieved (i.e., a target of 6.5 percent), an endeavor which is expected to take several years. As a result, interest rates have remained low and have trended down and, for at least an extended period of time, this very low short- and long-term interest rate and cost of capital environment are expected to continue.

Q. HAS THE FED ISSUED ANY MORE RECENT INFORMATION ON ITS POLICY INTENT?

Yes. Information on Fed policy is from its press release issued on January 30, 2013 following a meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee ("FOMC," the monetary policy decision-making forum for the Fed). That statement affirmed that for the foreseeable future its "highly accommodative" policy will continue until progress toward "maximum employment" is achieved. Specifically, the Fed will continue its near zero short-term interest rate policy and will foster lower long-term interest rates by asset purchases, namely \$85 billion per month of incremental purchases of mortgage-backed securities and long-term Treasury bonds. The FOMC further stated that an accommodative monetary policy "will remain appropriate for a considerable time after the asset purchase program ends and the economic recovery strengthens." In addition, the FOMC observes that inflation trends have been running below its 2 percent per year

| 1 | target level and that "long-term inflation expectations remain stable." The FOMC's |
|---|--|
| 2 | policy outlook, as described above, was broadly confirmed in a press release following its |
| 3 | May 1, 2013 meeting, noting that the Fed will carefully monitor economic conditions and |
| 4 | labor markets. |

ARE THERE FORCES CONTRIBUTING TO LOW INTEREST RATES Q. OTHER THAN FED POLICY?

Yes. While the decline in short-term rates is largely attributable to Fed policy decisions, the behavior of long-term rates reflects more fundamental economic forces, along with the Fed's asset purchase program. Factors that drive down long-term bond interest rates include the ongoing weakness of the U.S. and global macro economy, the inflation outlook and even international events. A weak economy (as we have at this time) exerts downward pressure on interest rates and capital costs generally because the demand for capital is low and inflationary pressures are lacking. While inflation measures can fluctuate from month to month, long-term inflation rate expectations presently remain quite low, as the FOMC recently noted. Europe's Euro-zone continuing sovereign debt crisis likely contributes somewhat to lower U.S. interest rates, as U.S. securities are valued as a relative "safe haven" for global capital. This "safe haven" benefit for U.S. assets may have abated slightly in the last several months, but it could return if Euro-zone financial stability is not achieved and sustained.

DO LOW LONG-TERM INTEREST RATES IMPLY A LOW COST OF **EQUITY FOR UTILITIES?**

In a very general sense and over time, that is normally the case, although the utility cost of equity and cost of debt need not move together precisely in lock step or necessarily in the short run. The economic forces mentioned above (and Fed policy) that lead to lower interest rates also tend to exert downward pressure on the utility cost of equity. After all,

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| 1 | many investors tend to view utility stocks and bonds as alternative investment vehicles |
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| 2 | for portfolio allocation purposes, and in that sense utility stocks and long-term bonds are |
| 3 | related by market forces. |

Q. ARE RELATIVE ECONOMIC WEAKNESS AND LOW INFLATION EXPECTED TO CONTINUE?

Yes, that appears to be the case. I have consulted the latest "consensus" forecasts published by *Blue Chip Economic Indicators* (Blue Chip), May 10, 2013 edition, which is a survey compilation of approximately 40 major forecast organizations. The "consensus" calls for real GDP growth of 2.0 percent in 2013 and 2.7 percent in 2014 and inflation (GDP deflator) of 1.5 percent and 1.9 percent in 2013 and 2014, respectively. The March 2013 edition of Blue Chip publishes a consensus 10-year inflation forecast of 2.1 percent per year, only slightly higher than the near term. Thus, both the near- and long-term economic outlooks are for sluggish economic growth and low inflation, implying low market capital costs.

Q. HAS THE PATTERN BEEN SIMILAR FOR EQUITY MARKETS?

As one would expect, equity markets exhibit more volatility than bond markets. Following the onset of the financial crisis about four years ago, stock market indices plunged, reaching a bottom in March 2009. Since then, stock prices recovered impressively and the major indices have largely recovered to or above pre-crisis levels. The market recovery continued through most of the first half of 2011, but it then began to deteriorate in late July 2011 with the debt ceiling crisis. The second half of 2011 was characterized by significant stock market losses, some recovery and high volatility. The federal debt ceiling debate issue and the subsequent Standard & Poors (S&P) downgrade of Treasury securities may have been initial triggering events for the equity market turmoil during the latter part of 2011. Since 2011, i.e., during most of 2012 and year-to-

A.

| 1 | | date 2013, U.S. equity markets have done quite well. This very noticeable improvement |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | is clearly due to the very low and declining capital market environment (both in the U.S. |
| 3 | | and globally), relative economic stability (albeit with very tepid economic growth), and |
| 4 | | the tendency for investors to view the U.S. market as a "safe haven" for investing. In |
| 5 | | particular, the U.S. provides a very favorable capital cost environment for good quality |
| 6 | | utilities, such as JCP&L. |
| 7 | Q. | HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO INCORPORATE THESE RECENT CHANGES |
| 8 | | IN FINANCIAL MARKETS INTO YOUR COST OF CAPITAL ANALYSIS IN |
| 9 | | THIS CASE? |
| 10 | A. | Yes, to a large extent I have done so. As a general matter, utility stocks have been |
| 11 | | reasonably stable during late 2012 and into early 2013. Specifically, I present DCF |
| 12 | | evidence that relies on utility stock market data from the last two months of 2012 and the |
| 13 | | first four months of 2013. Such market data directly incorporate the economic forces and |
| 14 | | monetary policy choices described above. The use of a recent six months of market data |
| 15 | | is reasonable for assessing JCP&L's current cost of capital as it reflects recent market and |
| 16 | | economic trends. |
| 17 | C. | Overview of Testimony |
| 18 | Q. | HOW HAVE YOU ORGANIZED THE REMAINDER OF YOUR |
| 19 | | TESTIMONY? |
| 20 | A. | Section III of my testimony presents my discussion of the capital structure and cost of |
| 21 | | debt recommended in this case by the Company. This section also discusses JCP&L's |
| 22 | | business risk profile. Section IV presents my cost of equity studies which are based on |
| 23 | | the DCF method, with the application of the CAPM providing a comparison and |

corroboration. Finally, Section V is my review of Ms. Ahern's cost of equity studies, risk

| 1 | adjustments and her 11.45 to 11.60 percent ROE recommendation. Finally, Section VI |
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| 2 | provides a summary of major findings and conclusions. |
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III. CAPITAL STRUCTURE AND JCP&L'S INVESTMENT RISK

WHAT CAPITAL STRUCTURE IS THE COMPANY USING IN THIS CASE?

| 2 A. | Capital Structure/Cost of Debt |
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|-------------|--------------------------------|

Α.

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| 1 | A. | As presented by Mr. Staub, JCP&L proposes a pro forma capital structure consisting of |
|---|----|--|
| 5 | | 53.8 percent common equity, 46.2 percent long-term debt, zero preferred stock and zero |
| 5 | | short-term debt. The Company has excluded short-term debt, even though it has recently |
| 7 | | made substantial use of this type of financing, because on an ongoing basis all short-term |

debt is allocated to CWIP for AFUDC accrual purposes.

The Company developed its proposed capital structure by starting with the actual capital structure at June 30, 2012, removing \$262 million of securitized debt (which specifically pertains to stranded cost recovery). This leaves an actual (adjusted) capital structure of 60.8 percent common equity and 39.2 percent long-term debt. Finally, the Company currently has plans (approved by the Board in Docket No. EF12111053) to issue up to \$750 million in new long-term debt over the next two to three years. Mr. Staub reflects \$500 million of the authorized \$750 million as an adjustment to capital structure, although no indication is given concerning precisely when the new long-term debt will be issued. Inclusion of this additional planned long-term debt modifies the actual capital structure to become 53.8 percent common equity and 46.2 percent long-term debt, which is Mr. Staub's recommendation for rate of return purposes.

Q. DID MR. STAUB ALSO PRESENT THE FIRSTENERGY CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL STRUCTURE?

- Yes, he did, and it is quite different from that of JCP&L. After removing the securitized debt, at June 30, 2012 it becomes 45.8 percent common equity and 54.2 percent long-term debt. This does not include any of the JCP&L planned new debt.
- Q. DO YOU SUPPORT MR. STAUB'S PROPOSED CAPITAL STRUCTURE?

No, I do not, for several reasons. While I do agree with the exclusion of securitized debt and short-term debt, the issuance of the \$500 million of new long-term debt is expected to occur at an unspecified time during 2013. This issuance is too far beyond the end of the historic test year used by JCP&L in this case to be incorporated into the ratemaking capital structure. Absent this adjustment, JCP&L's actual capital structure becomes approximately 61 percent common equity and 39 percent long-term debt, as shown on Schedule SRS-1 sponsored by Mr. Staub.

I find the actual JCP&L June 30, 2012 capital structure to be unacceptable for use in this case for two reasons. First, a 61/39 capital structure as presented by Mr. Staub is overly expensive and unreasonable. The electric utility industry average capital structure is typically closer to 50/50 equity versus debt, and even JCP&L itself has identified a target capital structure range of about 45 to 55 percent common equity. (Company response to RCR-ROR-13.) Thus, it would be imprudent to use the actual 61/39 capital structure. Even the Company acknowledges that "an equity ratio in excess of 55% is not typically considered for rate-making purposes." (*Id.*)

A second and even more serious problem is that a major portion of JCP&L's actual capital structure is goodwill – about \$1.8 billion. This goodwill is an accounting adjustment to the Company's balance sheet that occurred in conjunction with the GPU/FirstEnergy merger approximately a decade ago. As stated in response to RCR-ROR-13, "the \$1.8 billion of goodwill on its [JCP&L's] books represents an allocation of the premium over book value that FirstEnergy paid for GPU." In other words, by including goodwill in the ratemaking capital structure, FirstEnergy is seeking cost recovery (i.e., a higher rate of return on rate base) of its merger acquisition premium. This is improper.

| \cap | WHY IS THE PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE GOODWILL IN CAPITAL |
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| U. | WILL IS THE ENOROSAL TO INCLUDE GOOD WILL IN CAFITAL |

STRUCTURE IMPROPER?

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A. First, a merger acquisition premium should not be considered to be part of the cost of providing utility delivery service. This is a cost that shareholders should be required to bear. Second, the Board's order in approving FirstEnergy's (indirect) acquisition of JCP&L specifically disallowed cost recovery of transactions costs and, in particular, goodwill. Specifically, Paragraph 13 of the Board Order in BPU Docket No. EM00080608 (supplied by the Company in response to RCR-A-2) states that in connection with the 2002 rate case "and in all subsequent rate cases" any costs related to goodwill (along with merger transactions costs and the acquisition premium) "shall not be included in JCP&L's test-year cost of service or otherwise charged to JCP&L's customers for ratemaking purposes." Since the Company's capital structure proposal is part of its ratemaking cost of service and asserted revenue deficiency in this case, using Mr. Staub's proposed capital structure, ratepayers would be charged for goodwill and the FirstEnergy acquisition premium. This is impermissible under the Board's order in the GPU merger docket.

Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S POSITION ON THIS ISSUE?

The Company argues for rate recognition, through capital structure, of its balance sheet goodwill. First, the Company claims that it is necessary to include goodwill in order to derive a reasonable ratemaking capital structure (i.e., one in the 45 to 55 percent range for equity). JCP&L asserts that this will also foster the objective of preserving an investment grade credit rating. (Company response to RCR-ROR-13.) Second, the Company argues that the Board's GPU merger order, while admittedly prohibiting cost recovery of goodwill, did not specifically address the appropriateness of including goodwill in capital structure. (Company response to RCR-ROR-36.)

Q. WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE?

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2 Α. While it is true that the Board's order language on the prohibition of goodwill cost 3 recovery is general, it is simply inaccurate to argue that capital structure determination is 4 not part of ratemaking. Recognition of goodwill produces the very high 61 percent 5 equity / 39 percent long-term debt actual capital structure, which unquestionably 6 increases customer rates. As a matter of comparison, the Board has accepted capital 7 structures of approximately 50 percent equity / 50 percent long-term debt for both 8 Atlantic City Electric Company (ACE) and Public Service Electric & Gas Company 9 (PSE&G) in recent base rate cases. JCP&L's much more expensive capital structure is 10 due only to its inclusion of goodwill. By requiring a blanket prohibition on goodwill cost 11 recovery, there was no need for the Board in its merger order to specify all the contexts in 12 which JCP&L must exclude it in its cost of service – including capital structure. The 13 Board's merger approval order is clear – JCP&L may not include goodwill or the 14 acquisition premium in any aspect or component of its rate case cost of service. This 15 would include capital structure.

Q. WOULD IT BE REASONABLE TO RESTATE JCP&L'S COST OF SERVICE EXCLUDING GOODWILL?

- In theory, such an adjustment would be appropriate. However, in this case, goodwill is so large relative to JCP&L's equity balance (i.e., \$1.8 million out of a total \$2.3 billion), that doing so would produce an imprudent and overleveraged capital structure with too little common equity.
- Q. WOULD THE FIRSTENERGY CORP. CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL
 STRUCTURE BE REASONABLE FOR JCP&L IN THIS CASE?
- A. It would be far more reasonable than the Company's actual of 61 percent equity ratio.

 However, again it would be necessary to remove goodwill from the FirstEnergy actual

capital structure in order to make it acceptable for ratemaking, in conformance with the Board's merger order. Doing so might produce an overly leveraged capital structure.

WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDATION ON CAPITAL STRUCTURE?

I am recommending in this case a hypothetical capital structure that includes 50 percent common equity and 50 percent long-term debt in place of either JCP&L's actual capital structure of 61 percent equity and 39 percent debt and its proposed 54 percent equity and 46 percent debt. The 50/50 capital structure is roughly in line with both my proxy group and Ms. Ahern's two proxy groups. (See my Schedule MIK-3 and Ms. Ahern's Schedule PMA-4 and 5.) It is also approximately consistent with the ratemaking capital structures employed by ACE and PSE&G. Moreover, the 50/50 hypothetical capital structure is the exact midpoint of the 45 to 55 percent target equity ratio range that JCP&L itself has identified as reasonable for credit quality and ratemaking.

Finally, I note that Ms. Ahern has included a credit rating-type upward adjustment or "adder" (i.e., about 0.3 to 0.6 percent) in her recommended ROE for JCP&L. As I explain later, there is no basis for such an adjustment given JCP&L's very favorable business risk profile. Nonetheless, if a very unusual capital structure were to be used for ratemaking, it could be argued that a risk adjustment (related to financial leverage) is needed. This could be a positive or negative adjustment depending on what capital structure is selected. In my opinion, employing a relatively standard 50/50 capital structure – consistent with the various electric utility proxy groups and New Jersey practice – removes any rationale for including Ms. Ahern's upward adjustment to the cost of equity.

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| 1 | Q. | DO YOU HAVE ANY CLARIFICATIONS CONCERNING CAPITAL |
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| 2 | | STRUCTURE? |
| 3 | A. | Yes. I have verified that it is JCP&L's current practice to directly assign short-term debt |
| 4 | | to CWIP for AFUDC rate calculation and accrual purposes. (Company responses to |
| 5 | | RCR-ROR-2 and 7.) My 50/50 hypothetical capital structure recommendation is |
| 6 | | predicated on JCP&L's continuing this practice, which is widespread among electric |
| 7 | | utilities. |
| 8 | Q. | WHAT IS THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE COST OF |
| 9 | | LONG-TERM DEBT? |
| 10 | A. | Mr. Staub identifies an embedded cost of long-term debt of 6.26 percent at June 30, 2012 |
| 11 | | (See Schedule SRS-3.) However, as noted earlier, his capitalization proposal assumes an |
| 12 | | issuance sometime in 2013 of \$500 million in new long-term debt at a cost rate of |
| 13 | | 4.5 percent. This has the effect of lowering the embedded cost of long-term debt to |
| 14 | | 5.82 percent, which is his recommendation in this case. |
| 15 | Q. | DO YOU AGREE WITH THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL? |
| 16 | A. | No, not at this time. As I noted above, the \$500 million long-term debt issue (or issues) |
| 17 | | is presumed to take place sometime in 2013 – too far beyond the end of the historic test |
| 18 | | year for inclusion in this case. Thus, I am instead adopting the actual June 30, 2012 |
| 19 | | embedded cost rate of 6.26 percent shown by Mr. Staub. Please note that the |
| 20 | | 6.26 percent includes all long-term debt-related expenses. |
| 21 | В. | JCP&L's Risk and Credit Profile |
| 22 | Q. | HAVE COMPANY WITNESSES THOROUGHLY EXPLORED JCP&L'S |
| 23 | | BUSINESS RISK PROFILE? |
| 24 | A. | Ms. Ahern does provide some discussion of JCP&L's business risks in her testimony, but |
| 25 | | it is relatively limited and somewhat misleading. In the end, she erroneously concludes |

| 1 | | that JCP&L is riskier than the companies in her two proxy groups based on "credit risk" |
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| 2 | | and imputes large risk premiums for the Company in her final cost of equity |
| 3 | | recommendation range of 11.45-11.60 percent. |
| 4 | | Ms. Ahern discusses the Company's business risks on pages 5-11 of her direct |
| 5 | | testimony, finding that JCP&L is an above-average risk company (presumably that means |
| 6 | | as compared to the electric utility industry). In fact, she finds that "JCP&L faces |
| 7 | | extraordinary business risks." (Page 6.) She identifies the following risks specific to |
| 8 | | JCP&L that allegedly make it "extraordinarily" risky: |
| 9 10 | | JCP&L is subject to regulatory lag, exacerbated in this case by the Board's order to file a rate case using a historical test year. |
| 11 | | • JCP&L potentially could be subject to penalties related to service outages. |
| 12 13 | | Energy efficiency and solar installations, along with sluggish economic growth, translate into slow sales growth. |
| 14 15 | | • The Company's relatively small size is also asserted by Ms. Ahern to be a risk factor. |
| 16 | | On the other hand, Ms. Ahern concedes that JCP&L has a risk advantage due to |
| 17 | | its status as a delivery service only utility (as compared to utilities with generation |
| 18 | | assets). Consequently, balancing the negative risk factors listed above with JCP&L's |
| 19 | | "T&D only" status, she concludes that "no business risk adjustment is warranted." (Id.) |
| 20 | Q. | DOES THIS MEAN THAT SHE REJECTS THE NEED FOR A RISK |
| 21 | | ADJUSTMENT? |
| 22 | A. | No, despite her finding that "no business risk adjustment is warranted," she nonetheless |
| 23 | | includes a large risk adder (midpoint of nearly 0.5 percent) based on what she calls |
| 24 | | "credit risk," i.e., the assertion that JCP&L has a weaker than average credit rating and |
| 25 | | therefore is a riskier company. She does so despite acknowledging that credit ratings |

cannot provide a quantitative measure of equity risk. (Id., page 13.) Presumably, this

| 1 | statement is merely an observation that credit ratings measure risks associated with bonds |
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| 2 | (i.e., bond default risk) and not equity risk. |

WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE FOUR BUSINESS RISKS Q. **DISCUSSED BY MS. AHERN?**

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The first three (i.e., rate cases/regulatory lag, weak or uncertain sales growth, and service quality issues) appear to be routine business risks that affect virtually all electric utilities, and there is no demonstration by Ms. Ahern that such risks are above average or more acute for JCP&L as compared to the industry or her proxy group. The regulatory lag argument appears to be particularly curious since JCP&L has not sought to increase its base rates in many years and has resisted Board review of its current earnings adequacy. One normally thinks of regulatory lag as being the slowness of the ratemaking process, causing earnings to erode. If a utility voluntarily stays out of rate cases for many years, it may be because it has benefitted from regulatory lag. In this regard, Ms. Ahern has provided no evidence that JCP&L has been harmed by regulatory lag.

Ms. Ahern also has not presented any analysis showing that sluggish growth conditions and the potential for service quality penalties are any more severe for JCP&L than the rest of the industry (or her proxy companies). This is not to suggest that JCP&L is risk-free; merely that there is no persuasive evidence that it is above average in risk. To the contrary, it appears that JCP&L is below average in risk (as a delivery service utility), although I make no adjustment for this relatively low risk.

Finally, there is no merit whatsoever to her suggestion that JCP&L is risky because of its relatively "small size." To begin with, she has no persuasive evidence that among electric utilities size is a material equity risk factor. More importantly, JCP&L is hardly small, with a roughly \$4 billion capitalization. Ms. Ahern appears to reach the erroneous conclusion on relative size by comparing JCP&L (which is a single utility)

| 1 | | with holding companies which in most cases consist of multiple utilities (e.g., American |
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| 2 | | Electric Power, Southern Company, Xcel Energy, etc.) JCP&L is wholly-owned by |
| 3 | | FirstEnergy, which is much larger than most of her proxy companies. JCP&L, of course, |
| 4 | | contributes to FirstEnergy's large size and scale economies. |
| 5 | Q. | MS. AHERN'S BOTTOM LINE IS THAT A RISK ADJUSTMENT IS |
| 6 | | NEEDED DUE TO JCP&L'S WEAKER THAN AVERAGE CREDIT RATING. |
| 7 | | WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE? |
| 8 | A. | This appears to be based on a compilation of "bond" ratings shown on page 5 of Schedule |
| 9 | | PMA-8 using Moody's and S&P ratings information. The most dramatic difference is |
| 10 | | JCP&L's relatively weak rating of BBB- (i.e., the lowest investment grade rating) from |
| 11 | | S&P as compared to a proxy group average of BBB+ (i.e., strong triple B). From this |
| 12 | | information, one might be tempted to conclude that JCP&L is riskier than the group. The |
| 13 | | problem here is that JCP&L's weak credit rating is caused by JCP&L's affiliation with |
| 14 | | FirstEnergy and its non-regulated operation. I demonstrate this problem later in this |
| 15 | | section of my testimony. |
| 16 | | To the extent that FirstEnergy is the source of the JCP&L credit rating problem, |
| 17 | | Ms. Ahern's risk adder is both improper and may be a violation of the Board order |
| 18 | | approving the GPU merger. Paragraph 14 (cited on page 23) of the Board order states as |
| 19 | | follows: |
| 20 21 22 23 24 | | FirstEnergy shall not subject JCP&L's customers to any financial costs, risks or consequences from subsidiaries Ohio Edison, Pennsylvania Power, or any other of FirstEnergy's nuclear or fossil generation operations (i.e., non-JCP&L facilities and contracts) |
| 25 | | (Supplied in response to RCR-A-2.) |
| 26 | | It seems clear that Ms. Ahern has violated this directive by recommending that JCP&L |
| 27 | | customers pay a risk premium associated with FirstEnergy unregulated, merchant |

| 1 | | generation operations. Consequently, this adjustment must be rejected, along with any |
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| 2 | | suggestion that JCP&L is riskier than average. |
| 3 | Q. | DO CREDIT RATING AGENCIES FIND JCP&L TO BE AN INHERENTLY |
| 4 | | RISKY COMPANY? |
| 5 | A. | No, not at all. I have reviewed the credit rating reports for JCP&L published in late 2012 |
| 6 | | from S&P, Moody's and FitchRatings supplied in response to S-JREV-6 and RCR-ROR- |
| 7 | | 5. All three credit rating agencies depict a company with a very favorable business risk |
| 8 | | profile and reach similar findings. |
| 9 | | Moody's report of November 19, 2012 rates JCP&L Baa(2) with its senior |
| 10 | | secured debt rated A3. It rates the FirstEnergy parent Baa(3) which is a weaker rating. |
| 11 | | The report finds that JCP&L has a low-risk profile, with its positives being "predictable" |
| 12 | | and "supportive" regulation, a diverse service territory and strong and stable cash flow |
| 13 | | that in recent years has fully covered capital expenditures. In fact, during 2009-2011, |
| 14 | | JCP&L paid out 170 percent of its earnings as dividends to FirstEnergy parent. Moody's |
| 15 | | emphasizes that New Jersey regulation has permitted full recovery of all default service |
| 16 | | and NUG costs. According to Moody's, JCP&L "benefits from a monopoly in its service |
| 17 | | territory" for utility delivery service which results in "a relatively low level of business |
| 18 | | risk." |
| 19 | | S&P rates JCP&L as having an "Excellent" business risk profile, citing to the |
| 20 | | same favorable attributes as the Moody's report. (Report of September 19, 2012.) |
| 21 | | Specifically, the report finds: |
| 22 23 24 25 26 | | JCP&L's excellent business risk profile reflects its rate- regulated, monopolistic, and essential service. We view the transmission and distribution operations as lower risk than the regulated generation business that is included in many fully integrated electric utilities. |

| 1 | | Contrary to Ms. Anem's assertion, S&P finds that JCP&L's business risk profile is only |
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| 2 | | marginally affected by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities requiring JCP&L to file a |
| 3 | | base rate case." |
| 4 | | Despite these highly favorable risk attributes, S&P assigns JCP&L a relatively |
| 5 | | weak credit rating, due to its affiliation with FirstEnergy, i.e., BBB- which is S&P's |
| 6 | | lowest investment grade rating. |
| 7 8 9 | | Our corporate credit rating on JCP&L is materially affected by its affiliation with FirstEnergy's competitive energy business. (<i>Id.</i>) |
| 10 | | Specifically, the JCP&L credit ratings "reflect the consolidated credit profile of parent |
| 11 | | FirstEnergy," which S&P finds to be much riskier than JCP&L and with an "aggressive" |
| 12 | | (i.e., far more leveraged) financial profile. |
| 13 | Q. | WHAT IS THE ASSESSMENT OF FITCHRATINGS? |
| 14 | A. | FitchRatings assigns JCP&L a corporate credit rating of BBB (medium triple B) with a |
| 15 | | senior secured rating of BBB+ (stable). As with S&P and Moody's, FitchRatings finds |
| 16 | | that JCP&L has a "relatively low business risk profile and a reasonably balanced |
| 17 | | regulatory environment" with "no commodity price exposure." (Report of |
| 18 | | August 23, 2012). While noting that the mandated rate case is a near term source of |
| 19 | | uncertainty, FitchRatings describes the rate case as "a modest negative development." |
| 20 | | As is the case with S&P (though much less explicit), FitchRatings uses JCP&L's |
| 21 | | affiliation with FirstEnergy as a negative factor for credit quality. The report states that |
| 22 | | JCP&L's ratings "reflect linkage with its corporate parent." The report warns that, |
| 23 | | "Parent company downgrade and intercompany credit linkages could lead to future |
| 24 | | adverse credit actions." |

| Q. | WHAT DO YOU CONCLUDE FROM YOUR REVIEW OF THESE |
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| REPORTS? |
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The credit rating agencies concur in their review that JCP&L has a very favorable business profile based on its status as a monopoly utility, the absence of generation assets and operations, supportive New Jersey regulation, a favorable and diverse service territory, and strong and stable cash flows. Unfortunately, at least in the case of S&P and FitchRatings (Moody's is less clear on this issue), JCP&L's credit rating is impaired and weakened by its affiliation with FirstEnergy's non-utility operations.

The corporate affiliation problem raises at least two issues in this case. First, Ms. Ahern's ROE risk adder, which is based entirely on credit ratings, must be rejected as having nothing whatsoever to do with JCP&L's intrinsic business risk profile. Moreover, including the adder violates the Board's GPU merger order. Second, even if there is no ROE adder, there is a legitimate concern that the FirstEnergy affiliation may have improperly elevated JCP&L's cost of long-term debt, which is a relatively high 6.26 percent (and may do so in the future). If this has occurred, it also would violate that same Board order.

In light of this concern, I recommend that JCP&L investigate whether it could improve its credit quality by implementing "ring fencing" measures. Specifically, within 90 days of a Board final order in this case, JCP&L should report back on the costs, benefits and feasibility of potential ring fencing measures that it might take to further separate itself from credit risks associated with the FirstEnergy non-utility operations as a means of strengthening its credit ratings.

In making this recommendation, I am cognizant that JCP&L states that it already has in place some ring fencing attributes or measures. (Company response to RCR-ROR-10.) For example, the Company cites as ring fencing measures the restrictions on the

| operation of the Money Pool, the fact it issues its own long-term debt, JCP&L stand- |
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| alone financial statements, and the fact that JCP&L does not use its assets to secure |
| parent or affiliate debt. However, it seems apparent these measures have not been fully |
| successful, as judged by the S&P and FitchRatings reports and as JCP&L's weak S&P |
| BBB- ratings. JCP&L has not succeeded in separating its own credit ratings from those |
| of its parent. This should not be the basis for charging excess rates to customers. The |
| managements of JCP&L and FirstEnergy should be required to address this credit rating |
| issue. |

| 1 | | IV. COST OF COMMON EQUITY |
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| 2 | A. | Using the DCF Model |
| 3 | Q. | WHAT STANDARD ARE YOU USING TO DEVELOP YOUR RETURN ON |
| 4 | | EQUITY RECOMMENDATION? |
| 5 | A. | As a general matter, the ratemaking process is designed to provide the utility an |
| 6 | | opportunity to recover its prudently-incurred costs of providing utility service to its |
| 7 | | customers, including the reasonable costs of financing its used and useful investment. |
| 8 | | Consistent with this "cost-based" approach, the fair and appropriate return on equity |
| 9 | | award for a utility is its cost of equity. The utility's cost of equity is the return required |
| 10 | | by investors (i.e., the "market return") to acquire or hold that company's common stock. |
| 11 | | A return award greater than the market return would be excessive and would overcharge |
| 12 | | customers for utility service. Similarly, an insufficient return could unduly weaken the |
| 13 | | utility and impair incentives to invest. |
| 14 | | Although the concept of the cost of equity may be precisely stated, its |
| 15 | | quantification poses challenges to regulators. The market cost of equity, unlike most |
| 16 | | other utility costs, cannot be directly observed (i.e., investors do not directly, |
| 17 | | unambiguously state their return requirements), and it therefore must be estimated using |
| 18 | | analytic techniques. The DCF model is one such prominent technique familiar to |
| 19 | | analysts, this Board and other utility regulators. |
| 20 | Q. | IS THE COST OF EQUITY A FAIR RETURN AWARD FOR THE UTILITY |
| 21 | | AND ITS CUSTOMERS? |
| 22 | A. | Generally speaking, I believe it is. A return award commensurate with the cost of equity |
| 23 | | generally provides fair and reasonable compensation to utility equity investors and |

normally should allow efficient utility management to successfully finance utility

| operations on reasonable terms. | Setting the authorized return on equity equal to a |
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| reasonable estimate of the cost of | of equity also is generally fair to ratepayers. |

I recognize that there can be exceptions to this general rule. For example, in some instances, utilities have obtained rate of return adders as a reward for asserted good management performance or lowered returns where performance is subpar. In this case, the Company is making no explicit request to raise JCP&L's authorized equity return above Ms. Ahern's cost of equity range of results, inclusive of her adders.

WHAT DETERMINES A COMPANY'S COST OF EQUITY?

It should be understood that the cost of equity is essentially a market price, and as such, it is ultimately determined by the forces of supply and demand operating in financial markets. In that regard, there are two key factors that determine this price. First, a company's cost of equity is determined by the fundamental conditions in capital markets (e.g., outlook for inflation, monetary policy, changes in investor behavior, investor asset preferences, the general business environment, etc.). The second factor (or set of factors) is the business and financial risks of the company (the utility in this case) in question. For example, the fact that a utility company operates as a regulated monopoly, dedicated to providing an essential service (in this case electric utility distribution service), typically would imply very low business risk and therefore a relatively low cost of equity. JCP&L's balance sheet or financial strength and the favorable (i.e., "excellent") business risk profile, as assessed by credit rating agencies (i.e., Moody's, FitchRatings and S&P), also contribute to its relatively low cost of equity.

Q. DOES MS. AHERN INCORPORATE THESE PRINCIPLES IN HER TESTIMONY?

A. By and large, Ms. Ahern does attempt to incorporate these principles. Her various studies purport to estimate the market-based cost of capital, and she uses those results as

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| 1 | | the basis for her recommendation. However, I take issue with some of her data inputs, |
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| 2 | | assumptions and methods. It is particularly inappropriate to use the return requirements |
| 3 | | for non-regulated companies as the basis for setting the fair return for JCP&L. |
| 4 | Q. | WHAT METHODS ARE YOU USING IN THIS CASE? |
| 5 | A. | I employ both the DCF and CAPM models, applied to two proxy groups of electric utility |
| 6 | | companies. However, for reasons discussed in my testimony, I emphasize the DCF |
| 7 | | model results (as applied to my electric distribution utility proxy group) in formulating |
| 8 | | my recommendation. It has been my experience that most utility regulatory commissions |
| 9 | | (federal and state), including New Jersey, heavily emphasize the use of the DCF model to |
| 10 | | determine the cost of equity and setting the fair return. As a check (and partly to respond |
| 11 | | to Ms. Ahern), I also perform a CAPM study which also is based on the electric |
| 12 | | distribution utility proxy group companies used in my testimony. |
| 13 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE THE DCF MODEL. |
| 1.4 | | |
| 14 | A. | As mentioned, this model has been widely relied upon by the regulatory community, |
| 15 | A. | As mentioned, this model has been widely relied upon by the regulatory community, including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that |
| | A. | |
| 15 | A. | including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that |
| 15 16 | A. | including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that the model is market-based and is derived from standard economic/financial theory. The |
| 15 16 17 | A. | including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that the model is market-based and is derived from standard economic/financial theory. The model, as typically used, is also transparent and generally understandable. I do not |
| 15 16 17 18 | A. | including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that the model is market-based and is derived from standard economic/financial theory. The model, as typically used, is also transparent and generally understandable. I do not believe that an obscure or highly arcane model would receive the same degree of |
| 15 16 17 18 19 | A. | including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that the model is market-based and is derived from standard economic/financial theory. The model, as typically used, is also transparent and generally understandable. I do not believe that an obscure or highly arcane model would receive the same degree of regulatory acceptance. |
| 15 16 17 18 19 20 | A. | including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that the model is market-based and is derived from standard economic/financial theory. The model, as typically used, is also transparent and generally understandable. I do not believe that an obscure or highly arcane model would receive the same degree of regulatory acceptance. The theory begins by recognizing that any publicly-traded common stock (utility |
| 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 | A. | including this Board. Its widespread acceptance among regulators is due to the fact that the model is market-based and is derived from standard economic/financial theory. The model, as typically used, is also transparent and generally understandable. I do not believe that an obscure or highly arcane model would receive the same degree of regulatory acceptance. The theory begins by recognizing that any publicly-traded common stock (utility or otherwise) will sell at a price reflecting the discounted stream of cash flows <i>expected</i> |

as follows:

 $K_e = (Do/Po) (1 + 0.5g) + g$, where:

 $K_e = cost of equity;$

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3 Do = the current annualized dividend;

Po = stock price at the current time; and

g = the long-term annualized dividend growth rate.

This is referred to as the constant growth DCF model, because for mathematical simplicity it is assumed that the growth rate is constant for an indefinitely long time period. While this assumption may be unrealistic in many cases, for traditional utilities (which tend to be more stable than most unregulated companies) the assumption generally is reasonable, particularly when applied to a group of companies.

HOW HAVE YOU APPLIED THIS MODEL?

Strictly speaking, the model can be applied only to publicly traded companies, i.e., companies whose market prices (and therefore market valuations) are transparently revealed. Consequently, the model cannot be applied to JCP&L, which is a whollyowned subsidiary of FirstEnergy parent, and therefore, a market proxy is needed. In theory, FirstEnergy, JCP&L's parent, could serve as that market proxy, but I have not included it as a member of my electric distribution utility proxy group. I exclude FirstEnergy because it has extensive non-utility operations that are considered far riskier than JCP&L's electric delivery service. Ms. Ahern also excludes FirstEnergy from her group. More importantly, I am reluctant to rely upon a single-company DCF study (nor does Ms. Ahern), although in theory that approach could be used.

In any case, I believe that an appropriately selected proxy group is likely to be far more reliable than a single company study. This is because there is "noise" or fluctuations in stock price or other data that cannot always be readily accounted for in a

| simple DCF study. The use of an appropriate and robust proxy group helps to allow suc |
|---|
| "data anomalies" to cancel out in the averaging process. |

For the same reason, I prefer to use market data that are relatively current but averaged over a period of six months rather than purely relying upon "spot" market data. It is important to recall that this is not an academic exercise but involves the setting of "permanent" utility rates that are likely to be in effect for several years. The practice of averaging market data over a period of several months also can add stability to the results.

Q. IN EMPLOYING THE DCF MODEL, HOW DID YOU SELECT YOUR PROXY GROUP?

I am using a proxy group that consists of the five companies included in the Value Line Electric Industry Group that are predominantly in the delivery service utility business. That is, all five companies are mostly or entirely electric (and in some cases combination electric/gas) distribution and transmission ("T&D") utilities. None is considered "vertically integrated" or has substantial unregulated generation. Also, all but one are located in the mid-Atlantic or northeast, all five operate in Regional Transmission Organizations ("RTOs"), and all five provide for retail access. Only one company, Centerpoint Energy, is located outside the Northeast, operating in Texas (i.e., in ERCOT).

As a second study, I use Ms. Ahern's vertically-integrated electric (and combination electric/gas) proxy companies. However, this group of companies is less appropriate as a risk proxy for JCP&L, since the cost of equity embodies generation-related risk.

| 1 | Q. | IS YOUR DELIVERY SERVICE PROXY GROUP THE SAME AS YOU |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | EMPLOYED IN RECENT PAST CASES? |
| 3 | A. | No, I was required to eliminate certain companies due to recent merger (i.e., acquisition) |
| 4 | | activity. This includes NSTAR, Central Vermont and C.H. Energy. NSTAR and Central |
| 5 | | Vermont have been acquired and therefore are no longer publically traded, nor are they |
| 6 | | included in the Value Line data base. C.H. Energy is in the process of being acquired by |
| 7 | | a Canadian company. |
| 8 | | As a result of these deletions, I checked to see if other companies in the Value |
| 9 | | Line data base would qualify as being predominantly delivery service electric utilities, |
| 10 | | and I thereby added Centerpoint Energy. |
| 11 | | The three necessary deletions and the one addition produce a five-company proxy |
| 12 | | group of electric utility delivery service companies, all of which substantially lack |
| 13 | | regulated and unregulated generation assets. |
| 14 | Q. | DO THE PROXY COMPANIES HAVE ANY RELATIVELY RISKY NON- |
| 15 | | REGULATED OPERATIONS? |
| 16 | A. | Yes, there are some, but they are relatively modest. For example, with the recent sale of |
| 17 | | its merchant generation assets, PHI has reduced non-regulated operations to a very small |
| 18 | | percentage of the total consolidated corporation. These non-regulated operations tend to |
| 19 | | increase the cost of equity relative to being a pure delivery service utility, but only |
| 20 | | slightly. On the whole, my proxy group is an appropriate risk proxy for JCP&L despite |
| 21 | | the minor presence of non-regulated operations. |
| 22 | В. | DCF Study Using the Electric Distribution Utility Proxy Group |
| 23 | Q. | PLEASE IDENTIFY THE FIVE COMPANIES INCLUDED IN YOUR |
| 24 | | ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITY PROXY GROUP. |

| 1 | Α. | These five proxy companies are listed on Schedule MIK-3, page 1 of 2, along with |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | several risk indicators. |
| 3 | Q. | HAVE EITHER YOU OR MS. AHERN PROPOSED A SPECIFIC BUSINESS |
| 4 | | RISK ADJUSTMENT TO THE DCF COST OF EQUITY BETWEEN THE |
| 5 | | PROXY COMPANY AVERAGE AND JCP&L? |
| 6 | A. | I have not reflected an explicit adjustment for risk since I believe that there is no basis for |
| 7 | | asserting that JCP&L is riskier than the average company. Ms. Ahern reflects a risk |
| 8 | | adjustment of 0.3 to 0.6 percent based on JCP&L's allegedly weaker credit rating as |
| 9 | | compared to the proxy companies. As explained in Section III, such an adjustment is not |
| 10 | | proper. |
| 11 | Q. | HOW HAVE YOU APPLIED THE DCF MODEL TO THIS GROUP? |
| 12 | A. | I have elected to use a six-month time period to measure the dividend yield component |
| 13 | | (Do/Po) of the DCF formula. Using the Standard & Poor's Stock Guide, I compiled the |
| 14 | | month-ending dividend yields for the six months ending April 2013, the most recent data |
| 15 | | available to me as of this writing. This covers the last two months of 2012 and the |
| 16 | | beginning of 2013. As a general matter, this six months has been a time period of an |
| 17 | | improving stock market, although less so for utilities than the broader markets. |
| 18 | | I show these dividend yield data on page 2 of Schedule MIK-4 for each month |
| 19 | | and each proxy company, November 2012 through April 2013. Over this six-month |
| 20 | | period the proxy group average dividend yields indicate a steady but declining trend from |
| 21 | | a high of 4.44 percent in November 2012 to a low of 3.88 percent in April 2013, |
| 22 | | averaging 4.24 percent for the full six months. |
| 23 | | For DCF purposes and at this time, I am using a proxy group dividend yield of |
| 24 | | 4.24 percent. |
| 25 | Q. | IS 4.24 PERCENT YOUR FINAL DIVIDEND YIELD? |

Not quite. Strictly speaking, the dividend yield used in the model should be the value the investor expects to receive over the next 12 months. Using the standard "half year" growth rate adjustment technique, the DCF adjusted yield becomes 4.3 percent. This is based on assuming that half of a year growth is 2.25 percent (i.e., a full year growth is 4.5 percent).

DOES MS. AHERN EMPLOY THE SAME GROWTH RATE ADJUSTMENT? I understand that Ms. Ahern also employs this standard half-year growth adjustment to the measured dividend yield. Ms. Ahern also employs stock market data (and other public data) as of September 2012, i.e., approximately nine months ago. Her study

therefore reflects equity market conditions as of late 2012.

HOW HAVE YOU DEVELOPED YOUR GROWTH RATE COMPONENT?

Unlike the dividend yield, the investor growth rate cannot be directly observed but instead must be inferred through a review of available evidence. The growth rate in question is the *long-run* dividend per share growth rate, but analysts frequently use earnings growth as a proxy for (long-term) dividend growth. This is because in the long-run earnings are the ultimate source of dividend payments to shareholders, and this is likely to be particularly true for a large group of utility companies.

One possible approach is to examine historical growth as a guide to investor expected future growth, for example the recent five-year or ten-year growth in earnings, dividends and book value per share. However, my experience with utilities in recent years is that these historic measures have been somewhat volatile and are not necessarily reliable as prospective measures. I note that Ms. Ahern does not rely upon historical growth rates as an indicator of long-term growth for her proxy companies for DCF purposes. The DCF growth rate should be prospective, and one useful source of information on prospective growth is the projections of earnings per share growth rates

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| 1 | | (typically five years) prepared by securities analysts and reported in public surveys. It |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | appears that Ms. Ahern places exclusive weight on this information for her DCF studies, |
| 3 | | and while I agree that it warrants substantial emphasis, it should not be relied upon |
| 4 | | exclusively. |
| 5 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ANALYST EARNINGS GROWTH RATE |
| 6 | | EVIDENCE. |
| 7 | A. | Schedule MIK-4, page 3 presents five available and well-known public sources of analyst |
| 8 | | earnings growth rate projections. Four of these five sources YahooFinance, |
| 9 | | MSNMoney, Reuters and CNNfn provide averages from securities analyst surveys |
| 10 | | conducted by or for these organizations (typically they report the mean or median value). |
| 11 | | The fifth, Value Line, is that organization's own estimates and is available publically on a |
| 12 | | subscription basis. Value Line publishes its own projections using annual average |
| 13 | | earnings per share for a base period of 2010-2012 compared to the annual average for the |
| 14 | | forecast period of 2016-2018. These are very similar to the sources used by Ms. Ahern |
| 15 | | for securities analyst growth rates in her September 2012 DCF studies. |
| 16 | | As this schedule shows, the growth rates for individual companies vary somewhat |
| 17 | | among the five sources. These proxy group averages are 5.8 percent for CNNfn, |
| 18 | | 5.4 percent for YahooFinance, 5.2 percent for MSNMoney, 4.8 percent for Reuters and |
| 19 | | 4.9 percent for Value Line. Thus, the range of growth rates among the five sources is |
| 20 | | 4.8 to 5.8 percent. The average of these five sources is 5.2 percent, and I have used these |
| 21 | | results (along with other evidence) in obtaining a reasonable range growth range for the |
| 22 | | group of 4.0 to 5.2 percent. |
| 23 | Q. | IS THERE ANY OTHER EVIDENCE THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED? |
| 24 | A. | Yes. There are a number of reasons why investor expectations of long-run growth could |
| 25 | | differ from the limited, five-year earnings growth rate projections prepared by securities |

analysts. Consequently, while securities analyst estimates should be considered and given significant weight, these growth rates should be subject to a reasonableness test and corroboration, to the extent feasible.

On Schedule MIK-4, page 4 of 5, I have compiled three other measures of growth published by Value Line, i.e., growth rates of dividends and book value per share and the long-run retained earnings growth. (Retained earnings growth reflects the growth over time one would expect from the reinvestment of retained earnings, i.e., earnings not paid out as dividends.) As shown on this schedule, these growth measures for the five proxy companies tend to be somewhat less (on average) than analyst growth projections. For the five companies, projected dividend growth averages 2.7 percent, book value growth averages 4.3 percent, and earnings retention growth averages 3.6 percent.

Some analysts and regulators favor the use of earnings retention growth (often referred to as "sustainable growth"), which Value Line indicates to be 3.6 percent. However, at least in theory, the sustainable growth rate also should include "an adder" to reflect potential future earnings growth from issuing new common stock at prices above book value (referred to as "external growth" or the "s x v" factor). In practice, this is difficult to estimate since future stock issuances of companies over the long-term are an unknown and rarely discussed by analysts. Nonetheless, I have estimated this "external growth" factor using Value Line projections for these five companies of the growth rate (through 2016-2018) in shares outstanding, along with the current stock price premium over book value. This is a common method for calculating the external growth factor. For these five companies, the external growth rate calculated in this manner averages about 0.2 percent. (Note that two of the five proxy companies are not expected to issue any new stock in the near term.) The sum of "internal" or earnings retention growth (i.e., 3.6 percent) and the "external" growth rate (i.e., 0.2 percent) is 3.8 percent.

| Given this estimate of 3.8 percent for the sustainable growth rate and 5.2 percent |
|---|
| for analyst earnings projections, a reasonable DCF growth rate range is approximately |
| 4.0 to 5.2 percent. |

ARE THERE ANY OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER?

A.

Q.

A.

Yes. Ms. Ahern estimates a flotation expense adder for JCP&L of 0.15 percent, and she directly includes it in her find recommended range. She develops this adjustment based on historic flotation expenses incurred by FirstEnergy nearly ten years ago, i.e., in 2003.

I have not reflected an adjustment for the recovery of flotation expense in my cost of equity estimate. There is no need to include in rates being set in this case an expense that was incurred by the parent company approximately ten years ago. More importantly, there is no indication of a public issuance of common stock by FirstEnergy (and therefore flotation expense) for the foreseeable future. For example, the *Value Line Investment Survey* projects almost no increase in FirstEnergy's shares outstanding during the next five years. (*Value Line* report as of May 24, 2013).

Q. WHAT IS YOUR DCF CONCLUSION?

I summarize my DCF analysis on page 1 of Schedule MIK-4. The adjusted dividend yield for the six months ending April 2013 is 4.3 percent for this group. Available evidence would support a long-run growth rate in the range of approximately 4.0 to 5.2 percent, as explained above. Summing the adjusted yield and growth rate range, with no flotation adjustment, produces a total return of 8.3 to 9.5 percent, and a midpoint result of 8.9 percent. Reliance on analyst earnings projections would tend to support a result toward the upper end of that range, while the sustainable growth rate produces a lower end DCF result.

| 1 | Q. | HOW DOES YOUR 8.9 PERCENT DCF MIDPOINT COMPARE TO MS. |
|---|----|---|
| 2 | | AHERN'S DCF ESTIMATE FOR HIS PROXY GROUP? |
| _ | | |

- 3 A. Ms. Ahern reports DCF estimates of about 8.9 and 10.4 percent for her two proxy groups.
- 4 Section V of my testimony discusses her results in more detail.

5 C. <u>DCF Study Using Ms. Ahern's Proxy Companies</u>

- Q. HOW HAVE YOU CONDUCTED YOUR DCF STUDY USING MS. AHERN'S
 PROXY COMPANIES?
- As an important check on my electric distribution utility DCF study, I have conducted an additional DCF study using 13 of Ms. Ahern's 15 proxy companies. I list all 13 proxy companies along with their risk indicators on page 2 of Schedule MIK-3. I have conducted this DCF study using essentially the same analytic procedures as I used in my distribution electric utility DCF study.
- 13 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THESE COMPANIES.
- 14 A. All of Ms. Ahern's proxy companies indeed are predominantly regulated electric utilities, 15 but in all cases, except one, they are vertically-integrated electric utilities. This means 16 they have regulated generation supply operations. One utility, Southern Company, is 17 located in the East region, and all others are in the Midwest or West Regions of the U.S. 18 They therefore operate in business environments and have business models quite 19 different from JCP&L. Most of these companies have extensive coal-fired power plants 20 and therefore face difficult issues of compliance with emerging environmental rules 21 which will require financial and operational challenges. Southern Company is presently 22 embarking on a massive and very expensive nuclear generation expansion plan. While 23 this group on the whole can be considered to be predominantly regulated, some have 24 important non-regulated operations. For these reasons, I consider this group, on average, 25 to have greater business risk than JCP&L.

| 1 | Q. | YOU STATE THAT YOU HAVE ELIMINATED TWO OF MS. AHERN'S |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | PROXY COMPANIES. WHY DID YOU DO SO? |
| 3 | A. | I eliminated NV Energy and UNS Energy from the proxy group because both companies |
| 4 | | have S&P credit ratings below investment grade (i.e., BB+). This low rating is quite |
| 5 | | unusual for electric utility companies and means these two companies are considered |
| 6 | | "junk" rated. (See Exhibit JC-6, Schedule PMA-8, page 5.) In my opinion, a non- |
| 7 | | investment grade company is not an appropriate risk proxy for JCP&L. |
| 8 | | Although I have removed these two companies from my analysis, I do not believe |
| 9 | | doing so materially changes my DCF results. |
| 10 | Q. | WHAT IS THE DIVIDEND YIELD FOR THIS GROUP? |
| 11 | A. | As shown on Schedule MIK-5, page 2 of 5, the group average dividend yield for the six |
| 12 | | months ending April is 3.81 percent. The adjusted dividend yield for this proxy group is |
| 13 | | 3.9 percent. The supporting detail is listed on page 2 of Schedule MIK-5. |
| 14 | Q. | WHAT IS THE GROWTH RATE EVIDENCE? |
| 15 | A. | I show the analyst projections of earnings growth for these thirteen companies on |
| 16 | | Schedule MIK-5, page 3 of 5, employing the same five public sources as used for the |
| 17 | | distribution electric utility proxy group. The group averages are 4.3 percent for Value |
| 18 | | Line, 5.1 percent for Reuters, 5.3 percent for YahooFinance, 5.0 percent for CNNfn and |
| 19 | | 5.0 percent for MSNMoney. The five sources average to 4.9 percent. Please note that |
| 20 | | these reported averages remove the negative earnings growth rate for Edison |
| 21 | | International. Ms. Ahern followed the same procedure for this Company. |
| 22 | | A second set of growth rates for the thirteen-company integrated utility group is |
| 23 | | shown on page 4 of Schedule MIK-5. This schedule provides Value Line's projections of |
| 24 | | dividends, book value and growth from earnings retention. These growth rates are |

| 1 | | generally similar to or lower than the securities analyst projections, averaging 4.4 percen |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | for dividends, 4.2 percent for book value and 4.1 percent for earnings retention growth. |
| 3 | Q. | DID YOU CONDUCT A SUSTAINABLE GROWTH RATE ANALYSIS FOR |
| 4 | | THE PROXY GROUP? |
| 5 | A. | Yes. As mentioned earlier, an important alternative to analyst projections is earnings |
| 6 | | retention or the "sustainable" measure of long-term growth. The internal component for |
| 7 | | this proxy group is 4.1 percent, as shown on page 4 of Schedule MIK 5. I calculated an |
| 8 | | "external" or "s x v" component for each of the thirteen integrated electric companies in |
| 9 | | the same manner as described for the distribution electric companies, producing an |
| 10 | | "external" growth component of 0.4 percent. Thus, the total sustainable growth rate is |
| 11 | | 4.1 percent plus 0.4 percent, or 4.5 percent. This is shown on page 5 of Schedule MIK-5 |
| 12 | | I have used the securities analyst earnings projections (4.9 percent) and the |
| 13 | | sustainable growth rate (4.5 percent) to develop a reasonable range for DCF purposes of |
| 14 | | 4.5 to 5.0 percent. |
| 15 | Q. | WHAT DCF MARKET RETURN DOES THIS PRODUCE? |
| 16 | A. | As shown on Schedule MIK-5, page 1 of 5, I obtain a DCF return range of 8.4 to |
| 17 | | 8.9 percent, with a midpoint of 8.7 percent. This is based on an adjusted dividend yield |
| 18 | | of 3.9 percent plus a 4.5 to 5.0 percent growth range, with no adjustment for flotation |
| 19 | | expense. |
| 20 | | I believe that this study helps support the reasonableness of my 9.25 percent |
| 21 | | recommendation for JCP&L and further demonstrates that my recommendation is |
| 22 | | conservative. The upper end of this range, 8.9 percent, reflects the use of the security |
| 23 | | analysts' projections, which is the same method used by Ms. Ahern. |
| 24 | Q. | YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU DELETED TWO OF MS. AHERN'S 15 |
| 25 | | PROXY COMPANIES DUE TO THEIR BELOW INVESTMENT GRADE |

CREDIT RATING. WOULD YOUR DCF RESULTS BE SIGNIFICANTLY

2 DIFFERENT HAD YOU RETAINED THOSE TWO COMPANIES FOR YOUR

3 DCF STUDY?

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- 4 A. No, retaining the two companies would only slightly affect the overall DCF results,
- 5 increasing the overall DCF cost of equity midpoint by about 0.1 percent. This is because
- 6 the dividend yields for NV Energy and UNS are similar to or slightly lower than the
- 7 proxy group average, and the projected growth rates are only slightly higher. Using the
- 8 most recently available data, I compiled (or computed in the case of sustainable growth

NIXIE

9 rate) the following earnings growth rate information:

| | <u>UNS</u> | NVE |
|----------------------------|------------|-------|
| CNN | 10.35% | 2.65% |
| Reuters | 7.07 | 3.10 |
| MSN | 8.00 | 3.10 |
| YahooFinance | 8.00 | 3.10 |
| Value Line | 6.50 | 8.00 |
| Analyst Projection Average | 7.98% | 3.99% |
| Sustainable Growth Rates | 3.0 | 4.6 |
| Overall Average | 5.5% | 4.3% |

As this demonstrates, the growth rates for these two excluded companies are roughly in line with the 4.5 to 5.0 percent range that I have used for the 13-company proxy group.

D. <u>The CAPM Analysis</u>

methods.

- 13 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CAPM MODEL.
- 14 A. The CAPM is a form of the "risk premium" approach and is based on modern portfolio 15 theory. Based on my experience, the CAPM is the cost of equity method most often used 16 in rate cases after the DCF method, and it is one of Ms. Ahern's three basic cost of equity

According to this model, the cost of equity (Ke) is equal to the yield on a risk-free asset plus an equity risk premium multiplied by a firm's "beta" statistic. "Beta" is a firm-specific risk measure which is computed as the movements in a company's stock price (or market return) relative to contemporaneous movements in the broadly defined stock market (e.g., the S&P 500 or the New York Stock Exchange Composite). This measures the investment risk that cannot be reduced or eliminated through asset diversification (i.e., holding a broad portfolio of assets). The overall market, by definition, has a beta of 1.0, and a company with lower than average investment risk (e.g., a utility company) would have a beta below 1.0. The "risk premium" is defined as the expected return on the overall stock market minus the yield or return on a risk-free asset.

The CAPM formula is:

 $K_e = R_f + \beta (R_m - R_f)$, where:

 K_e = the firm's cost of equity

 $R_{\rm m}$ = the expected return on the overall market

 R_f = the yield on the risk free asset

 β = the firm (or group of firms) risk measure.

Two of the three principal variables in the model are directly observable – the yield on a risk-free asset (e.g., a Treasury security yield) and the beta. For example, Value Line publishes estimated betas for each of the companies that it covers, and Ms. Ahern uses those betas as well. The greatest difficulty, however, is in the measurement of the expected stock market return (and therefore the equity risk premium), since that variable cannot be directly observed.

While the beta itself also is "observable," different investor services provide differing calculations of betas depending on the specific procedures and methods that they use. These differences can potentially have large impacts on the CAPM results. In

this case, the betas that Ms. Ahern and I use are very similar, with Ms. Ahern's proxy group average being 0.70.

3 Q. HOW HAVE YOU APPLIED THIS MODEL?

A.

For purposes of my CAPM analysis, I have used a long-term (i.e., 30-year) Treasury yield as the risk-free return (as has Ms. Ahern) along with the average beta for the electric utility proxy group. (See Schedule MIK-3 for the company-by-company betas.) It should be noted that the distribution utility proxy group beta is slightly higher than the integrated utility company group beta (i.e., 0.71 versus 0.67). In the last six months, long-term (i.e., 30-year) Treasury yields have averaged approximately 3.0 percent. I note that Ms. Ahern has elected to use a risk-free rate in her CAPM studies of 4.17 percent, which is sharply higher than the actual value. I comment further on why this is incorrect in Section V. Finally, and as explained below, I am using an equity risk premium range of 5 to 8 percent, although I also provide calculations using a higher risk premium as a sensitivity test.

Using these data inputs, the CAPM calculation results are shown on page 1 of Schedule MIK-6. My low-end cost of equity estimate uses a risk-free rate of 3.0 percent, a proxy group beta of 0.71 and an equity risk premium of 5 percent.

$$Ke = 3.0\% + 0.71 (5.0\%) = 6.6\%$$

The upper-end estimate uses a risk-free rate of 3.0 percent, a proxy group beta of 0.71 and an equity risk premium of 8.0 percent.

$$Ke = 3.0\% + 0.71 (8.0\%) = 8.7\%$$

Thus, with these inputs the CAPM provides a cost of equity range of 6.6 to 8.7 percent, with a midpoint of 7.6 percent. The CAPM analysis produces a midpoint result significantly lower than the range of results obtained for my two electric utility group DCF analyses, but I have not placed reliance on the CAPM returns in formulating my

| 1 | | return on equity recommendation in this case. This is due to the unusual behavior of |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | Treasury bond markets (the recent "flight to quality problem"), and the current actions by |
| 3 | | the Fed to hold down interest rates. These market conditions make it difficult to assess |
| 4 | | equity risk premiums at this time. |
| 5 | Q. | WHAT RESULT WOULD YOU OBTAIN USING MS. AHERN'S MARKET |
| 6 | | RISK PREMIUM? |
| 7 | A. | For her CAPM study, Ms. Ahern has selected a high-end market risk premium value of |
| 8 | | 9.65 percent. In conjunction with the Value Line utility beta of 0.71 (based on Value |
| 9 | | Line data for the distribution utility group) and a 3.0 percent Treasury bond yield, the |
| 10 | | CAPM using her market risk premium estimate produces: |
| 11 | | Ke = 3.0% + 0.71 (9.65%) = 9.85% |
| 12 | | Not surprisingly, this produces a far higher cost of equity estimate, exceeding my equity |
| 13 | | return recommendation for JCP&L. Later in my testimony, I discuss why this market |
| 14 | | equity premium value is both overstated and well beyond even a reasonable upper bound. |
| 15 | Q. | IT APPEARS THAT A KEY ELEMENT IN YOUR CAPM STUDY IS YOUR |
| 16 | | EQUITY MARKET RETURN RISK PREMIUM OF 5 TO 8 PERCENT. HOW |
| 17 | | DID YOU DERIVE THAT RANGE? |
| 18 | A. | There is a great deal of disagreement among analysts regarding the reasonably expected |
| 19 | | market return on the stock market as a whole and therefore the risk premium. In my |
| 20 | | opinion, a reasonable overall stock market risk premium to use would be about 6 to |
| 21 | | 7 percent, which today would imply a stock market return of about 9 to 10 percent. Due |

to uncertainty concerning the true market return value, I am employing a broad range of

5 to 8 percent as the overall market rate of return, which would imply a market equity

return of roughly 8 to 11 percent for the overall stock market.

22

23

24

| A. | Yes. The well-known finance textbook by Brealey, Myers and Allen (Principles of | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|
| | Corporate Finance) reviews a broad range of evidence on the equity risk premium. The | | | |
| | authors of the risk premium literature conclude: | | | |

Brealey, Myers and Allen have no official position on the issue, but we believe that a range of 5 to 8 percent is reasonable for the risk premium in the United States. (Page 154.)

I would note that Ms. Ahern's percent risk premium value exceeds the upper end of that range by a very wide margin. My "midpoint" risk premium of roughly 6.5 percent falls well within that range.

There is one important caveat to consider here regarding the 5 to 8 percent range that the authors believe is supported by the literature. It appears that the 5 to 8 percent range is specified relative to short-term Treasury yields, not relative to long-term (i.e., 30-year) Treasury yields. At this time, the application of the CAPM using short-term Treasury yields would not be meaningful because those yields within the past year have approximated zero. It therefore could be argued that the 5 to 8 percent range of Brealy, et al. is overstated if a long-term Treasury yield is used as the risk-free rate, i.e., the practice followed by both Ms. Ahern and me.

V. <u>REVIEW OF MS. AHERN'S STUDIES</u>

| 2 | A. | Overview of Recommendation |
|----|-----------|---|
| 3 | Q. | MS. AHERN RECOMMENDS AN ROE RANGE FOR JCP&L IN THIS CASE |
| 4 | | OF 11.45 TO 11.60 PERCENT, OR A MIDPOINT OF 11.53 PERCENT. HOW |
| 5 | | DID SHE DEVELOP THAT ESTIMATE? |
| 6 | A. | Using two proxy groups of electric utility companies (with all but one company vertically |
| 7 | | integrated), Ms. Ahern employs a relatively standard DCF study, a Risk Premium model, |
| 8 | | a Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) study and a series of studies applied to |
| 9 | | unregulated companies. It appears that she gives equal weight to each of these four |
| 10 | | categories of studies and in doing so produces a range of 10.70 to 11.15 percent. She |
| 11 | | then includes two "adders", one for past FirstEnergy flotation expense (0.15 percent) and |
| 12 | | a second for JCP&L's allegedly greater credit risk (0.29 to 0.59 percent). This produces |
| 13 | | her final recommended range of 11.45 to 11.60 percent. |
| 14 | | It should be noted that the Risk Premium and CAPM studies are quite similar in |
| 15 | | that both require estimates of the market equity premium. This means that two of her |
| 16 | | three utility-based cost categories rely on the risk premium methodology and |
| 17 | | assumptions, with the more standard and reliable DCF taking a back seat. |
| 18 | Q. | HOW DOES HER RECOMMENDATION COMPARE WITH JCP&L'S |
| 19 | | CURRENT AUTHORIZED RETURN ON EQUITY? |
| 20 | A. | It is dramatically higher nearly 20 percent higher than the Company's currently- |
| 21 | | authorized 9.75 percent. The 9.75 percent figure was authorized several years ago at a |
| 22 | | time when capital costs were far higher than today. |
| | | |

1 B. **DCF Study** 2 WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MS. AHERN'S DCF STUDIES Q. 3 AND YOURS? 4 Α. There are three main differences: 5 (1) Ms. Ahern emphasizes vertically-integrated electric utilities rather than 6 delivery service electrics. 7 (2) Her studies are based on market and other published data as of September 8 2012, whereas my study reflects more current data and the improvements in equity 9 markets in recent months. 10 (3) Ms. Ahern's study employs only one measure of expected long-term growth, 11 i.e. security analyst growth rate estimates, whereas my study also uses a second measure, 12 the "sustainable" growth method, to develop a range. It should be noted that Ms. Ahern 13 and I use very similar sources of security analyst growth rates. 14 WHAT DCF RESULTS DID SHE OBTAIN? Q. 15 A. I provide a summary of her DCF results on Schedule MIK-7, combining together her two 16 proxy groups. This totals 15 companies. With all 15 companies, her DCF results average 17 to 9.33 percent. I also show the overall average excluding three companies that are 18 somewhat anomalous, Edison International, NV Energy and UNS Energy. Edison 19 International produces an unusually low DCF estimate (5.24 percent). NV Energy and 20 UNS Energy have very high DCF estimates, and both companies have below investment 21 grade credit ratings (BB+) from S&P and therefore are probably not good risk proxies for 22 JCP&L at this time. Without these three anomalous companies, her group average 23 becomes 9.0 percent. 24 My conclusion is that despite the three differences with my DCF studies noted 25 above, her DCF evidence is generally supportive of my 9.25 percent recommendation.

| 1 | | Moreover, her DCF evidence the only credible evidence that she has supplied |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | completely discredits her 11.45 to 11.60 percent range. She offers no explanation for this |
| 3 | | contradiction. |
| 4 | C. | Risk Premium Evidence |
| 5 | Q. | HOW DID MS. AHERN APPLY THE RISK PREMIUM METHOD? |
| 6 | A. | The purpose of her Risk Premium method is to identify the additional return investors |
| 7 | | require for equity as compared to debt. The equity in question could be either the overall |
| 8 | | stock market or the electric utility proxy companies, with the ultimate objective to be the |
| 9 | | estimation of a risk premium value (or values) appropriate for JCP&L. This general |
| 10 | | description applies to both the method she calls the Risk Premium and also the CAPM. |
| 11 | | Her risk premium analyses are extremely convoluted and difficult to follow and |
| 12 | | are poorly explained both in her testimony and schedules. Distilling it down, it appears |
| 13 | | that she uses three measures of the equity risk premium: |
| 14 | | (1) The method that seems to receive the majority of the weight is called the |
| 15 | | "Predictive Risk Premium Model" (or PRPM). This methodology, appears to be based in |
| 16 | | some fashion on historic market returns data, incorporating volatility over time, but it |
| 17 | | appears to be a proprietary model and uses proprietary software. Ms. Ahern describes the |
| 18 | | method of GARCH Generalized Autoregressive Conditional Heteroskedasticity. |
| 19 | | (2) The apparent second method is what she refers to as Value Line projection of |
| 20 | | the stock market returns, or essentially a DCF type of calculation. |
| 21 | | (3) The third method is reliance on the conventional historic returns-derived risk |
| 22 | | premium for the stock market obtained from a standard source, i.e., |
| 23 | | Ibbotson/Morningstar. This third method is frequently presented in cases before the BPU |

and other regulatory commissions and is not considered to be very controversial.

| Applying the Risk Premium or CAPM, requires an estimate of the "risk free" |
|--|
| interest rate. Analysts typically use the yield on a long-term Treasury bond for this |
| purpose, and in that regard I use the recent 3.0 percent actual yield. Ms. Ahern, however |
| inexplicably uses 4.17 percent, which is at least a percentage point higher than the actual |
| long-term yield at the time of the preparation of her testimony. She bases the 4.17 |
| percent at least in part on the long-term historic yield on Treasury bonds. This procedure |
| is incorrect and overstates the cost of equity substantially. Using a historic average risk- |
| free cost rate in place of today's (or at least a relatively current) cost rate means that she |
| is not measuring JCP&L's cost of equity as of the time of this rate case. The cost of |
| equity is a current and prospective concept. It makes no more sense to employ the |
| historic risk-free rate than it would to use historic average long-term stock prices in the |
| DCF study. |
| WHAT RESULTS DID MS. AHERN OBTAIN APPLYING THE PRPM TO |

HER PROXY ELECTRIC UTILITIES?

She obtains average cost of equity estimates of 12.81 % for one proxy group and 13.13 percent for the other, or risk premium values compared to her alleged risk-free rate of about 9 percent. These are astonishingly high estimates, particularly compared to her far more moderate and conventional DCF estimates that are nearly 400 basis points lower.

HOW WERE THE PRPM ESTIMATES CALCULATED?

I cannot determine how these values or estimates were calculated, either from the testimony description or schedules. It appears to be a "black box" method. Moreover, the results themselves seen to make little sense. For example, the method estimates Southern Company's cost of equity at 21.35 percent and Portland General Electric at 6.48 percent. There is also no explanation concerning why this 13 percent average cost of equity using the PRPM is so far out of line with the DCF.

Q.

A.

Q.

A.

| 1 | Q. | ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY REGULATORY ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRPM |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | METHOD? |
| 3 | A. | No, I am not. It appears that Ms. Ahern has only recently herself begun to use this |
| 4 | | method, and I have not seen it used or accepted in utility rate proceedings. |
| 5 | | These outlandishly high and inexplicable PRPM estimates should not be given any |
| 6 | | consideration in determining a fair return for JCP&L in this case. |
| 7 | | Ms. Ahern's second estimate is her assertion that Value Line is projecting a rate |
| 8 | | of return on the overall stock market of 16.55 percent. As compared to her risk-free |
| 9 | | return of 4.17 percent, this would be an astonishingly high equity risk premium of about |
| 10 | | 12.4 percent. Recall that the Brealey et. al. textbook, after surveying financial literature |
| 11 | | concluded that a plausible range for the equity risk premium would be 5 to 8 percent. |
| 12 | | Ms. Ahern's alleged Value Line estimate is nearly double the 6.5 percent Brealey et. al. |
| 13 | | midpoint value. |
| 14 | | Her 16.55 percent rate of return estimate is based on Value Line's share price |
| 15 | | "Appreciation Potential" of 70 percent over the next three to five years for the median |
| 16 | | stock plus a median dividend yield of 2.36 percent. Ms. Ahern uses this information to |
| 17 | | calculate the asserted 16.55 percent rate of return. It is important to note that this |
| 18 | | estimate is her calculation and not that of Value Line. Value Line does not publish a |
| 19 | | projection of the overall expected rate of return on the stock market. |
| 20 | Q. | PLEASE COMMENT ON THIS MEASURE. |
| 21 | A. | The 16.55 percent is not a legitimate estimate of the overall stock market rate of return, |
| 22 | | and it certainly is not Value Line's estimate. The core of her calculation is the potential |
| 23 | | for share price increases for the median stock in Value Line's data base over the next |
| 24 | | several years. The Value Line median stock and the overall stock market are very |
| 25 | | different measures. |

| 1 | | Moreover, value Line's 70 percent price increase potential is nightly volatile. For |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | example, Value Line's most recent report available to me (dated May 24, 2013) specifies |
| 3 | | a 40 percent price appreciation potential and a 2.1 percent median dividend yield. This |
| 4 | | more recent estimate translates into a price growth rate of 8.78 percent per year plus the |
| 5 | | 2.1 percent dividend yield, or 10.88 percent overall rate of return. Employing Ms. |
| 6 | | Ahern's asserted 4.17 percent risk free rate, produces a risk premium value of 10.88 |
| 7 | | minus 4.17, or 6.71 percent. In other words, merely updating to current Value Line |
| 8 | | projections reduces the rate of return from an absurdly high 16.55 percent to a more |
| 9 | | realistic 10.88 percent and the risk premium from 12.4 to 6.71 percent. Please note that if |
| 10 | | a more proper risk-free rate of about 3.0 percent were to be used in place of her 4.17 |
| 11 | | percent, the risk premium using this method would increase to 7.9 percent a figure |
| 12 | | within the Brealey et. al. 5 to 8 percent range. |
| 13 | Q. | WHAT ARE MS. AHERN'S OTHER ESTIMATES OF THE OVERALL |
| 14 | | STOCK MARKET RISK PREMIUM? |
| 15 | A. | As shown on her Schedule PMA-9, page 2 of 2, she estimates the stock market risk |
| 16 | | premium using the PRPM method and obtains 10.1 percent. Once again, she provides no |
| 17 | | clear explanation concerning how this very high value was calculated (other than noting |
| 18 | | that 1926-2012 historical data somehow were used) making it impossible to evaluate. In |
| 19 | | addition, using the Ibbotson/Morningstar historical data series (1926-2011), she identifies |
| 20 | | a historical average stock market risk premium of 6.45 percent. |
| 21 | | Ultimately, she performs her CAPM study using all three risk premium estimates |
| 22 | | averaged together, i.e., Value Line-derived, PRPM and Ibbotson/Morningstar. This |
| 23 | | produces an average equity risk premium value of 9.65 percent. |
| 24 | Q. | DOES THAT 9.65 PERCENT AVERAGE CHANGE IF YOU UPDATE THE |
| 25 | | VALUE LINE PROJECTIONS? |

| 1 A. | Yes. As | I noted, with ι | apdating and | assuming a more | current risk-f | ree rate of 3.0 | percent, |
|------|---------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------|
|------|---------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------|

- 2 her Value Line-derived risk premium falls from an outlandish 12.4 to a more plausible
- 3 7.9 percent. The average of the three methods becomes (7.9+10.1+6.5)/3 = 8.2 percent.
- 4 When inserted in the standard CAPM formula, this becomes a cost equity of:
- 5 Ke = 3.0% + 0.71 (8.2) = 8.8 percent
- 6 Even using the erroneous Value Line method (as updated) and the inexplicable PRPM 7 estimate, a properly performed CAPM analysis would produce a cost of equity estimate 8 for JCP&L of about 8.8 percent. Please note that the corrected analysis uses a current (or 9 recent) actual Treasury bond yield, not the much higher historical yield of 4.17 percent.
- 10 Q. MS. AHERN ALSO USES THE EMPIRICAL VERSION OF THE CAPM ("ECAPM"). IS THAT MODEL PROPER IN THIS CONTEXT?
 - No. The ECAPM formula effectively uses a weighted average of the Value Line A. published betas (which average about 0.7) and a much higher beta of 1.0. This is mathematically equivalent to simply taking the utility betas that Value Line reports and adjusting then upwards part of the way toward 1.0. Since utility betas are nearly always less than 1.0 (due to the inherently low risk of utilities), the ECAPM serves as a mechanism for increasing the utility cost of equity estimate.

In my opinion, the ECAPM method is improper when used with Value Line betas. This is because in calculating the betas Value Line already adjusts its "raw" or calculated betas toward 1.0. Consequently, Ms. Ahern's ECAPM procedure has the mathematical effect of adjusting the proxy company betas towards 1.0 a second time. It therefore distorts and overstates both the utility betas (indirectly) and the CAPM cost of equity. The ECAPM results should be disregarded as improper.

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| 1 | D. | Non-Utility Estimates and Adders |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | Q. | SHOULD ANY WEIGHT BE GIVEN TO MS. AHERN'S NON-UTILITY |
| 3 | | COST OF EQUITY ESTIMATES? |
| 4 | A. | No. Ms. Ahern assembled two groups of unregulated companies having no utility |
| 5 | | operations at all and applied her cost of equity models. In doing so, she reports a DCF |
| 6 | | estimate of 10.37 percent and overall cost of equity estimates of 10.6 to 11.1 percent. |
| 7 | | It is important to observe that non-regulated companies are fundamentally |
| 8 | | different in character and risk attributes from regulated, monopoly utilities. Unlike the |
| 9 | | non-regulated companies used by Ms. Ahern, JCP&L has a defined service territory |
| 10 | | where it provides electric distribution service on a monopoly basis under this Board's |
| 11 | | jurisdiction. It has little in common with Ms. Ahern's non-regulated proxy companies |
| 12 | | which presumably operate in competitive markets. For this reason, I do not find it at all |
| 13 | | surprising that she obtained higher DCF estimates for the non-regulated proxy group as |
| 14 | | compared to her utility proxy group studies. |
| 15 | | Ms. Ahern's analyses of unregulated companies provides no useful guidance to |
| 16 | | the Board in determining JCP&L's cost of equity and fair return. |
| 17 | Q. | MS. AHERN INCLUDES TWO ADDERS FOR FLOTATION EXPENSE AND |
| 18 | | CREDIT RISK. IS EITHER APPLICABLE TO JCP&L? |
| 19 | A. | No. Ms. Ahern appears to concede in her testimony that on an overall basis, JCP&L has |
| 20 | | about the same business risk as her proxy group. However, she nonetheless includes a |
| 21 | | "credit risk" adder of 0.45 percent (midpoint) because of JCP&L's weaker than average |
| 22 | | credit rating. |
| 23 | | I disagree with this adder for two reasons. First, once she concedes that JCP&L's |
| 24 | | business risk does not exceed the proxy group (and it may be less), then no risk adder at |
| 25 | | all should be considered. Moreover, JCP&L in this case also proposes a stronger than |

| average capital structure and therefore there is no need to consider financial risk. Second, |
|--|
| the JCP&L weaker than average credit rating is attributable to the FirstEnergy |
| unregulated operations. This cannot serve as the basis for increasing JCP&L's authorized |
| ROE. |

WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE 0.15 PERCENT FLOTATION EXPENSE?

The only data supporting this adjustment is a 2003 FirstEnergy stock insurance shown on Schedule PMA-13. A ten-year old expense is simply too far in the past for inclusion in the cost of service in this rate case. Moreover, there is no indication that a FirstEnergy public stock issuance can be expected in the near term.

Ms. Ahern reports that in 2003, FirstEnergy incurred \$34.6 million in flotation expense. If that expense is amortized over ten years, and divided by FirstEnergy's equity balance of \$13.5 billion (as reported by Mr. Staub), this would support an adjustment of (\$3.5 million/\$13,512 million = 0.03 percent - - a negligible 3 basis points. Hence, even if one wished to include flotation expense, the appropriate adder could be no more than about 3 basis points.

Q.

A.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

| 2 | Q. | WHAT ARE YOUR MAJOR FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS? |
|----|----|--|
| 3 | A. | Based on my review of the testimony, discovery responses and market information, I find |
| 4 | | that JCP&L is a financially sound and low risk electric distribution utility company |
| 5 | | presently operating in a very low capital cost environment. In this case, the Company is |
| 6 | | proposing to increase its currently authorized return on equity from 9.75 to 11.53 percent |
| 7 | | despite the clear evidence of declining capital costs in recent years. Witness Ahern's |
| 8 | | ROE recommendation of 11.53 percent is outlandishly high and reflects both unrealistic |
| 9 | | assumptions and reliance on poorly explained, unconventional cost of equity methods. |
| 10 | | For example, her more traditional DCF evidence would support an ROE estimate well |
| 11 | | below the current 9.75 percent ROE. |
| 12 | | JCP&L's proposed (and relatively expensive) 54 percent equity / 46 percent debt |
| 13 | | capital structure also must be rejected because it impermissibly is based on an equity |
| 14 | | balance dominated by "goodwill," i.e., the acquisition premium paid by parent |
| 15 | | FirstEnergy in the GPU merger. I have instead proposed the use of a reasonable 50/50 |
| 16 | | hypothetical capital structure which is the midpoint of the Company's own target range |
| 17 | | and is consistent with that used by New Jersey's other two main electric utilities. |
| 18 | Q. | HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT YOUR RATE OF RETURN |
| 19 | | RECOMMENDATION? |
| 20 | A. | I am recommending at this time a 7.76 percent return on JCP&L's distribution rate base, |
| 21 | | including a 9.25 percent return on common equity. This is supported by current market |
| 22 | | conditions and the following studies: |
| 23 | | (1) <u>DCF Study of Electric Distribution Companies</u> |
| 24 | | 8.3 to 9.5 percent, with an 8.9 percent midpoint |

| 1 | | (2) <u>DCF Study of Ms. Ahern's Integrated Electrics</u> |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | 8.4 to 8.9 percent, with an 8.7 percent midpoint |
| 3 | | (3) <u>CAPM Calculations</u> |
| 4 | | 6.6 to 9.4 percent, with an 8.2 percent midpoint. |
| 5 | | Thus, my recommendation for JCP&L is consistent with my range of cost of equity |
| 6 | | evidence and is conservative, as it exceeds the midpoint values. |
| 7 | | Ms. Ahern's studies (with the possible exception of the DCF) not only greatly |
| 8 | | overstate the cost of equity, but she also includes adders (in total about 0.6 percent) for |
| 9 | | flotation expense and "credit risk." There simply is no flotation expense to be recovered |
| 10 | | in this case as parent FirstEnergy's last public issuance of common stock was more than |
| 11 | | ten years ago, and no prospective issue has been identified. |
| 12 | | It is true that JCP&L's credit ratings, particularly those of S&P, are weaker than |
| 13 | | they should be, but this is attributable to its affiliation with FirstEnergy – not its own |
| 14 | | business risk profile, which is excellent. Thus, any "credit risk" adder would be improper |
| 15 | | and would cross subsidize FirstEnergy's unregulated operations. Moreover, I |
| 16 | | recommend that JCP&L be directed to study options for "ring fencing" measures that can |
| 17 | | better separate its utility operations from FirstEnergy in order to enhance its credit |
| 18 | | ratings. |
| 19 | Q. | DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY? |
| 20 | A. | Yes, it does. |

BEFORE THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW BEFORE HONORABLE RICHARD MCGILL, ALJ

| IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED |) | |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| PETITION OF JERSEY CENTRAL |) | |
| POWER & LIGHT COMPANY FOR |) | |
| REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF |) | |
| INCREASES IN AND OTHER |) | |
| ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS RATES AND |) | OAL DOCKET NO. PUC 16310-2012N |
| CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE, |) | |
| AND FOR APPROVAL OF OTHER |) | BPU DOCKET NO. ER12111052 |
| PROPOSED TARIFF REVISIONS IN |) | |
| CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND |) | |
| FOR APPROVAL OF AN |) | |
| ACCELERATED RELIABILITY |) | |
| ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM |) | |
| ("2012 BASE RATE FILING") |) | |
| | | |

SCHEDULES ACCOMPANYING THE DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW I. KAHAL ON BEHALF OF THE DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL

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Filed: June 14, 2013

Rate of Return Summary at December 31, 2012¹

| Capital Type | % of Total | Cost Rate | Weighted Cost |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Long-Term Debt ⁽²⁾ | 50.0% | 6.26% | 3.13% |
| Short-Term Debt ⁽³⁾ | 0 | | |
| Common Equity ⁽²⁾ | 50.0 | 9.25 | 4.63 |
| Total | 100.00% | | 7.76% |

⁽¹⁾ Cost of debt is from Company SRS-4 and the 9.25 percent common equity return is shown on Schedule MIK-4, page 1 of 5. Cost of debt excludes planned 2013 debt issues.

⁽²⁾ Capital structure is a hypothetical 50/50 equity versus debt since JCP&L actual is distorted by good will.

⁽³⁾ Short-term debt is excluded from capital structure assuming the Company continues to use the FERC method of allocating short-term debt directly to construction work in progress.

Trends in Capital Costs

| | Annualized <u>Inflation (CPI)</u> | 10-Year Treasury Yield | 3-Month Treasury Yield | Single A Utility Yield | Baa <u>Utility Yield</u> |
|------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2002 | 1.6% | 4.6% | 1.6% | 7.4% | 8.0% |
| 2003 | 1.9 | 4.1 | 1.0 | 6.6 | 6.8 |
| 2004 | 2.7 | 4.3 | 1.4 | 6.2 | 6.4 |
| 2005 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 5.6 | 5.9 |
| 2006 | 2.5 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 6.1 | 6.3 |
| 2007 | 2.8 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 6.1 | 6.3 |
| 2008 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 1.6 | 6.5 | 7.2 |
| 2009 | (0.4) | 3.2 | 0.2 | 6.0 | 7.1 |
| 2010 | 1.6 | 3.2 | 0.1 | 5.5 | 6.0 |
| 2011 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 5.6 |
| 2012 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 4.1 | 4.9 |

U.S. Historic Trends in Capital Costs (Continued)

| | Annualized Inflation (CPI) | 10-Year <u>Treasury Yield</u> | 3-Month Treasury Yield | Single A <u>Utility Yield</u> | Baa <u>Utility Yield</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2007 | | | | | |
| January | 2.1% | 4.8% | 5.1% | 6.0% | 6.2% |
| February | 2.4 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 5.9 | 6.1 |
| March | 2.8 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 5.9 | 6.1 |
| April | 2.6 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 6.0 | 6.2 |
| May | 2.7 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 6.0 | 6.2 |
| June | 2.7 | 5.1 | 5.0 | 6.3 | 6.5 |
| July | 2.4 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 6.3 | 6.5 |
| August | 2.0 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 6.2 | 6.5 |
| September | 2.8 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 6.2 | 6.5 |
| October | 3.5 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 6.1 | 6.4 |
| November | 4.3 | 4.2 | 3.4 | 6.0 | 6.3 |
| December | 4.1 | 4.1 | 3.1 | 6.2 | 6.5 |
| <u>2008</u> | | | | | |
| January | 4.3% | 3.7% | 2.8% | 6.0% | 6.4 |
| February | 4.0 | 3.7 | 2.2 | 6.2 | 6.6 |
| March | 4.0 | 3.5 | 1.3 | 6.2 | 6.7 |
| April | 3.9 | 3.7 | 1.3 | 6.3 | 6.8 |
| May | 4.2 | 3.9 | 1.8 | 6.3 | 6.8 |
| June | 5.0 | 4.1 | 1.9 | 6.4 | 6.9 |
| July | 5.6 | 4.0 | 1.7 | 6.4 | 7.0 |
| August | 5.4 | 3.9 | 1.8 | 6.4 | 7.0 |
| September | 4.9 | 3.7 | 1.2 | 6.5 | 7.2 |
| October | 3.7 | 3.8 | 0.7 | 7.6 | 8.6 |
| November | 1.1 | 3.5 | 0.2 | 7.6 | 9.0 |
| December | 0.1 | 2.4 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 8.1 |

U.S. Historic Trends in Capital Costs (Continued)

| | Annualized Inflation (CPI) | 10-Year Treasury Yield | 3-Month Treasury Yield | Single A Utility Yield | Baa <u>Utility Yield</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>2009</u> | | | | | |
| January | 0.0% | 2.5% | 0.1% | 6.4% | 7.9% |
| February | 0.2 | 2.9 | 0.3 | 6.3 | 7.7 |
| March | (0.4) | 2.8 | 0.2 | 6.4 | 8.0 |
| April | (0.7) | 2.9 | 0.2 | 6.5 | 8.0 |
| May | (1.3) | 2.9 | 0.2 | 6.5 | 7.8 |
| June | (1.4) | 3.7 | 0.2 | 6.2 | 7.3 |
| July | (2.1) | 3.6 | 0.2 | 6.0 | 6.9 |
| August | (1.5) | 3.6 | 0.2 | 5.7 | 6.4 |
| September | (1.3) | 3.4 | 0.1 | 5.5 | 6.1 |
| October | (0.2) | 3.4 | 0.1 | 5.6 | 6.1 |
| November | 1.8 | 3.4 | 0.1 | 5.6 | 6.2 |
| December | 2.5 | 3.6 | 0.1 | 5.8 | 6.3 |
| <u>2010</u> | | | | | |
| January | 2.6% | 3.7% | 0.1% | 5.8% | 6.2% |
| February | 2.1 | 3.7 | 0.1 | 5.9 | 6.3 |
| March | 2.3 | 3.7 | 0.2 | 5.8 | 6.2 |
| April | 2.2 | 3.9 | 0.2 | 5.8 | 6.2 |
| May | 2.0 | 3.4 | 0.2 | 5.5 | 6.0 |
| June | 1.1 | 3.2 | 0.1 | 5.5 | 6.0 |
| July | 1.2 | 3.0 | 0.2 | 5.3 | 6.0 |
| August | 1.1 | 2.7 | 0.2 | 5.0 | 5.6 |
| September | 1.1 | 2.7 | 0.2 | 5.0 | 5.5 |
| October | 1.2 | 2.5 | 0.1 | 5.1 | 5.6 |
| November | 1.1 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 5.4 | 5.9 |
| December | 1.2 | 3.3 | 0.1 | 5.6 | 6.0 |

U.S. Historic Trends in Capital Costs (Continued)

| | Annualized Inflation (CPI) | 10-Year <u>Treasury Yield</u> | 3-Month Treasury Yield | Single A <u>Utility Yield</u> | Baa <u>Utility Yield</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>2011</u> | | | | | |
| January | 1.6% | 3.4% | 0.1% | 5.6% | 6.1% |
| February | 2.1 | 3.6 | 0.1 | 5.7 | 6.1 |
| March | 2.7 | 3.4 | 0.1 | 5.6 | 6.0 |
| April | 2.2 | 3.5 | 0.1 | 5.6 | 6.0 |
| May | 3.6 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 5.3 | 5.7 |
| June | 3.6 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 5.3 | 5.7 |
| July | 3.6 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 5.3 | 5.7 |
| August | 3.8 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 4.7 | 5.2 |
| September | 3.9 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 4.5 | 5.1 |
| October | 3.5 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 4.5 | 5.2 |
| November | 3.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 4.3 | 4.9 |
| December | 3.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 4.3 | 5.1 |
| <u>2012</u> | | | | | |
| January | 2.9 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 4.3 | 5.1 |
| February | 2.9 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 4.4 | 5.0 |
| March | 2.7 | 2.2 | 0.1 | 4.5 | 5.1 |
| April | 2.3 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 4.4 | 5.1 |
| May | 1.7 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 4.2 | 5.0 |
| June | 1.7 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 4.1 | 4.9 |
| July | 1.4 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 3.9 | 4.9 |
| August | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 4.0 | 4.9 |
| September | 2.0 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 4.0 | 4.8 |
| October | 2.2 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 3.9 | 4.5 |
| November | 1.8 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 3.8 | 4.4 |
| December | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 4.0 | 4.6 |
| <u>2013</u> | | | | | |
| January | 1.6 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 4.2 | 4.7 |
| February | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0.1 | 4.2 | 4.7 |
| March | 1.5 | 2.0 | 0.1 | 4.2 | 4.7 |
| April | 1.1 | 1.8 | 0.7 | 4.0 | 4.5 |

Source: Economic Report of the President, Mergent's Bond Record, Federal Reserve Statistical Release (H.15), Consumer Price Index Summary (BLS)

Listing of the Electric Utility Delivery Service Proxy Companies

| | Company | Safety <u>Rating</u> | Financial Strength | <u>Beta</u> | 2012 Common Equity Ratio* |
|----|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Consolidated Edison | 1 | A+ | 0.60 | 54.1% |
| 2. | Centerpoint Energy | 2 | B++ | 0.80 | 34.0 |
| 3. | Northeast Utilities | 2 | B++ | 0.70 | 55.4 |
| 4. | PHI Holdings | 3 | В | 0.75 | 52.7 |
| 5. | UIL Holdings | _2_ | <u>B++</u> | <u>0.70</u> | 41.1 |
| | Average | 2.0 | | 0.71 | 47.5% |

^{*} The common equity ratio excludes short-term debt (and current maturities of long-term debt). Actual 2012 equity ratio including short-term debt and current maturities averages 43.6 percent.

Source: Value Line Investment Survey, March 22, May 24, 2013.

Listing of the Ahern Integrated Electric Utility Proxy Companies

| <u>Company</u> | Safety <u>Rating</u> | Financial Strength | <u>Beta</u> | 2012 Common Equity <u>Ratio*</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| 1. Allete, Inc. | 2 | A | 0.70 | 56.3% |
| 2. American Electric Power | 3 | B++ | 0.65 | 49.4 |
| 3. Cleco Corp. | 1 | A | 0.65 | 54.4 |
| 4. Edison International | 2 | B++ | 0.75 | 46.2 |
| 5. Idacorp | 3 | B+ | 0.70 | 54.5 |
| 6. Pinnacle West | 1 | A | 0.70 | 55.4 |
| 7. Portland General | 2 | B++ | 0.75 | 52.9 |
| 8. Southern Company | 1 | A | 0.55 | 47.3 |
| 9. Westar Energy | 2 | B++ | 0.70 | 48.8 |
| 10. Alliant | 2 | A | 0.70 | 48.4 |
| 11. Consolidated Edison | 1 | A+ | 0.60 | 54.0 |
| 12. Northwestern | 3 | B+ | 0.70 | 46.2 |
| 13. Xcel Energy | 2 | <u>B++</u> | <u>0.60</u> | 46.7 |
| Average | 1.9 | | 0.67 | 50.9% |

^{*} The common equity ratio excludes short-term debt (and current maturities of long-term debt). The actual 2012 common equity ratio including short-term debt and current maturities averages 49.2 percent.

Source: Value Line Investment Survey, March 22, May 3 and May 24, 2013.

DCF Summary for the Delivery Service Electric Utility Proxy Group

| Recommendation | 9.25% |
|---|------------|
| 7. Midpoint | 8.9% |
| 6. Cost of Equity $((4) + (5))$ | 8.3 - 9.5% |
| 5. Flotation Expense | 0.0% |
| 4. Total Return $((2) + (3))$ | 8.3 - 9.5% |
| 3. Long-Term Growth Rate ⁽²⁾ | 4.0 - 5.2% |
| 2. Adjusted Yield ((1) x 1.0225) | 4.3% |
| 1. Dividend Yield (November 2012 - April 2013) ⁽¹⁾ | 4.24% |

⁽¹⁾ Schedule MIK-4, page 2 of 5.

⁽²⁾ Schedule MIK-4, pages 3 of 5, 4 of 5 and 5 of 5.

Dividend Yields for the Delivery Service Electric Utility Proxy Group (November 2012 - April 2013)

| | Company | November | December | January | February | March | April | Average |
|----|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-------|-------|---------|
| 1. | Consolidated Edison | 4.3% | 4.4% | 4.3% | 4.2% | 4.0% | 3.9% | 4.18% |
| 2. | Centerpoint Energy | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.87 |
| 3. | Northeast Utilities | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.38 |
| 4. | Pepco Holdings | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 5 | 4.8 | 5.25 |
| 5. | UIL Holdings | 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.1 | 4.50 |
| | Average | 4.44% | 4.40% | 4.38% | 4.26% | 4.06% | 3.88% | 4.24% |

Source: S&P Stock Guide, December 2012 - May 2013.

Projection of Earnings per Share Five-Year Growth Rates for the Delivery Service Electric Utility Proxy Group

| | Company | Value Line | Yahoo | MSN | Reuters | CNN | Average |
|----|---------------------|---------------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| 1. | Consolidated Edison | 2.5% | 2.00% | 3.3% | 2.00% | 3.0% | 2.56% |
| 2. | Centerpoint Energy | 4.0 | 5.00 | 5.7 | 4.90 | 4.7 | 4.86 |
| 3. | Northeast Utilities | 8.0 | 8.04 | 7.6 | 7.28 | 8.0 | 7.78 |
| 4. | Pepco Holdings | 6.0 | 3.63 | 5.3 | 3.62 | 5.0 | 4.71 |
| 5. | UIL Holdings | 4.0 | 8.07 | 4.0 | 6.03 | 8.2 | 6.06 |
| | Average | 4.90% | 5.35% | 5.18% | 4.77% | 5.78% | 5.19% |

Sources: *Value Line Investment Survey*, March 22 and May 24, 2013. YahooFinance.com, MSNMoney.com, CNNMoney.com, Reuters.com, public websites, April 2013.

Other Value Line Measure of Projected Growth for the Delivery Service Electric Utility Proxy Group

| Company | | Dividend Per Share | Book Value Per Share | Earnings Retention |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Consolidated Edison | 1.5% | 3.5% | 3.5% |
| 2. | Centerpoint Energy | 3.0 | 5.5 | 5.0 |
| 3. | Northeast Utilities | 8.0 | 6.0 | 4.0 |
| 4. | Pepco Holdings | 1.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 |
| 5. | UIL Holdings | Nil | 4.5 | 3.0 |
| | Average | 2.70% | 4.30% | 3.60% |

Source: *Value Line Investment Survey*, March 22 and May 24, 2013. The earnings retention figures are projections for 2016-2018

Fundamental Growth Rate Analysis for the Delivery Service Electric Utility Proxy Group

| | | Shares 2012-2017 ⁽¹⁾ | % Premium ⁽²⁾ | sv ⁽³⁾ | br ⁽⁴⁾ | sv + br |
|----|---------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Consolidated Edison | 0.00% | 39.7% | 0.0% | 3.5% | 3.5% |
| 2. | Centerpoint Energy | 0.26 | 116.4 | 0.3 | 5.0 | 5.3 |
| 3. | Northeast Utilities | 0.31 | 49.4 | 0.2 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| 4. | Pepco Holdings | 2.08 | 13.7 | 0.3 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| 5. | UIL Holdings | 0.00 | 72.3 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| | Average | | | 0.2% | 3.6% | 3.8% |

⁽¹⁾ Projected growth rate in shares outstanding, 2012-2017.

Source: Value Line Investment Survey, March 22 and May 24, 2013.

^{(2) %} Premium of share price ("Recent Price") over 2012 Book Value per share.

⁽³⁾ sv is growth rate in shares x % premium.

⁽⁴⁾ br is Value Line's projection as of 2016-2018.

DCF Summary for the Ahern Integrated Electric Utility Proxy Group

| | Recommendation | 9.25% |
|----|--|------------|
| 7. | Midpoint | 8.7% |
| 6. | Cost of Equity $((4) + (5))$ | 8.4 – 8.9% |
| 5. | Flotation Expense | 0.0% |
| 4. | Total Return $((2) + (3))$ | 8.4 – 8.9% |
| 3. | Long-Term Growth Rate ⁽²⁾ | 4.5 - 5.0% |
| 2. | Adjusted Yield ((1) x 1.025) | 3.9% |
| 1. | Dividend Yield (November 2012 - April 2013) ⁽¹⁾ | 3.81% |

⁽¹⁾ Schedule MIK-5, page 2 of 5.

⁽²⁾ Schedule MIK-5, pages 3 of 5, 4 of 5 and 5 of 5.

Dividend Yields for the Ahern Integrated Electric Utility Proxy Group (November 2012 - April 2013)

| | Company | November | December | January | February | March | April | Average |
|-----|-------------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-------|-------|---------|
| 1. | Allete, Inc. | 4.7% | 4.5% | 4.1% | 4.0% | 3.9% | 3.7% | 4.15% |
| 2. | American Electric Power | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 4.11 |
| 3. | Cleco Corp. | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.15 |
| 4. | Edison Int. | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.5 | 2.77 |
| 5. | IDACORP | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.30 |
| 6. | Pinnacle West | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 3.97 |
| 7. | Portland General | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.3 | 3.68 |
| 8. | Southern Co. | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.38 |
| 9. | Westar Energy | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 4.28 |
| 10. | Alliant | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.88 |
| 11. | Consolidated Edison | 4.3 | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 4.18 |
| 12. | Northwestern | 4.3 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 3.91 |
| 13. | Xcel Energy | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.77 |
| | Average | 4.07% | 4.02% | 3.88% | 3.78% | 3.64% | 3.48% | 3.81% |

Source: S&P Stock Guide, December 2012 - May 2013.

Projection of Earnings per Share Five-Year Growth Rates for the Ahern Integrated Electric Utility Proxy Group

| | Company | Value Line | Yahoo | MSN | Reuters | CNN | Average |
|-----|-------------------------|------------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| 1. | Allete, Inc. | 7.0% | 6.00% | 5.0% | 6.00% | 5.00% | 5.80% |
| 2. | American Electric Power | 4.5 | 3.64 | 3.4 | 3.64 | 4.05 | 3.85 |
| 3. | Cleco Corp. | 7.0 | 8.00 | 8.0 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 7.80 |
| 4. | Edison Int. | 2.5 | -1.89 | 5.5 | 1.55 | 4.10 | 3.41* |
| 5. | IDACORP | 2.0 | 4.00 | 4.0 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 3.60 |
| 6. | Pinnacle West | 5.0 | 7.25 | 5.5 | 7.25 | 5.60 | 6.12 |
| 7. | Portland General | 3.5 | 5.58 | 5.1 | 5.86 | 6.00 | 5.21 |
| 8. | Southern Co. | 4.5 | 4.80 | 4.8 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 4.82 |
| 9. | Westar Energy | 5.0 | 6.50 | 5.1 | 6.50 | 4.80 | 5.58 |
| 10. | Alliant | 4.5 | 5.87 | 6.2 | 5.87 | 6.00 | 5.69 |
| 11. | Consolidated Edison | 2.5 | 2.00 | 3.3 | 2.00 | 3.00 | 2.56 |
| 12. | Northwestern | 3.0 | 5.00 | 4.7 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 4.54 |
| 13. | Xcel Energy | 4.5 | 5.11 | 4.9 | 5.46 | 5.00 | 4.99 |
| | Average | 4.27% | 4.76% | 5.04% | 5.09% | 5.04% | 4.91% |
| | Adjusted Average* | | 5.31% | | | | |

^{*} Average excludes negative value for Edison Int.

Sources: *Value Line Investment Survey*, March 22, May 3 and May 24, 2013. YahooFinance.com, MSNMoney.com, CNNMoney.com, Reuters.com, public websites, April 2013.

Other Value Line Measure of Growth for the Ahern Integrated Electric Utility Proxy Group

| | Company | Dividend Per Share | Book Value Per Share | Earnings Retention |
|-----|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Allete, Inc. | 3.5% | 4.0% | 4.0% |
| 2. | American Electric Power | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| 3. | Cleco Corp. | 10.5 | 5.5 | 5.0 |
| 4. | Edison Int. | 5.5 | 4.5 | 6.5 |
| 5. | IDACORP | 7.0 | 4.5 | 4.0 |
| 6. | Pinnacle West | 2.0 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 7. | Portland General | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 8. | Southern Co. | 3.5 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| 9. | Westar Energy | 3.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| 10. | Alliant | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| 11. | Consolidated Edison | 1.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 12. | Northwestern | 4.0 | 4.5 | 3.5 |
| 13. | Xcel Energy | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.0 |
| | Average | 4.38% | 4.15% | 4.12% |

Source: *Value Line Investment Survey*, March 22, May 1 and May 24, 2013. The earnings retention figures are projections for 2016-2018.

Fundamental Growth Rate Analysis for the Ahern Integrated Electric Utility Proxy Group

| | | Shares | % | (2) | (4) | |
|-----|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| | | 2012-2017 ⁽¹⁾ | Premium ⁽²⁾ | sv ⁽³⁾ | br ⁽⁴⁾ | sv + br |
| 1. | Allete, Inc. | 2.00% | 56.7% | 1.1% | 4.0% | 5.1% |
| 2. | American Electric Power | 0.78 | 50.7 | 0.4 | 4.0 | 4.4 |
| 3. | Cleco Corp. | 0.00 | 81.2 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| 4. | Edison Int. | 0.00 | 82.1 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 6.5 |
| 5. | IDACORP | 0.33 | 37.9 | 0.1 | 4.0 | 4.1 |
| 6. | Pinnacle West | 0.94 | 65.5 | 0.6 | 3.5 | 4.1 |
| 7. | Portland General | 0.31 | 37.8 | 0.1 | 3.5 | 3.6 |
| 8. | Southern Co. | 0.84 | 119.4 | 1.0 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| 9. | Westar Energy | 1.31 | 38.4 | 0.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 |
| 10. | Alliant | 0.89 | 71.0 | 0.6 | 4.0 | 4.6 |
| 11. | Consolidated Edison | 0.00 | 39.7 | 0.0 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 12. | Northwestern | 0.94 | 67.6 | 0.6 | 3.5 | 4.1 |
| 13. | Xcel Energy | 1.05 | 70.0 | 0.7 | 4.0 | 4.7 |
| | Average | | | 0.4% | 4.1% | 4.5% |

⁽¹⁾ Projected growth rate in shares outstanding, 2012-2017.

Source: Value Line Investment Survey, March 22, May 3 and May 24, 2013.

^{(2) %} Premium of share price ("Recent Price") over 2012 Book Value per share.

⁽³⁾ sv is growth rate in shares x % premium.

⁽⁴⁾ br is Value Line's projection as of 2016-2018.

Capital Asset Pricing Model Study Illustrative Calculations

A. Model Specification

$$K_e = R_F + \beta (R_m - R_F)$$
, where

 $K_e = cost of equity$

 R_F = return on risk free asset

Rm = expected stock market return

B. Data Inputs

 $R_F = 3.0\%$ (Long-term treasury bond yield for the most recent six months, see page 2 of 2)

Rm = 8.0 - 11.0% (equates to equity risk premium of 5.0 - 8.0%)

Beta = 0.71 (See Schedule MIK-3.)

C. Model Calculations

Low end: $K_e = 3.0\% + 0.71 (5.0) = 6.6\%$

Midpoint: $K_e = 3.0\% + 0.71 (6.5) = 7.6\%$

Upper End: $K_e = 3.0\% + 0.71 (8.0) = 8.7\%$

High Sensitivity: $K_e = 3.0\% + 0.71 (9.0) = 9.4\%$

Long-Term Treasury Yields (November 2012 – April 2013)

| <u>Month</u> | <u>30-Year</u> | <u>20-Year</u> | 10-Year |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------|
| November 2012 | 2.80 | 2.39 | 1.65 |
| December | 2.88 | 2.47 | 1.72 |
| January 2013 | 3.08 | 2.68 | 1.91 |
| February | 3.17 | 2.78 | 1.98 |
| March | 3.16 | 2.78 | 1.96 |
| April | 2.93 | 2.55 | 1.76 |
| Average | 3.00% | 2.57% | 1.83% |

Source: Federal Reserve, "Statistical Release," publication H.15, December 2012–May 2013.

Ms. Ahern's DCF Results

| Proxy Company | ROE Estimate |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Allete, Inc. | 10.97% |
| American Electric Power | 7.82 |
| Cleco Corp. | 7.19 |
| IDACORP | 7.06 |
| Pinnacle West | 9.69 |
| Portland General | 8.33 |
| Southern Co. | 9.54 |
| Westar Energy | 10.28 |
| Alliant Energy | 10.32 |
| Consolidated Edison | 7.39 |
| Northwestern | 10.48 |
| Xcel Energy | 9.13 |
| Average | 9.02% |
| Edison Int. | 5.24% |
| NV Energy | 15.14 |
| UNS Energy | 11.37 |
| Overall Average | 9.33% |

Source: Exhibit JC-6, Schedule PMA-6, page 1.

APPENDIX A

QUALIFICATIONS OF MATTHEW I. KAHAL

MATTHEW I. KAHAL

Since 2001, Mr. Kahal has worked as an independent consulting economist, specializing in energy economics, public utility regulation and utility financial studies. Over the past three decades, his work has encompassed electric utility integrated resource planning (IRP), power plant licensing, environmental compliance and utility financial issues. In the financial area he has conducted numerous cost of capital studies and addressed other financial issues for electric, gas, telephone and water utilities. Mr. Kahal's work in recent years has expanded to electric power markets, mergers and various aspects of regulation.

Mr. Kahal has provided expert testimony in approximately 400 cases before state and federal regulatory commissions, Federal courts and the U.S. Congress. His testimony has covered need for power, integrated resource planning, cost of capital, purchased power practices and contracts, merger economics, industry restructuring and various other regulatory and public policy issues.

Education:

B.A. (Economics) - University of Maryland, 1971.

M.A. (Economics) - University of Maryland, 1974.

Ph.D. candidacy - University of Maryland, completed all course work and qualifying examinations.

Previous Employment:

1981-2001 - Exeter Associates, Inc. (founding Principal, Vice President and President).

1980-1981 - Member of the Economic Evaluation Directorate, The Aerospace Corporation, Washington, D.C. office.

1977-1980 - Economist, Washington, D.C. consulting firm.

1972-1977 - Research/Teaching Assistant and Instructor, Department of Economics, University of Maryland (College Park). Lecturer in Business and Economics, Montgomery College.

Professional Work Experience:

Mr. Kahal has more than thirty years experience managing and conducting consulting assignments relating to public utility economics and regulation. In 1981, he and five colleagues founded the firm of Exeter Associates, Inc. and for the next 20 years he served as a Principal and corporate officer in the firm. During that time, he supervised multi-million dollar support

contracts with the State of Maryland and directed the technical work conducted both by Exeter professional staff and numerous subcontractors. Additionally, Mr. Kahal took the lead role at Exeter in consulting to the firm's other governmental and private clients in the areas of financial analysis, utility mergers, electric restructuring and utility purchase power contracts.

At the Aerospace Corporation, Mr. Kahal served as an economic consultant to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR). In that capacity he participated in a detailed financial assessment of the SPR, and developed an econometric forecasting model of U.S. petroleum industry inventories. That study has been used to determine the extent to which private sector petroleum stocks can be expected to protect the U.S. from the impacts of oil import interruptions.

Before entering consulting, Mr. Kahal held faculty positions with the Department of Economics at the University of Maryland and with Montgomery College teaching courses on economic principles, business and economic development.

Publications and Consulting Reports:

<u>Projected Electric Power Demands of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company</u>, Maryland Power Plant Siting Program, 1979.

<u>Projected Electric Power Demands of the Allegheny Power System,</u> Maryland Power Plant Siting Program, January 1980.

An Econometric Forecast of Electric Energy and Peak Demand on the Delmarva Peninsula, Maryland Power Plant Siting Program, March 1980 (with Ralph E. Miller).

A Benefit/Cost Methodology of the Marginal Cost Pricing of Tennessee Valley Authority Electricity, prepared for the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, April 1980.

An Evaluation of the Delmarva Power and Light Company Generating Capacity Profile and Expansion Plan, (Interim Report), prepared for the Delaware Office of the Public Advocate, July 1980, (with Sharon L. Mason).

Rhode Island-DOE Electric Utilities Demonstration Project, Third Interim Report on Preliminary Analysis of the Experimental Results, prepared for the Economic Regulatory Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, July 1980.

<u>Petroleum Inventories and the Strategic Petroleum Reserve</u>, The Aerospace Corporation, prepared for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Office, U.S. Department of Energy, December 1980.

<u>Alternatives to Central Station Coal and Nuclear Power Generation</u>, prepared for Argonne National Laboratory and the Office of Utility Systems, U.S. Department of Energy, August 1981.

"An Econometric Methodology for Forecasting Power Demands," <u>Conducting Need-for-Power Review for Nuclear Power Plants</u> (D.A. Nash, ed.), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG-0942, December 1982.

<u>State Regulatory Attitudes Toward Fuel Expense Issues</u>, prepared for the Electric Power Research Institute, July 1983, (with Dale E. Swan).

"Problems in the Use of Econometric Methods in Load Forecasting," <u>Adjusting to Regulatory, Pricing and Marketing Realities</u> (Harry Trebing, ed.), Institute of Public Utilities, Michigan State University, 1983.

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<u>Projected Electric Power Demands for the Potomac Electric Power Company</u>, three volumes with Steven L. Estomin), prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Siting Program, March 1984.

"An Assessment of the State-of-the-Art of Gas Utility Load Forecasting," (with Thomas Bacon, Jr. and Steven L. Estomin), published in the <u>Proceedings of the Fourth NARUC Biennial</u> Regulatory Information Conference, 1984.

"Nuclear Power and Investor Perceptions of Risk," (with Ralph E. Miller), published in <u>The Energy Industries in Transition: 1985-2000</u> (John P. Weyant and Dorothy Sheffield, eds.), 1984.

The Financial Impact of Potential Department of Energy Rate Recommendations on the Commonwealth Edison Company, prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy, October 1984.

"Discussion Comments," published in <u>Impact of Deregulation and Market Forces on Public Utilities: The Future of Regulation</u> (Harry Trebing, ed.), Institute of Public Utilities, Michigan State University, 1985.

An Econometric Forecast of the Electric Power Loads of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, two volumes (with others), prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Siting Program, 1985.

A Survey and Evaluation of Demand Forecast Methods in the Gas Utility Industry, prepared for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Forecasting Division, November 1985, (with Terence Manuel).

A Review and Evaluation of the Load Forecasts of Houston Lighting & Power Company and Central Power & Light Company -- Past and Present, prepared for the Texas Public Utility Commission, December 1985, (with Marvin H. Kahn).

<u>Power Plant Cumulative Environmental Impact Report for Maryland</u>, principal author of three of the eight chapters in the report (Paul E. Miller, ed.), PPSP-CEIR-5, March 1986.

"Potential Emissions Reduction from Conservation, Load Management, and Alternative Power," published in <u>Acid Deposition in Maryland: A Report to the Governor and General Assembly</u>, Maryland Power Plant Research Program, AD-87-1, January 1987.

<u>Determination of Retrofit Costs at the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station</u>, March 1988, prepared for Versar, Inc., New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Excess Deferred Taxes and the Telephone Utility Industry, April 1988, prepared on behalf of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates.

<u>Toward a Proposed Federal Policy for Independent Power Producers</u>, comments prepared on behalf of the Indiana Consumer Counselor, FERC Docket EL87-67-000, November 1987.

Review and Discussion of Regulations Governing Bidding Programs, prepared for the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, June 1988.

A Review of the Proposed Revisions to the FERC Administrative Rules on Avoided Costs and Related Issues, prepared for the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, April 1988.

<u>Review and Comments on the FERC NOPR Concerning Independent Power Producers</u>, prepared for the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, June 1988.

<u>The Costs to Maryland Utilities and Ratepayers of an Acid Rain Control Strategy -- An Updated Analysis</u>, prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Research Program, October 1987, AD-88-4.

"Comments," in New Regulatory and Management Strategies in a Changing Market Environment (Harry M. Trebing and Patrick C. Mann, editors), Proceedings of the Institute of Public Utilities Eighteenth Annual Conference, 1987.

<u>Electric Power Resource Planning for the Potomac Electric Power Company</u>, prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Research Program, July 1988.

<u>Power Plant Cumulative Environmental Impact Report for Maryland</u> (Thomas E. Magette, ed.) authored two chapters, November 1988, PPRP-CEIR-6.

Resource Planning and Competitive Bidding for Delmarva Power & Light Company, October 1990, prepared for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (with M. Fullenbaum).

<u>Electric Power Rate Increases and the Cleveland Area Economy</u>, prepared for the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, October 1988.

An Economic and Need for Power Evaluation of Baltimore Gas & Electric Company's Perryman Plant, May 1991, prepared for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (with M. Fullenbaum).

The Cost of Equity Capital for the Bell Local Exchange Companies in a New Era of Regulation, October 1991, presented at the Atlantic Economic Society 32nd Conference, Washington, D.C.

A Need for Power Review of Delmarva Power & Light Company's Dorchester Unit 1 Power Plant, March 1993, prepared for the Maryland Department of National Resources (with M. Fullenbaum)

<u>The AES Warrior Run Project: Impact on Western Maryland Economic Activity and Electric Rates</u>, February 1993, prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Research Program (with Peter Hall).

An Economic Perspective on Competition and the Electric Utility Industry, November 1994. Prepared for the Electric Consumers' Alliance.

<u>PEPCO's Clean Air Act Compliance Plan: Status Report</u>, prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Research Plan, January 1995 (w/Diane Mountain, Environmental Resources Management, Inc.).

<u>The FERC Open Access Rulemaking: A Review of the Issues</u>, prepared for the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor and the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, June 1995.

<u>A Status Report on Electric Utility Restructuring: Issues for Maryland</u>, prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Research Program, November 1995 (with Daphne Psacharopoulos).

Modeling the Financial Impacts on the Bell Regional Holding Companies from Changes in Access Rates, prepared for MCI Corporation, May 1996.

The CSEF Electric Deregulation Study: Economic Miracle or the Economists' Cold Fusion?, prepared for the Electric Consumers' Alliance, Indianapolis, Indiana, October 1996.

Reducing Rates for Interstate Access Service: Financial Impacts on the Bell Regional Holding Companies, prepared for MCI Corporation, May 1997.

<u>The New Hampshire Retail Competition Pilot Program: A Preliminary Evaluation</u>, July 1997, prepared for the Electric Consumers' Alliance (with Jerome D. Mierzwa).

<u>Electric Restructuring and the Environment: Issue Identification for Maryland</u>, March 1997, prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Research Program (with Environmental Resource Management, Inc.)

<u>An Analysis of Electric Utility Embedded Power Supply Costs</u>, prepared for Power-Gen International Conference, Dallas, Texas, December 1997.

<u>Market Power Outlook for Generation Supply in Louisiana</u>, December 2000, prepared for the Louisiana Public Service Commission (with others).

A Review of Issues Concerning Electric Power Capacity Markets, prepared for the Maryland Power Plant Research Program, December 2001 (with B. Hobbs and J. Inon). The Economic Feasibility of Air Emissions Controls at the Brandon Shores and Morgantown Coal-fired Power Plants, February 2005, (prepared for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation).

<u>The Economic Feasibility of Power Plant Retirements on the Entergy System</u>, September 2005 with Phil Hayet (prepared for the Louisiana Public Service Commission).

Expert Report on Capital Structure, Equity and Debt Costs, prepared for the Edmonton Regional Water Customers Group, August 30, 2006.

Maryland's Options to Reduce and Stabilize Electric Power Prices Following Restructuring, with Steven L. Estomin, prepared for the Power Plant Research Program, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, September 2006.

Expert Report of Matthew I. Kahal, on behalf of the U. S. Department of Justice, August 2008, Civil Action No. IP-99-1693C-MIS.

Conference and Workshop Presentations:

Workshop on State Load Forecasting Programs, sponsored by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, February 1982 (presentation on forecasting methodology).

Fourteenth Annual Conference of the Michigan State University Institute for Public Utilities, December 1982 (presentation on problems in forecasting).

Conference on Conservation and Load Management, sponsored by the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Council, May 1983 (presentation on cost-benefit criteria).

Maryland Conference on Load Forecasting, sponsored by the Maryland Power Plant Siting Program and the Maryland Public Service Commission, June 1983 (presentation on overforecasting power demands).

The 5th Annual Meetings of the International Association of Energy Economists, June 1983 (presentation on evaluating weatherization programs).

The NARUC Advanced Regulatory Studies Program (presented lectures on capacity planning for electric utilities), February 1984.

The 16th Annual Conference of the Institute of Public Utilities, Michigan State University (discussant on phase-in and excess capacity), December 1984.

U.S. Department of Energy Utilities Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada (presentation of current and future regulatory issues), May 1985.

The 18th Annual Conference of the Institute of Public Utilities, Michigan State University, Williamsburg, Virginia, December 1986 (discussant on cogeneration).

The NRECA Conference on Load Forecasting, sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, December 1987 (presentation on load forecast accuracy).

The Second Rutgers/New Jersey Department of Commerce Annual Conference on Energy Policy in the Middle Atlantic States, Rutgers University, April 1988 (presentation on spot pricing of electricity).

The NASUCA 1988 Mid-Year Meeting, Annapolis, Maryland, June 1988, sponsored by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (presentation on the FERC electricity avoided cost NOPRs).

The Thirty Second Atlantic Economic Society Conference, Washington, D.C., October 1991 (presentation of a paper on cost of capital issues for the Bell Operating Companies).

The NASUCA 1993 Mid-Year Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri, sponsored by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates, June 1993 (presentation on regulatory issues concerning electric utility mergers).

The NASUCA and NARUC annual meetings in New York City, November 1993 (presentations and panel discussions on the emerging FERC policies on transmission pricing).

The NASUCA annual meetings in Reno, Nevada, November 1994 (presentation concerning the FERC NOPR on stranded cost recovery).

U.S. Department of Energy Utilities/Energy Management Workshop, March 1995 (presentation concerning electric utility competition).

The 1995 NASUCA Mid-Year Meeting, Breckenridge, Colorado, June 1995, (presentation concerning the FERC rulemaking on electric transmission open access).

The 1996 NASUCA Mid-Year Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, June 1996 (presentation concerning electric utility merger issues).

Conference on "Restructuring the Electric Industry," sponsored by the National Consumers League and Electric Consumers Alliance, Washington, D.C., May 1997 (presentation on retail access pilot programs).

The 1997 Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners (MARUC), Hot Springs, Virginia, July 1997 (presentation concerning electric deregulation issues).

Power-Gen '97 International Conference, Dallas, Texas, December 1997 (presentation concerning utility embedded costs of generation supply).

Consumer Summit on Electric Competition, sponsored by the National Consumers League and Electric Consumers' Alliance, Washington, D.C., March 2001 (presentation concerning generation supply and reliability).

National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates, Mid-Year Meetings, Austin, Texas, June 16-17, 2002 (presenter and panelist on RTO/Standard Market Design issues).

Louisiana State Bar Association, Public Utility Section, October 2, 2002. (Presentation on Performance-Based Ratemaking and panelist on RTO issues). Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Virginia State Corporation Commission/Virginia State Bar, Twenty Second National Regulatory Conference, May 10, 2004. (Presentation on Electric Transmission System Planning.) Williamsburg, Virginia.

| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|---|
| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | <u>Client</u> | <u>Subject</u> |
| 1. | 27374 & 27375 October 1978 | Long Island Lighting Company | New York Counties | Nassau & Suffolk | Economic Impacts of Proposed Rate Increase |
| 2. | 6807 January 1978 | Generic | Maryland | MD Power Plant Siting Program | Load Forecasting |
| 3. | 78-676-EL-AIR February 1978 | Ohio Power Company | Ohio | Ohio Consumers' Counsel | Test Year Sales and Revenues |
| 4. | 17667 May 1979 | Alabama Power Company | Alabama | Attorney General | Test Year Sales, Revenues, Costs and Load Forecasts |
| 5. | None April 1980 | Tennessee Valley Authority | TVA Board | League of Women Voters | Time-of-Use Pricing |
| 6. | R-80021082 | West Penn Power Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Load Forecasting, Marginal Cost pricing |
| 7. | 7259 (Phase I) October 1980 | Potomac Edison Company | Maryland | MD Power Plant Siting Program | Load Forecasting |
| 8. | 7222 December 1980 | Delmarva Power & Light Company | Maryland | MD Power Plant Siting Program | Need for Plant, Load Forecasting |
| 9. | 7441 June 1981 | Potomac Electric Power Company | Maryland | Commission Staff | PURPA Standards |
| 10. | 7159 May 1980 | Baltimore Gas & Electric | Maryland | Commission Staff | Time-of-Use Pricing |
| 11. | 81-044-E-42T | Monongahela Power | West Virginia | Commission Staff | Time-of-Use Rates |
| 12. | 7259 (Phase II) November 1981 | Potomac Edison Company | Maryland | MD Power Plant Siting Program | Load Forecasting, Load Management |
| 13. | 1606 September 1981 | Blackstone Valley Electric and Narragansett | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities | PURPA Standards |
| 14. | RID 1819 April 1982 | Pennsylvania Bell | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 15. | 82-0152 July 1982 | Illinois Power Company | Illinois | U.S. Department of Defense | Rate of Return, CWIP |
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| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | |
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| | <u>Docket Number</u> | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject |
| 16. | 7559 September 1982 | Potomac Edison Company | Maryland | Commission Staff | Cogeneration |
| 17. | 820150-EU September 1982 | Gulf Power Company | Florida | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return, CWIP |
| 18. | 82-057-15 January 1983 | Mountain Fuel Supply Company | Utah | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return, Capital Structure |
| 19. | 5200 August 1983 | Texas Electric Service Company | Texas | Federal Executive Agencies | Cost of Equity |
| 20. | 28069 August 1983 | Oklahoma Natural Gas | Oklahoma | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return, deferred taxes, capital structure, attrition |
| 21. | 83-0537 February 1984 | Commonwealth Edison Company | Illinois | U.S. Department of Energy | Rate of Return, capital structure, financial capability |
| 22. | 84-035-01 June 1984 | Utah Power & Light Company | Utah | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return |
| 23. | U-1009-137 July 1984 | Utah Power & Light Company | Idaho | U.S. Department of Energy | Rate of Return, financial condition |
| 24. | R-842590 August 1984 | Philadelphia Electric Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 25. | 840086-EI August 1984 | Gulf Power Company | Florida | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return, CWIP |
| 26. | 84-122-E August 1984 | Carolina Power & Light Company | South Carolina | South Carolina Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return, CWIP, load forecasting |
| 27. | CGC-83-G & CGC-84-G October 1984 | Columbia Gas of Ohio | Ohio | Ohio Division of Energy | Load forecasting |
| 28. | R-842621 October 1984 | Western Pennsylvania Water Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Test year sales |
| 29. | R-842710 January 1985 | ALLTEL Pennsylvania Inc. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 30. | ER-504 February 1985 | Allegheny Generating Company | FERC | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
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| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kaha | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject |
| 31. | R-842632 March 1985 | West Penn Power Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return, conservation, time-of-use rates |
| 32. | 83-0537 & 84-0555 April 1985 | Commonwealth Edison Company | Illinois | U.S. Department of Energy | Rate of Return, incentive rates, rate base |
| 33. | Rulemaking Docket No. 11, May 1985 | Generic | Delaware | Delaware Commission Staff | Interest rates on refunds |
| 34. | 29450 July 1985 | Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company | Oklahoma | Oklahoma Attorney General | Rate of Return, CWIP in rate base |
| 35. | 1811 August 1985 | Bristol County Water Company | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities | Rate of Return, capital Structure |
| 36. | R-850044 & R-850045 August 1985 | Quaker State & Continental Telephone Companies | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 37. | R-850174 November 1985 | Philadelphia Suburban Water Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return, financial conditions |
| 38. | U-1006-265 March 1986 | Idaho Power Company | Idaho | U.S. Department of Energy | Power supply costs and models |
| 39. | EL-86-37 & EL-86-38 September 1986 | Allegheny Generating Company | FERC | PA Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 40. | R-850287 June 1986 | National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 41. | 1849 August 1986 | Blackstone Valley Electric | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities | Rate of Return, financial condition |
| 42. | 86-297-GA-AIR November 1986 | East Ohio Gas Company | Ohio | Ohio Consumers' Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 43. | U-16945 December 1986 | Louisiana Power & Light Company | Louisiana | Public Service Commission | Rate of Return, rate phase-in plan |
| 44. | Case No. 7972 February 1987 | Potomac Electric Power Company | Maryland | Commission Staff | Generation capacity planning, purchased power contract |
| 45. | EL-86-58 & EL-86-59 March 1987 | System Energy Resources and Middle South Services | FERC | Louisiana PSC | Rate of Return |
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| | | | Expert Testi of Matthew I. | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> | |
| 46. | ER-87-72-001 April 1987 | Orange & Rockland | FERC | PA Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | |
| 47. | U-16945 April 1987 | Louisiana Power & Light Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Revenue requirement update phase-in plan | |
| 48. | P-870196 May 1987 | Pennsylvania Electric Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Cogeneration contract | |
| 49. | 86-2025-EL-AIR June 1987 | Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company | Ohio | Ohio Consumers' Counsel | Rate of Return | |
| 50. | 86-2026-EL-AIR June 1987 | Toledo Edison Company | Ohio | Ohio Consumers' Counsel | Rate of Return | |
| 51. | 87-4 June 1987 | Delmarva Power & Light Company | Delaware | Commission Staff | Cogeneration/small power | |
| 52. | 1872 July 1987 | Newport Electric Company | Rhode Island | Commission Staff | Rate of Return | |
| 53. | WO 8606654 July 1987 | Atlantic City Sewerage Company | New Jersey | Resorts International | Financial condition | |
| 54. | 7510 August 1987 | West Texas Utilities Company | Texas | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return, phase-in | |
| 55. | 8063 Phase I October 1987 | Potomac Electric Power Company | Maryland | Power Plant Research Program | Economics of power plant site selection | |
| 56. | 00439 November 1987 | Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company | Oklahoma | Smith Cogeneration | Cogeneration economics | |
| 57. | RP-87-103 February 1988 | Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company | FERC | Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return | |
| 58. | EC-88-2-000 February 1988 | Utah Power & Light Co. PacifiCorp | FERC | Nucor Steel | Merger economics | |
| 59. | 87-0427 February 1988 | Commonwealth Edison Company | Illinois | Federal Executive Agencies | Financial projections | |
| 60. | 870840 February 1988 | Philadelphia Suburban Water Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | |

| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | Jurisdiction | <u>Client</u> | Subject | | | |
| 61. | 870832 March 1988 | Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
| 62. | 8063 Phase II July 1988 | Potomac Electric Power Company | Maryland | Power Plant Research Program | Power supply study | | | |
| 63. | 8102 July 1988 | Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative | Maryland | Power Plant Research Program | Power supply study | | | |
| 64. | 10105 August 1988 | South Central Bell Telephone Co. | Kentucky | Attorney General | Rate of Return, incentive regulation | | | |
| 65. | 00345 August 1988 | Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company | Oklahoma | Smith Cogeneration | Need for power | | | |
| 66. | U-17906 September 1988 | Louisiana Power & Light Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Rate of Return, nuclear power costs Industrial contracts | | | |
| 67. | 88-170-EL-AIR October 1988 | Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. | Ohio | Northeast-Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency | Economic impact study | | | |
| 68. | 1914 December 1988 | Providence Gas Company | Rhode Island | Commission Staff | Rate of Return | | | |
| 69. | U-12636 & U-17649 February 1989 | Louisiana Power & Light Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Disposition of litigation proceeds | | | |
| 70. | 00345 February 1989 | Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company | Oklahoma | Smith Cogeneration | Load forecasting | | | |
| 71. | RP88-209 March 1989 | Natural Gas Pipeline of America | FERC | Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return | | | |
| 72. | 8425 March 1989 | Houston Lighting & Power Company | Texas | U.S. Department of Energy | Rate of Return | | | |
| 73. | EL89-30-000 April 1989 | Central Illinois Public Service Company | FERC | Soyland Power Coop, Inc. | Rate of Return | | | |
| 74. | R-891208 May 1989 | Pennsylvania American Water Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> | | | |
| 75. | 89-0033 May 1989 | Illinois Bell Telephone Company | Illinois | Citizens Utility Board | Rate of Return | | | |
| 76. | 881167-EI May 1989 | Gulf Power Company | Florida | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return | | | |
| 77. | R-891218 July 1989 | National Fuel Gas Distribution Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Sales forecasting | | | |
| 78. | 8063, Phase III Sept. 1989 | Potomac Electric Power Company | Maryland | Depart. Natural Resources | Emissions Controls | | | |
| 79. | 37414-S2 October 1989 | Public Service Company of Indiana | Indiana | Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return, DSM, off- system sales, incentive regulation | | | |
| 30. | October 1989 | Generic | U.S. House of Reps. Comm. on Ways & Means | NA | Excess deferred income tax | | | |
| 31. | 38728 November 1989 | Indiana Michigan Power Company | Indiana | Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return | | | |
| 32. | RP89-49-000 December 1989 | National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation | FERC | PA Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
| 33. | R-891364 December 1989 | Philadelphia Electric Company | Pennsylvania | PA Office of Consumer Advocate | Financial impacts (surrebuttal only) | | | |
| 34. | RP89-160-000 January 1990 | Trunkline Gas Company | FERC | Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return | | | |
| 35. | EL90-16-000 November 1990 | System Energy Resources, Inc. | FERC | Louisiana Public Service Commission | Rate of Return | | | |
| 36. | 89-624 March 1990 | Bell Atlantic | FCC | PA Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
| 37. | 8245 March 1990 | Potomac Edison Company | Maryland | Depart. Natural Resources | Avoided Cost | | | |
| 88. | 000586 March 1990 | Public Service Company of Oklahoma | Oklahoma | Smith Cogeneration Mgmt. | Need for Power | | | |

| | | | Expert Testir of Matthew I. | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> |
| 9. | 38868 March 1990 | Indianapolis Water Company | Indiana | Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return |
| 0. | 1946 March 1990 | Blackstone Valley Electric Company | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities | Rate of Return |
| 1. | 000776 April 1990 | Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company | Oklahoma | Smith Cogeneration Mgmt. | Need for Power |
| 2. | 890366 May 1990, December 1990 | Metropolitan Edison Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Competitive Bidding Program Avoided Costs |
| 3. | EC-90-10-000 May 1990 | Northeast Utilities | FERC | Maine PUC, et. al. | Merger, Market Power, Transmission Access |
| 4. | ER-891109125 July 1990 | Jersey Central Power & Light | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 5. | R-901670 July 1990 | National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return Test year sales |
| 6. | 8201 October 1990 | Delmarva Power & Light Company | Maryland | Depart. Natural Resources | Competitive Bidding, Resource Planning |
| 7. | EL90-45-000 April 1991 | Entergy Services, Inc. | FERC | Louisiana PSC | Rate of Return |
| 8. | GR90080786J January 1991 | New Jersey Natural Gas | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 9. | 90-256 January 1991 | South Central Bell Telephone Company | Kentucky | Attorney General | Rate of Return |
| 00. | U-17949A February 1991 | South Central Bell Telephone Company | Louisiana | Louisiana PSC | Rate of Return |
| 01. | ER90091090J April 1991 | Atlantic City Electric Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 02. | 8241, Phase I April 1991 | Baltimore Gas & Electric Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | Environmental controls |

| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> |
| 103. | 8241, Phase II May 1991 | Baltimore Gas & Electric Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | Need for Power, Resource Planning |
| 104. | 39128 May 1991 | Indianapolis Water Company | Indiana | Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return, rate base, financial planning |
| 105. | P-900485 May 1991 | Duquesne Light Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Purchased power contract and related ratemaking |
| 106. | G900240 P910502 May 1991 | Metropolitan Edison Company Pennsylvania Electric Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Purchased power contract and related ratemaking |
| 107. | GR901213915 May 1991 | Elizabethtown Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 108. | 91-5032 August 1991 | Nevada Power Company | Nevada | U.S. Dept. of Energy | Rate of Return |
| 109. | EL90-48-000 November 1991 | Entergy Services | FERC | Louisiana PSC | Capacity transfer |
| 110. | 000662 September 1991 | Southwestern Bell Telephone | Oklahoma | Attorney General | Rate of Return |
| 111. | U-19236 October 1991 | Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company | Louisiana | Louisiana PSC Staff | Rate of Return |
| 112. | U-19237 December 1991 | Louisiana Gas Service Company | Louisiana | Louisiana PSC Staff | Rate of Return |
| 113. | ER91030356J October 1991 | Rockland Electric Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 114. | GR91071243J February 1992 | South Jersey Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 115. | GR91081393J March 1992 | New Jersey Natural Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 116. | P-870235 <u>et al</u> . March 1992 | Pennsylvania Electric Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Cogeneration contracts |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject | | | |
| 117. | 8413 March 1992 | Potomac Electric Power Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | IPP purchased power contracts | | | |
| 118. | 39236 March 1992 | Indianapolis Power & Light Company | Indiana | Utility Consumer Counselor | Least-cost planning Need for power | | | |
| 119. | R-912164 April 1992 | Equitable Gas Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
| 120. | ER-91111698J May 1992 | Public Service Electric & Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | | |
| 121. | U-19631 June 1992 | Trans Louisiana Gas Company | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Rate of Return | | | |
| 122. | ER-91121820J July 1992 | Jersey Central Power & Light Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | | |
| 123. | R-00922314 August 1992 | Metropolitan Edison Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
| 124. | 92-049-05 September 1992 | US West Communications | Utah | Committee of Consumer Services | Rate of Return | | | |
| 125. | 92PUE0037 September 1992 | Commonwealth Gas Company | Virginia | Attorney General | Rate of Return | | | |
| 126. | EC92-21-000 September 1992 | Entergy Services, Inc. | FERC | Louisiana PSC | Merger Impacts (Affidavit) | | | |
| 127. | ER92-341-000 December 1992 | System Energy Resources | FERC | Louisiana PSC | Rate of Return | | | |
| 128. | U-19904 November 1992 | Louisiana Power & Light Company | Louisiana | Staff | Merger analysis, competition competition issues | | | |
| 129. | 8473 November 1992 | Baltimore Gas & Electric Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | QF contract evaluation | | | |
| 130. | IPC-E-92-25 January 1993 | Idaho Power Company | Idaho | Federal Executive Agencies | Power Supply Clause | | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject | | | |
| 131. | E002/GR-92-1185 February 1993 | Northern States Power Company | Minnesota | Attorney General | Rate of Return | | | |
| 132. | 92-102, Phase II March 1992 | Central Maine Power Company | Maine | Staff | QF contracts prudence and procurements practices | | | |
| 133. | EC92-21-000 March 1993 | Entergy Corporation | FERC | Louisiana PSC | Merger Issues | | | |
| 134. | 8489 March 1993 | Delmarva Power & Light Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | Power Plant Certification | | | |
| 135. | 11735 April 1993 | Texas Electric Utilities Company | Texas | Federal Executives Agencies | Rate of Return | | | |
| 136. | 2082 May 1993 | Providence Gas Company | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities | Rate of Return | | | |
| 137. | P-00930715 December 1993 | Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return, Financial Projections, Bell/TCI merger | | | |
| 138. | R-00932670 February 1994 | Pennsylvania-American Water Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
| 139. | 8583 February 1994 | Conowingo Power Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | Competitive Bidding for Power Supplies | | | |
| 140. | E-015/GR-94-001 April 1994 | Minnesota Power & Light Company | Minnesota | Attorney General | Rate of Return | | | |
| 141. | CC Docket No. 94-1 May 1994 | Generic Telephone | FCC | MCI Comm. Corp. | Rate of Return | | | |
| 142. | 92-345, Phase II June 1994 | Central Maine Power Company | Maine | Advocacy Staff | Price Cap Regulation Fuel Costs | | | |
| 143. | 93-11065 April 1994 | Nevada Power Company | Nevada | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return | | | |
| 144. | 94-0065 May 1994 | Commonwealth Edison Company | Illinois | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return | | | |
| 145. | GR94010002J June 1994 | South Jersey Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | | |

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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> |
| 146. | WR94030059 July 1994 | New Jersey-American Water Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return |
| 147. | RP91-203-000 June 1994 | Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company | FERC | Customer Group | Environmental Externalities (oral testimony only) |
| 48. | ER94-998-000 July 1994 | Ocean State Power | FERC | Boston Edison Company | Rate of Return |
| 149. | R-00942986 July 1994 | West Penn Power Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return, Emission Allowances |
| 150. | 94-121 August 1994 | South Central Bell Telephone Company | Kentucky | Attorney General | Rate of Return |
| 151. | 35854-S2 November 1994 | PSI Energy, Inc. | Indiana | Utility Consumer Counsel | Merger Savings and Allocations |
| 152. | IPC-E-94-5 November 1994 | Idaho Power Company | Idaho | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return |
| 153. | November 1994 | Edmonton Water | Alberta, Canada | Regional Customer Group | Rate of Return (Rebuttal Only) |
| 54. | 90-256 December 1994 | South Central Bell Telephone Company | Kentucky | Attorney General | Incentive Plan True-Ups |
| 155. | U-20925 February 1995 | Louisiana Power & Light Company | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Rate of Return Industrial Contracts Trust Fund Earnings |
| 156. | R-00943231 February 1995 | Pennsylvania-American Water Company | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 57. | 8678 March 1995 | Generic | Maryland | Dept. Natural Resources | Electric Competition Incentive Regulation (oral only) |
| 58. | R-000943271 April 1995 | Pennsylvania Power & Light Company | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return Nuclear decommissioning Capacity Issues |
| 59. | U-20925 May 1995 | Louisiana Power & Light Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Class Cost of Service Issues |
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| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kaha | <u> </u> | |
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| | <u>Docket Number</u> | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> |
| 160. | 2290 June 1995 | Narragansett Electric Company | Rhode Island | Division Staff | Rate of Return |
| 161. | U-17949E June 1995 | South Central Bell Telephone Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Rate of Return |
| 162. | 2304 July 1995 | Providence Water Supply Board | Rhode Island | Division Staff | Cost recovery of Capital Spending Program |
| 163. | ER95-625-000 <u>et al</u> . August 1995 | PSI Energy, Inc. | FERC | Office of Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return |
| 164. | P-00950915 <u>et al</u> . September 1995 | Paxton Creek Cogeneration Assoc. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Cogeneration Contract Amendment |
| 165. | 8702 September 1995 | Potomac Edison Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | Allocation of DSM Costs (oral only) |
| 166. | ER95-533-001 September 1995 | Ocean State Power | FERC | Boston Edison Co. | Cost of Equity |
| 167. | 40003 November 1995 | PSI Energy, Inc. | Indiana | Utility Consumer Counselor | Rate of Return Retail wheeling |
| 168. | P-55, SUB 1013 January 1996 | BellSouth | North Carolina | AT&T | Rate of Return |
| 169. | P-7, SUB 825 January 1996 | Carolina Tel. | North Carolina | AT&T | Rate of Return |
| 170. | February 1996 | Generic Telephone | FCC | MCI | Cost of capital |
| 171. | 95A-531EG April 1996 | Public Service Company of Colorado | Colorado | Federal Executive Agencies | Merger issues |
| 172. | ER96-399-000 May 1996 | Northern Indiana Public Service Company | FERC | Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor | Cost of capital |
| 173. | 8716 June 1996 | Delmarva Power & Light Company | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | DSM programs |
| 174. | 8725 July 1996 | BGE/PEPCO | Maryland | Md. Energy Admin. | Merger Issues |
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| | | | Expert Testing of Matthew I. | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject |
| 175. | U-20925 August 1996 | Entergy Louisiana, Inc. | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Rate of Return Allocations Fuel Clause |
| 176. | EC96-10-000 September 1996 | BGE/PEPCO | FERC | Md. Energy Admin. | Merger issues competition |
| 177. | EL95-53-000 November 1996 | Entergy Services, Inc. | FERC | Louisiana PSC | Nuclear Decommissioning |
| 178. | WR96100768 March 1997 | Consumers NJ Water Company | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Cost of Capital |
| 179. | WR96110818 April 1997 | Middlesex Water Co. | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Cost of Capital |
| 180. | U-11366 April 1997 | Ameritech Michigan | Michigan | MCI | Access charge reform/financial condition |
| 181. | 97-074 May 1997 | BellSouth | Kentucky | MCI | Rate Rebalancing financial condition |
| 182. | 2540 June 1997 | New England Power | Rhode Island | PUC Staff | Divestiture Plan |
| 183. | 96-336-TP-CSS June 1997 | Ameritech Ohio | Ohio | MCI | Access Charge reform Economic impacts |
| 184. | WR97010052 July 1997 | Maxim Sewerage Corp. | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 185. | 97-300 August 1997 | LG&E/KU | Kentucky | Attorney General | Merger Plan |
| 186. | Case No. 8738 August 1997 | Generic (oral testimony only) | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | Electric Restructuring Policy |
| 187. | Docket No. 2592 September 1997 | Eastern Utilities | Rhode Island | PUC Staff | Generation Divestiture |
| 188. | Case No.97-247 September 1997 | Cincinnati Bell Telephone | Kentucky | MCI | Financial Condition |
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| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject |
| 189. | Docket No. U-20925 November 1997 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Rate of Return |
| 190. | Docket No. D97.7.90 November 1997 | Montana Power Co. | Montana | Montana Consumers Counsel | Stranded Cost |
| 191. | Docket No. EO97070459 November 1997 | Jersey Central Power & Light Co. | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Stranded Cost |
| 192. | Docket No. R-00974104 November 1997 | Duquesne Light Co. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Stranded Cost |
| 193. | Docket No. R-00973981 November 1997 | West Penn Power Co. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Stranded Cost |
| 194. | Docket No. A-1101150F0015 November 1997 | Allegheny Power System DQE, Inc. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Merger Issues |
| 195. | Docket No. WR97080615 January 1998 | Consumers NJ Water Company | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 196. | Docket No. R-00974149 January 1998 | Pennsylvania Power Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Stranded Cost |
| 197. | Case No. 8774 January 1998 | Allegheny Power System DQE, Inc. | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources MD Energy Administration | Merger Issues |
| 198. | Docket No. U-20925 (SC) March 1998 | Entergy Louisiana, Inc. | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Restructuring, Stranded Costs, Market Prices |
| 199. | Docket No. U-22092 (SC) March 1998 | Entergy Gulf States, Inc. | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Restructuring, Stranded Costs, Market Prices |
| 200. | Docket Nos. U-22092 (SC) and U-20925(SC) May 1998 | Entergy Gulf States and Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Standby Rates |
| 201. | Docket No. WR98010015 May 1998 | NJ American Water Co. | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 202. | Case No. 8794 December 1998 | Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. | Maryland | MD Energy Admin./Dept. Of Natural Resources | Stranded Cost/ Transition Plan |
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| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject |
| 203. | Case No. 8795 December 1998 | Delmarva Power & Light Co. | Maryland | MD Energy Admin./Dept. Of Natural Resources | Stranded Cost/ Transition Plan |
| 204. | Case No. 8797 January 1998 | Potomac Edison Co. | Maryland | MD Energy Admin./Dept. Of Natural Resources | Stranded Cost/ Transition Plan |
| 205. | Docket No. WR98090795 March 1999 | Middlesex Water Co. | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 206. | Docket No. 99-02-05 April 1999 | Connecticut Light & Power | Connecticut | Attorney General | Stranded Costs |
| 207. | Docket No. 99-03-04 May 1999 | United Illuminating Company | Connecticut | Attorney General | Stranded Costs |
| 208. | Docket No. U-20925 (FRP) June 1999 | Entergy Louisiana, Inc. | Louisiana | Staff | Capital Structure |
| 209. | Docket No. EC-98-40-000, et <u>al</u> . May 1999 | American Electric Power/ Central & Southwest | FERC | Arkansas PSC | Market Power Mitigation |
| 210. | Docket No. 99-03-35 July 1999 | United Illuminating Company | Connecticut | Attorney General | Restructuring |
| 211. | Docket No. 99-03-36 July 1999 | Connecticut Light & Power Co. | Connecticut | Attorney General | Restructuring |
| 212. | WR99040249 Oct. 1999 | Environmental Disposal Corp. | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 213. | 2930 Nov. 1999 | NEES/EUA | Rhode Island | Division Staff | Merger/Cost of Capital |
| 214. | DE99-099 Nov. 1999 | Public Service New Hampshire | New Hampshire | Consumer Advocate | Cost of Capital Issues |
| 215. | 00-01-11 Feb. 2000 | Con Ed/NU | Connecticut | Attorney General | Merger Issues |
| 216. | Case No. 8821 May 2000 | Reliant/ODEC | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | Need for Power/Plant Operations |
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| | | | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | Jurisdiction | Client | Subject |
| 217. | Case No. 8738 July 2000 | Generic | Maryland | Dept. of Natural Resources | DSM Funding |
| 218. | Case No. U-23356 June 2000 | Entergy Louisiana, Inc. | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Fuel Prudence Issues Purchased Power |
| 219. | Case No. 21453, <u>et al</u> July 2000 | SWEPCO | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Stranded Costs |
| 220. | Case No. 20925 (B) July 2000 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contracts |
| 221. | Case No. 24889 August 2000 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contracts |
| 222. | Case No. 21453, <u>et al.</u> February 2001 | CLECO | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Stranded Costs |
| 223. | P-00001860 and P-0000181 March 2001 | GPU Companies | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 224. | CVOL-0505662-S March 2001 | ConEd/NU | Connecticut Superior Court | Attorney General | Merger (Affidavit) |
| 225. | U-20925 (SC) March 2001 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Stranded Costs |
| 226. | U-22092 (SC) March 2001 | Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Stranded Costs |
| 227. | U-25533 May 2001 | Entergy Louisiana/ Gulf States | Louisiana Interruptible Service | PSC Staff | Purchase Power |
| 228. | P-00011872 May 2001 | Pike County Pike | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return |
| 229. | 8893 July 2001 | Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. | Maryland | MD Energy Administration | Corporate Restructuring |
| 230. | 8890 September 2001 | Potomac Electric/Connectivity | Maryland | MD Energy Administration | Merger Issues |
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| | | | Expert Testimof Matthew I. K | ony (ahal | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject | |
| 231. | U-25533 August 2001 | Entergy Louisiana / Gulf States | Louisiana | Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | |
| 232. | U-25965 November 2001 | Generic | Louisiana | Staff | RTO Issues | |
| 233. | 3401 March 2002 | New England Gas Co. | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities | Rate of Return | |
| 234. | 99-833-MJR April 2002 | Illinois Power Co. | U.S. District Court | U.S. Department of Justice | New Source Review | |
| 235. | U-25533 March 2002 | Entergy Louisiana/ Gulf States | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Nuclear Uprates Purchase Power | |
| 236. | P-00011872 May 2002 | Pike County Power & Light | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | POLR Service Costs | |
| 237. | U-26361, Phase I May 2002 | Entergy Louisiana/ Gulf States | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Cost Allocations | |
| 238. | R-00016849C001 et al. June 2002 | Generic | Pennsylvania | Pennsylvania OCA | Rate of Return | |
| 239. | U-26361, Phase II July 2002 | Entergy Louisiana/ Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | |
| 240. | U-20925(B) August 2002 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Tax Issues | |
| 241. | U-26531 October 2002 | SWEPCO | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contract | |
| 242. | 8936 October 2002 | Delmarva Power & Light | Maryland | Energy Administration Dept. Natural Resources | Standard Offer Service | |
| 243. | U-25965 November 2002 | SWEPCO/AEP | Louisiana | PSC Staff | RTO Cost/Benefit | |
| 244. | 8908 Phase I November 2002 | Generic | Maryland | Energy Administration Dept. Natural Resources | Standard Offer Service | |
| 245. | 02S-315EG November 2002 | Public Service Company of Colorado | Colorado | Fed. Executive Agencies | Rate of Return | 25 |

| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | <u>Docket Number</u> | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject | | | |
| 246. | EL02-111-000 December 2002 | PJM/MISO | FERC | MD PSC | Transmission Ratemaking | | | |
| 247. | 02-0479 February 2003 | Commonwealth Edison | Illinois | Dept. of Energy | POLR Service | | | |
| 248. | PL03-1-000 March 2003 | Generic | FERC | NASUCA | Transmission Pricing (Affidavit) | | | |
| 249. | U-27136 April 2003 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | | | |
| 250. | 8908 Phase II July 2003 | Generic | Maryland | Energy Administration Dept. of Natural Resources | Standard Offer Service | | | |
| 251. | U-27192 June 2003 | Entergy Louisiana and Gulf States | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Purchase Power Contract Cost Recovery | | | |
| 252. | C2-99-1181 October 2003 | Ohio Edison Company | U.S. District Court | U.S. Department of Justice, et al. | Clean Air Act Compliance Economic Impact (Report) | | | |
| 253. | RP03-398-000 December 2003 | Northern Natural Gas Co. | FERC | Municipal Distributors Group/Gas Task Force | Rate of Return | | | |
| 254. | 8738 December 2003 | Generic | Maryland | Energy Admin Department of Natural Resources | Environmental Disclosure (oral only) | | | |
| 255. | U-27136 December 2003 | Entergy Louisiana, Inc. | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | | | |
| 256. | U-27192, Phase II October/December 2003 | Entergy Louisiana & Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | | | |
| 257. | WC Docket 03-173 December 2003 | Generic | FCC | MCI | Cost of Capital (TELRIC) | | | |
| 258. | ER 030 20110 January 2004 | Atlantic City Electric | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | |
| 259. | E-01345A-03-0437 January 2004 | Arizona Public Service Company | Arizona | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return | | | |
| 260. | 03-10001 January 2004 | Nevada Power Company | Nevada | U.S. Dept. of Energy | Rate of Return | | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject | | | | |
| 261. | R-00049255 June 2004 | PPL Elec. Utility | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | | | |
| 262. | U-20925 July 2004 | Entergy Louisiana, Inc. | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Rate of Return Capacity Resources | | | | |
| 263. | U-27866 September 2004 | Southwest Electric Power Co. | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | | |
| 264. | U-27980 September 2004 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | | |
| 265. | U-27865 October 2004 | Entergy Louisiana, Inc. Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | | |
| 266. | RP04-155 December 2004 | Northern Natural Gas Company | FERC | Municipal Distributors Group/Gas Task Force | Rate of Return | | | | |
| 267. | U-27836 January 2005 | Entergy Louisiana/ Gulf States | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Power plant Purchase and Cost Recovery | | | | |
| 268. | U-199040 et al. February 2005 | Entergy Gulf States/ Louisiana | Louisiana | PSC Staff | Global Settlement, Multiple rate proceedings | | | | |
| 269. | EF03070532 March 2005 | Public Service Electric & Gas | New Jersey | Ratepayers Advocate | Securitization of Deferred Costs | | | | |
| 270. | 05-0159 June 2005 | Commonwealth Edison | Illinois | Department of Energy | POLR Service | | | | |
| 271. | U-28804 June 2005 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | QF Contract | | | | |
| 272. | U-28805 June 2005 | Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | QF Contract | | | | |
| 273. | 05-0045-EI June 2005 | Florida Power & Lt. | Florida | Federal Executive Agencies | Rate of Return | | | | |
| 274. | 9037 July 2005 | Generic | Maryland | MD. Energy Administration | POLR Service | | | | |
| 275. | U-28155 August 2005 | Entergy Louisiana Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Independent Coordinator of Transmission Plan | | | | |

| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> | | | |
| 276. | U-27866-A September 2005 | Southwestern Electric Power Company | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 277. | U-28765 October 2005 | Cleco Power LLC | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 278. | U-27469 October 2005 | Entergy Louisiana Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Avoided Cost Methodology | | | |
| 279. | A-313200F007 October 2005 | Sprint (United of PA) | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Corporate Restructuring | | | |
| 280. | EM05020106 November 2005 | Public Service Electric & Gas Company | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Merger Issues | | | |
| 281. | U-28765 December 2005 | Cleco Power LLC | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Plant Certification, Financing, Rate Plan | | | |
| 282. | U-29157 February 2006 | Cleco Power LLC | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Storm Damage Financing | | | |
| 283. | U-29204 March 2006 | Entergy Louisiana Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | LPSC Staff | Purchase power contracts | | | |
| 284. | A-310325F006 March 2006 | Alltel | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Merger, Corporate Restructuring | | | |
| 285. | 9056 March 2006 | Generic | Maryland | Maryland Energy Administration | Standard Offer Service Structure | | | |
| 286. | C2-99-1182 April 2006 | American Electric Power Utilities | U. S. District Court Southern District, Ohio | U. S. Department of Justice | New Source Review Enforcement (expert report) | | | |
| 287. | EM05121058 April 2006 | Atlantic City Electric | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Power plant Sale | | | |
| 288. | ER05121018 June 2006 | Jersey Central Power & Light Company | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | NUG Contracts Cost Recovery | | | |
| 289. | U-21496, Subdocket C June 2006 | Cleco Power LLC | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Rate Stabilization Plan | | | |
| 290. | GR0510085 June 2006 | Public Service Electric & Gas Company | New Jersey | Ratepayer Advocate | Rate of Return (gas services) | | | |

| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> | | |
| 291. | R-000061366 July 2006 | Metropolitan Ed. Company Penn. Electric Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Rate of Return | | |
| 292. | 9064 September 2006 | Generic | Maryland | Energy Administration | Standard Offer Service | | |
| 293. | U-29599 September 2006 | Cleco Power LLC | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | | |
| 294. | WR06030257 September 2006 | New Jersey American Water Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | |
| 295. | U-27866/U-29702 October 2006 | Southwestern Electric Power Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power/Power Plant Certification | | |
| 296. | 9063 October 2006 | Generic | Maryland | Energy Administration Department of Natural Resources | Generation Supply Policies | | |
| 297. | EM06090638 November 2006 | Atlantic City Electric | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Power Plant Sale | | |
| 298. | C-2000065942 November 2006 | Pike County Light & Power | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Generation Supply Service | | |
| 299. | ER06060483 November 2006 | Rockland Electric Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | |
| 300. | A-110150F0035 December 2006 | Duquesne Light Company | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Merger Issues | | |
| 301. | U-29203, Phase II January 2007 | Entergy Gulf States Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Storm Damage Cost Allocation | | |
| 302. | 06-11022 February 2007 | Nevada Power Company | Nevada | U.S. Dept. of Energy | Rate of Return | | |
| 303. | U-29526 March 2007 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Affiliate Transactions | | |
| 304. | P-00072245 March 2007 | Pike County Light & Power | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Provider of Last Resort Service | | |
| 305. | P-00072247 March 2007 | Duquesne Light Company | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Provider of Last Resort Service | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> | | | |
| 306. | EM07010026 May 2007 | Jersey Central Power & Light Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Power Plant Sale | | | |
| 307. | U-30050 June 2007 | Entergy Louisiana Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 308. | U-29956 June 2007 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Black Start Unit | | | |
| 309. | U-29702 June 2007 | Southwestern Electric Power Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Power Plant Certification | | | |
| 310. | U-29955 July 2007 | Entergy Louisiana Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | | | |
| 311. | 2007-67 July 2007 | FairPoint Communications | Maine | Office of Public Advocate | Merger Financial Issues | | | |
| 312. | P-00072259 July 2007 | Metropolitan Edison Co. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Purchase Power Contract Restructuring | | | |
| 313. | EO07040278 September 2007 | Public Service Electric & Gas | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Solar Energy Program Financial Issues | | | |
| 314. | U-30192 September 2007 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Power Plant Certification Ratemaking, Financing | | | |
| 315. | 9117 (Phase II) October 2007 | Generic (Electric) | Maryland | Energy Administration | Standard Offer Service Reliability | | | |
| 316. | U-30050 November 2007 | Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Power Plant Acquisition | | | |
| 317. | IPC-E-07-8 December 2007 | Idaho Power Co. | Idaho | U.S. Department of Energy | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 318. | U-30422 (Phase I) January 2008 | Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 319. | U-29702 (Phase II) February, 2008 | Southwestern Electric Power Co. | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Power Plant Certification | | | |
| 320. | March 2008 | Delmarva Power & Light | Delaware State Senate | Senate Committee | Wind Energy Economics | | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | Subject | | | |
| 321. | U-30192 (Phase II) March 2008 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Cash CWIP Policy, Credit Ratings | | | |
| 322. | U-30422 (Phase II) April 2008 | Entergy Gulf States - LA | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Power Plant Acquisition | | | |
| 323. | U-29955 (Phase II) April 2008 | Entergy Gulf States - LA Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 324. | GR-070110889 April 2008 | New Jersey Natural Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 325. | WR-08010020 July 2008 | New Jersey American Water Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 326. | U-28804-A August 2008 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Cogeneration Contract | | | |
| 327. | IP-99-1693C-M/S August 2008 | Duke Energy Indiana | Federal District Court | U.S. Department of Justice/ Environmental Protection Agency | Clean Air Act Compliance (Expert Report) | | | |
| 328. | U-30670 September 2008 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Nuclear Plant Equipment Replacement | | | |
| 329. | 9149 October 2008 | Generic | Maryland | Department of Natural Resources | Capacity Adequacy/Reliability | | | |
| 330. | IPC-E-08-10 October 2008 | Idaho Power Company | Idaho | U.S. Department of Energy | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 331. | U-30727 October 2008 | Cleco Power LLC | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchased Power Contract | | | |
| 332. | U-30689-A December 2008 | Cleco Power LLC | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Transmission Upgrade Project | | | |
| 333. | IP-99-1693C-M/S February 2009 | Duke Energy Indiana | Federal District Court | U.S. Department of Justice/EPA | Clean Air Act Compliance (Oral Testimony) | | | |
| 334. | U-30192, Phase II February 2009 | Entergy Louisiana, LLC | Louisiana | Commission Staff | CWIP Rate Request Plant Allocation | | | |
| 335. | U-28805-B February 2009 | Entergy Gulf States, LLC | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Cogeneration Contract | | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | Jurisdiction | Client | Subject | | | |
| 336. | P-2009-2093055, et al. May 2009 | Metropolitan Edison Pennsylvania Electric | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Default Service | | | |
| 337. | U-30958 July 2009 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 338. | EO08050326 August 2009 | Jersey Central Power Light Co. | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Demand Response Cost Recovery | | | |
| 339. | GR09030195 August 2009 | Elizabethtown Gas | New Jersey | New Jersey Rate Counsel | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 340. | U-30422-A August 2009 | Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Staff | Generating Unit Purchase | | | |
| 341. | CV 1:99-01693 August 2009 | Duke Energy Indiana | Federal District Court – Indiana | U. S. DOJ/EPA, et al. | Environmental Compliance Rate Impacts (Expert Report) | | | |
| 342. | 4065 September 2009 | Narragansett Electric | Rhode Island | Division Staff | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 343. | U-30689 September 2009 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | Staff | Cost of Capital, Rate Design, Other Rate Case Issues | | | |
| 344. | U-31147 October 2009 | Entergy Gulf States Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Staff | Purchase Power Contracts | | | |
| 345. | U-30913 November 2009 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | Staff | Certification of Generating Unit | | | |
| 346. | M-2009-2123951 November 2009 | West Penn Power | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Smart Meter Cost of Capital (Surrebuttal Only) | | | |
| 347. | GR09050422 November 2009 | Public Service Electric & Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 348. | D-09-49 November 2009 | Narragansett Electric | Rhode Island | Division Staff | Securities Issuances | | | |
| 349. | U-29702, Phase II November 2009 | Southwestern Electric Power Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Cash CWIP Recovery | | | |
| 350. | U-30981 December 2009 | Entergy Louisiana Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Storm Damage Cost Allocation | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> | | | |
| 351. | U-31196 (ITA Phase) February 2010 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 352. | ER09080668 March 2010 | Rockland Electric | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | | |
| 353. | GR10010035 May 2010 | South Jersey Gas Co. | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | | |
| 354. | P-2010-2157862 May 2010 | Pennsylvania Power Co. | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Default Service Program | | | |
| 355. | 10-CV-2275 June 2010 | Xcel Energy | U.S. District Court Minnesota | U.S. Dept. Justice/EPA | Clean Air Act Enforcement | | | |
| 356. | WR09120987 June 2010 | United Water New Jersey | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Rate of Return | | | |
| 357. | U-30192, Phase III June 2010 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Staff | Power Plant Cancellation Costs | | | |
| 358. | 31299 July 2010 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | Staff | Securities Issuances | | | |
| 359. | App. No. 1601162 July 2010 | EPCOR Water | Alberta, Canada | Regional Customer Group | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 360. | U-31196 July 2010 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Staff | Purchase Power Contract | | | |
| 361. | 2:10-CV-13101 August 2010 | Detroit Edison | U.S. District Court Eastern Michigan | U.S. Dept. of Justice/EPA | Clean Air Act Enforcement | | | |
| 362. | U-31196 August 2010 | Entergy Louisiana Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Staff | Generating Unit Purchase and Cost Recovery | | | |
| 363. | Case No. 9233 October 2010 | Potomac Edison Company | Maryland | Energy Administration | Merger Issues | | | |
| 364. | 2010-2194652 November 2010 | Pike County Light & Power | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Default Service Plan | | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | Jurisdiction | Client | Subject | | | |
| 365. | 2010-2213369 April 2011 | Duquesne Light Company | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Merger Issues | | | |
| 366. | U-31841 May 2011 | Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Staff | Purchase Power Agreement | | | |
| 367. | 11-06006 September 2011 | Nevada Power | Nevada | U. S. Department of Energy | Cost of Capital | | | |
| 368. | 9271 September 2011 | Exelon/Constellation | Maryland | MD Energy Administration | Merger Savings | | | |
| 369. | 4255 September 2011 | United Water Rhode Island | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities | Rate of Return | | | |
| 370. | P-2011-2252042 October 2011 | Pike County Light & Power | Pennsylvania | Consumer Advocate | Default service plan | | | |
| 371. | U-32095 November 2011 | Southwestern Electric Power Company | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Wind energy contract | | | |
| 372. | U-32031 November 2011 | Entergy Gulf States Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchased Power Contract | | | |
| 373. | U-32088 January 2012 | Entergy Louisiana | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Coal plant evaluation | | | |
| 374. | R-2011-2267958 February 2012 | Aqua Pa. | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Cost of capital | | | |
| 375. | P-2011-2273650 February 2012 | FirstEnergy Companies | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Default service plan | | | |
| 376. | U-32223 March 2012 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Purchase Power Contract and Rate Recovery | | | |
| 377. | U-32148 March 2012 | Entergy Louisiana Energy Gulf States | Louisiana | Commission Staff | RTO Membership | | | |
| 378. | ER11080469 April 2012 | Atlantic City Electric | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Cost of capital | | | |
| 379. | R-2012-2285985 May 2012 | Peoples Natural Gas Company | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Cost of capital 34 | | | |

| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | |
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| | Docket Number | <u>Utility</u> | <u>Jurisdiction</u> | Client | <u>Subject</u> | | |
| 380. | U-32153 July 2012 | Cleco Power | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Environmental Compliance Plan | | |
| 381. | U-32435 August 2012 | Entergy Gulf States Louisiana LLC | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Cost of equity (gas) | | |
| 382. | ER-2012-0174 August 2012 | Kansas City Power & Light Company | Missouri | U. S. Department of Energy | Rate of return | | |
| 383. | U-31196 August 2012 | Entergy Louisiana/ Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Power Plant Joint Ownership | | |
| 384. | ER-2012-0175 August 2012 | KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations | Missouri | U.S. Department of Energy | Rate of Return | | |
| 385. | 4323 August 2012 | Narragansett Electric Company | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities and Carriers | Rate of Return (electric and gas) | | |
| 386. | D-12-049 October 2012 | Narragansett Electric Company | Rhode Island | Division of Public Utilities and Carriers | Debt issue | | |
| 387. | GO12070640 October 2012 | New Jersey Natural Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Cost of capital | | |
| 388. | GO12050363 November 2012 | South Jersey Gas Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Cost of capital | | |
| 389. | R-2012-2321748 January 2013 | Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania | Pennsylvania | Office of Consumer Advocate | Cost of capital | | |
| 390. | U-32220 February 2013 | Southwestern Electric Power Co. | Louisiana | Commission Staff | Formula Rate Plan | | |
| 391. | CV No. 12-1286 February 2013 | PPL et al. | Federal District Court | MD Public Service Commission | PJM Market Impacts (deposition) | | |
| 392. | EL13-48-000 February 2013 | BGE, PHI subsidiaries | FERC | Joint Customer Group | Transmission Cost of Equity | | |
| 393. | EO12080721 March 2013 | Public Service Electric & Gas | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Solar Tracker ROE | | |
| 394. | EO12080726 March 2013 | Public Service Electric & Gas | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Solar Tracker ROE | | |
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| | Expert Testimony of Matthew I. Kahal | | | | | | | | |
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| 395. | CV12-1286MJG March 2013 | PPL, PSEG | U.S. District Court for the District of Md. | Md. Public Service Commission | Capacity Market Issues (trial testimony) | | | | |
| 396. | U-32628 April 2013 | Entergy Louisiana and Gulf States Louisiana | Louisiana | Staff | Avoided cost methodology | | | | |
| 397. | U-32675 June 2013 | Entergy Louisiana and Entergy Gulf States | Louisiana | Staff | RTO Integration Issues | | | | |
| 398. | ER12111052 June 2013 | Jersey Central Power & Light Company | New Jersey | Rate Counsel | Cost of capital | | | | |