

September 23, 2022

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## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Hon. Herb Hilliard, Chairman c/o Ectory Lawless, Docket Room Manager Tennessee Public Utility Commission 502 Deaderick Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Nashville, TN 37243 TPUC.DocketRoom@tn.gov

> RE: In Re: Joint Petition of Tennessee-American Water Company and Walker County Water and Sewerage Authority for Expedited Approval of a Special Contract, Docket No. 22-00049

Dear Chairman Hilliard:

Attached for filing please find a substitute page to the *Rebuttal Testimony of Grady Stout*, which was filed on September 19, 2022, in the above-captioned matter.

For ease of reference, the correction to the *Rebuttal Testimony of Grady Stout* is as follows: on substitute page 2, lines 37-38, the phrase "TAWC does not believe it is appropriate" has been replaced with "TAWC agrees it is not appropriate." With this correction on substitute page 2, the corrected sentence now reads: "As the rates proposed in the Special Contract is a negotiated rate, TAWC agrees it is not appropriate to apply this sur-credit to Walker County."

Also, on corrected substitute page 2, line 38, the word "Further," has been replaced with the word "However." On corrected substitute page 2, line 40, the phrase "that the sur-charge credits to customers not only" has been replaced with "that the sur-charge credits to customers includes not only." With these corrections on substitute page 2, the corrected sentence now reads: "However, TAWC disagrees with a portion of Mr. Novak's reasoning to the extent that the surcharge credits to customers includes not only the impact from deferred taxes at higher rates, but also includes the impact of the tax reductions on an ongoing basis until such time as TAWC's base rates are adjusted to reflect the tax rates in effect at that time."

Also, on corrected substitute page 2, line 42, the word "However" has been replaced with the word "Nonetheless". With this correction on substitute page 2, the corrected sentence now reads: "Nonetheless, TAWC accepts Mr. Novak recommendation to exclude the sur-charge credits from Walker County sales and that the Special Contract rate remain unchanged at \$1.75 per 1000 gallons."

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T 615.651.6700 F 615.651.6701 www.butlersnow.con Hon. Herbert H. Hilliard, Chairman September 23, 2022 Page 2

A redlined copy of page 2 showing the corrections to the *Rebuttal Testimony of Grady Stout* is attached.

As required, the original plus four (4) hard copies will be mailed to your office. Should you have any questions concerning this filing, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

BUTLER SNOW LLP

Melvin J. Malone

clw

Attachments

cc: Bob Lane, TAWC Grady Stout, TAWC Shannon Whitfield, WCWSA

Karen H. Stachowski, Consumer Advocate Division

Vance Broemel, Consumer Advocate Division

TAWC and Walker County Water and Sewerage Authority ("Walker County" or "WCWSA"). Emanating from TPUC Docket No. 18-00039, *In Re: Tennessee-American Water Company's Response to Commission's Investigation of Impacts of Federal Tax Reform on the Public Utility Revenue Requirements*, the TCJA tax credit gives customers sur-credits for reductions in the company's revenue requirement to reflect the lower federal income tax from passage and implementation of the TCJA. Pursuant to the *Order Approving Stipulation and Settlement Resolving Phase One of the Docket* in Docket No. 18-00039, TAWC has offset its annual Capital Recovery Riders surcharge mechanism with the TCJA sur-credits. Under Mr. Novak's recommendation, the rate in the Special Contract will remain \$1.75 per 1000 gallons.<sup>1</sup>

A.

# Q. IS THE COMPANY'S RATIONALE FOR ACCEPTING THE CA'S PROPROSAL

THE SAME AS THE CA'S RATIONALE AS EXPRESSED BY CA WITNESS

#### MR. NOVAK?

Not exactly. As the rates proposed in the Special Contract is a negotiated rate, TAWC agrees it is not appropriate to apply this sur-credit to Walker County. However, TAWC disagrees with a portion of Mr. Novak's reasoning to the extent that the sur-charge credits to customers includes not only the impact from deferred taxes at higher rates, but also includes the impact of the tax reductions on an ongoing basis until such time as TAWC's base rates are adjusted to reflect the tax rates in effect at that time. Nonetheless, TAWC accepts Mr. Novak recommendation to exclude the sur-charge credits from Walker County sales and that the Special Contract rate remain unchanged at \$1.75 per 1000 gallons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Direct Testimony of Consumer Advocate Witness William H. Novak, TPUC Docket No. 22-00049, p. 6, fn 8.

TAWC and Walker County Water and Sewerage Authority ("Walker County" or "WCWSA"). Emanating from TPUC Docket No. 18-00039, *In Re: Tennessee-American Water Company's Response to Commission's Investigation of Impacts of Federal Tax Reform on the Public Utility Revenue Requirements*, the TCJA tax credit gives customers sur-credits for reductions in the company's revenue requirement to reflect the lower federal income tax from passage and implementation of the TCJA. Pursuant to the *Order Approving Stipulation and Settlement Resolving Phase One of the Docket* in Docket No. 18-00039, TAWC has offset its annual Capital Recovery Riders surcharge mechanism with the TCJA sur-credits. Under Mr. Novak's recommendation, the rate in the Special Contract will remain \$1.75 per 1000 gallons.<sup>1</sup>

A.

# Q. IS THE COMPANY'S RATIONALE FOR ACCEPTING THE CA'S PROPROSAL THE SAME AS THE CA'S RATIONALE AS EXPRESSED BY CA WITNESS MR. NOVAK?

Not exactly. As the rates proposed in the Special Contract is a negotiated rate, TAWC does not believeagrees it is not appropriate to apply this sur-credit to Walker County. Further However, TAWC disagrees with a portion of Mr. Novak's reasoning to the extent that the sur-charge credits to customers includes not only the impact from deferred taxes at higher rates, but also includes the impact of the tax reductions on an ongoing basis until such time as TAWC's base rates are adjusted to reflect the tax rates in effect at that time. However Nonetheless, TAWC accepts Mr. Novak recommendation to exclude the sur-charge credits from Walker County sales and that the Special Contract rate remain unchanged at \$1.75 per 1000 gallons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Direct Testimony of Consumer Advocate Witness William H. Novak, TPUC Docket No. 22-00049, p. 6, fn 8.

STATE OF <u>Tennessee</u> )
COUNTY OF <u>washington</u> )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, duly commissioned and qualified in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally came and appeared Grady Stout, being by me first duly sworn deposed and said that:

He is appearing as a witness on behalf of Tennessee-American Water Company before the Tennessee Public Utility Commission, and if present before the Commission and duly sworn, his testimony would be as set forth in his pre-filed testimony in this matter.

Grady Stout

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 19th day of September, 2022.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 8

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via U.S. Mail or electronic mail upon:

Vance L. Broemel, Esq.
Senior Assistant Attorney General
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Karen.Stachowski@ag.tn.gov

This the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2022.

Melvin J. Maløne