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July 13, 2011

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Jeff Derouen Executive Director Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

Re: Case No. 2010-00476

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Attached is the updated exhibit 11 to the application, the 2010 consolidated financial statement for Utilities, Inc. It is marked "confidential", but it not being treated as such for this filing. A copy has been delivered to the intervenors.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact me.

Attorney for WSCK

Attachment

Consolidated Financial Statements December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

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# **Report of Independent Auditors**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Utilities, Inc.:

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in shareholders' equity, and cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Utilities, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the Company) at December 31, 2010 and 2009 and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our op.....

Pricewaterhouse Copers LLP

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2010	2009	2008			
Operating revenues:						
Water	\$ 59,3	326 \$ 58,085	5 \$ 55,284			
Wastewater	52,1	132 53,186	51,119			
Other	2,5	577 2,728	2,575			
Non-regulated services	1,0	)55 1,698	2,143			
Total	115,0	090 115,697	111,121			
Operating expenses:						
Operations and maintenance	70,7	716 75,079	79,864			
Depreciation and amortization	14,2	239 15,360	13,333			
Taxes other than income	9,9	952 9,838	8,984			
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	4,1	L86 488	3 (1,012)			
Total	99,0	093 100,765	101,169			
Operating income	15,9	997 14,932	9,952			
Non-operating expense (income):						
Interest expense, net	12,8	387 13,558	13,888			
Allowance for funds used during construction	-	L31) (559	· ·			
Total	12,7					
Gain on disposal of utility systems	16,4	191 5,391	1,247			
Income taxes related to disposal of utility systems	2007 Y. Y. H.	1,831				
Net gain on sale of utility systems	10,5	<u>anno de la companya del companya de la companya de la companya del companya de la companya del la companya del la companya de la companya del la companya de la companya de la companya del la compan</u>	Commence of the Commence of th			
Net income (loss)	\$ 13,5	\$ 5,493	\$ (635)			

	December 31,			
		2010		2009
Property, plant and equipment:				
Property, plant and equipment, at cost	\$	798,473	\$	804,130
Less accumulated depreciation		121,317		115,855
Property, plant and equipment, net		677,156		688,275
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents		8,318		921
Restricted cash		444		858
Accounts receivable, net		14,476		15,026
Prepayments and other assets		2,252		2,465
Total		25,490		19,270
Regulatory and other assets:				
Regulatory assets		10,923		9,968
Deferred charges		2,715		3,336
Goodwill		17,238		17,840
Total		30,876		31,144
Total assets	\$	733,522	\$	738,689
Equity:				
Common shares. \$.10 par value, 1,000 shares	\$	-	\$	-
authorized and issued				
Paid-in capital		99,112		99,112
Retained earnings		78,659		65,118
Total		177,771		164,230
Long-term debt		180,000		180,000
Commitments and contingencies (See note 13)		· • -		-
Current liabilities:				
Short-term debt	A.	- ·		17,000
Accounts payable	ter A	10,783		13,058
Customer deposits	100	1,999		1,802
Accrued taxes		2,152		2,035
Accrued interest		5,844		5,763
Other		206		262
Total		20,984		39,920
Deferred credits and other liabilities:				
Deferred income taxes		40,738		31,620
Deferred investment tax credits		913		946
Other		323		983
Total		41,974		33,549
Contributions in aid of construction		309,133		317,316
Advances in aid of construction		3,660		3,674
Total capitalization and liabilities	\$	733,522	\$	738,689

	Common Shares		Paid-in		n Retained				
	Shares	Amo	unt		Capital		arnings		Total
Balance at December 31, 2007	1,000	\$	-	\$	98,112	\$	60,260	\$	158,372
Net loss	-		-		_		(635)		(635)
Balance at December 31, 2008	1,000		-		98,112		59,625		157,737
Netincome	-		-		-		5,493		5,493
Contribution from parent	-		-	/ miamana (mi mi	1,000		-	( notified an annion	1,000
Balance at December 31, 2009	1,000				99,112		65,118		164,230
Net income	<u> </u>			-urbradispladav	. Prop. New combination in the about the Principle Secretary of the Control of Secre	eneralisainen kanadan	13,541	normal programme and the second	13,541
Balance at December 31, 2010	1,000	\$	-	\$	99,112	\$	78,659	\$	177,771
				fine the second					

		Year	<u>End</u>	ed Decemb	er 3:	1,
		2010		2009		2008
Cash flows from operating activities:						
Net income (loss)	\$	13,541	\$	5,493	\$	(635)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash						
provided by operating activities:						
Depreciation and amortization		14,239		15,360		13,333
Deferred income taxes and investment tax credits, net		9,085		2,161		25
Amortization of deferred charges and regulatory asset	s	3,054		2,793		3,757
Amortization of debt and acquisition charges		235		771		201
Allowance for funds used during construction-equity		(65)		(267)		(1,231)
Gain on disposition of assets		(16,491)		(5,391)		(1,247)
Other, net		1,322		450		192
Changes in assets and liabilities:						
Accounts receivable		414		3,206		(1,062)
Prepayments		(140)		(513)		476
Deferred charges being amortized		(560)		(1,413)		(563)
Regulatory assets		(3,120)		(2,629)		(3,763)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(2,183)		(2,382)		(7,524)
Accrued taxes and interest		197		(1,122)		111
Other assets and liabilities, net		(343)		(690)		(1,131)
Net cash provided by operating activities		19,185		15,827		939
Cook flows from investing activities						
Cash flows from investing activities: Capital expenditures		(20.424)		(2E 002)		/AC 027\
Acquisition expenditures		(29,434)		(25,893)		(46,027)
Change in restricted cash	ele.	414		(880)		/1 750\
Proceeds from disposition of utility systems				2,064		(1,750)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		29,111		30,504	***************************************	3,894
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	A Comment	91		5,795		(43,883)
Cash flows from financing activities:	A					
Contributions in aid of construction, net		5,246	A.	9,927		9,447
Payable to developers		(125)		<i>♠</i> 11		(435)
Capital contribution from parent		4	A	1,000		-
Debt and acquisition charges		**-/		(412)		(823)
Increase (decrease) in short term borrowing		(17,000)		(32,775)		34,275
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		(11,879)		(22,249)		42,464
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		7,397		(627)		(480)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		921		1,548		2,028
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	8,318	\$	921	\$	1,548
	•	,	•		•	_,
Supplemental cash flow information:						
Interest paid (net of amounts capitalized)	\$	12,397	\$	13,192	\$	12,120
Income taxes paid	\$	1,020	\$	312	\$	18
Non-cash property, plant and equipment contributions	\$	4,003	\$	6,778	\$	5,748

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

### 1. Basis of Presentation

# **Business Description**

Utilities, Inc. (the "Company"), is a holding company, which, at December 31, 2010, owned and operated approximately 500 regulated water and wastewater utility systems through 77 subsidiary operating companies. The Company operates in 15 states with primary service areas in North Carolina, Florida, South Carolina, Nevada and Louisiana. The Company also owns certain unregulated land application facilities providing solid waste collection services on a fee basis to third parties as well as to the Company's regulated utility operations.

# Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries have been prepared using accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). The presentation of these financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, revenues and expenses and certain financial statement disclosures.

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior period financial statements to conform to the current year presentation.

### Impact of Prior Year Items

During the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company identified an error in its income tax accounting related to years ending December 31, 2009 and prior. The error accumulated over time, such that its impact was not significant on any given year. The cumulative impact of this error was recorded in the current year which increased income tax expense and reduced net income by \$547. The impact of this item on the financial statements is not considered material to any period presented.

During the year ended December 31, 2009, the Company identified several errors that related to years ended December 31, 2008 and prior. The errors related to prior periods were recorded in the current period which increased 2009 pre-tax income and net income by \$234 and \$145, respectively. The impact of these items on the financial statements, whether taken individually or in the aggregate, is not considered material to any period presented.

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

# Regulation

Most of the Company's operations are subject to regulation by the public utility commissions of the states in which they operate. The extent of a commission's jurisdiction varies from state to state and usually includes the regulation of rates, accounting policies, financing, rules of service, sales and purchases of property, mergers and acquisitions, and the determination of service areas.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

Utilities are generally subject to regulation, which is relied upon in lieu of the economic controls of competition in assuring fair prices and adequate service. Rates are based on the allocation of costs to customers who cause their incurrence. These rates are generally set to provide the utility the opportunity to recover its allowable operating expenses, including depreciation and taxes, and a return on the debt and equity capital invested.

The accounting practices of utility companies differ in certain aspects from those of other businesses not subject to regulation. GAAP applies to utilities just as it does to other industries, although the application at times may be different. The economic effect of regulation can result in a utility deferring costs or revenues that have been, or are expected to be, allowed in the ratemaking process in future periods. As a result, regulated entities record assets and liabilities resulting from the ratemaking process that would generally not be recorded by a non-regulated entity.

### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Cash and cash equivalents, customer receivables, accounts payable, deferred revenue and other accrued liabilities are stated at carrying value, which reasonably approximates fair market value due to the nature and short term duration of these items.

### Property, Plant and Equipment

All costs incurred to bring an asset to the condition and location necessary for its intended use are capitalized. Costs include contracted labor, direct labor, materials, and indirect costs including an allowance for funds used during construction. When assets are replaced, retired or abandoned, the recorded value of the asset is reduced to zero with a corresponding reduction in accumulated depreciation.

Expenditures for repairs and maintenance are expensed in accordance with the system of accounts prescribed by the public utility commissions of the states in which the Company operates. These expenditures are typically expensed as incurred but, in certain jurisdictions, may be deferred and amortized over the period of recovery.

Property in service is generally depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related property. Depreciation rates typically range between 1.5% and 5.0% per year. In certain instances, the composite or group method is used in which a single depreciation rate is applied to the total cost of a particular property class. This method pools similar assets and depreciates each group as a whole. Depreciation expense is a recoverable cost of service included in rates charged to customers.

Long-lived assets are reviewed for potential impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount may not be recoverable. When it becomes probable that a portion of the cost of a long-lived asset will be disallowed for ratemaking purposes such amounts are deducted from the reported cost of the asset and recognized as a loss.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

# Plant Acquisition Adjustments

For utility plant subject to traditional cost-of-service regulation, the depreciated original cost of an acquired asset is typically equal to its fair value. If an amount paid for utility plant exceeds its depreciated original cost, and that amount is recoverable through future rates, the fair value is deemed to have been increased and an acquisition adjustment is recorded as a component of utility plant. If the excess amount paid is not included in future rates, the amount is recorded as goodwill.

# Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid instruments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

### Restricted Cash

The Company receives cash from real estate developers and builders to finance the construction of water and wastewater systems. In certain jurisdictions, such cash is restricted and can only be spent in connection with that specific project.

### Accounts Receivable

The Company's accounts receivable primarily consists of trade receivables. The allowance for doubtful accounts is developed based upon several factors including the age of the Company's accounts receivable, historical write-off experience and specific account analysis.

### Regulatory Assets and Deferred Charges

Regulatory assets primarily consist of costs related to the rate filing process for which the Company has received or expects to receive prospective rate recovery. Deferred charges primarily consist of repair and maintenance costs incurred in jurisdictions where these expenditures may be deferred and amortized over the period of rate recovery.

### Goodwill

The Company evaluates its goodwill for impairment on an annual basis during the fourth quarter, or whenever indicators of impairment exist. The goodwill impairment test compares the fair value of the Company with its carrying amount, including goodwill. The fair value of the Company was determined using a discounted cash flow model. If the carrying amount exceeds the fair value, goodwill would be considered impaired. To measure the amount of the impairment loss, the implied fair value of goodwill is compared to the carrying amount of goodwill. If the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of goodwill, an impairment loss is recognized in an amount equal to that excess. The implied fair value of goodwill is determined in the same manner as the amount of goodwill recognized in a business combination is determined.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

### Customer Deposits

In certain jurisdictions, customers are required to remit a deposit equal to their estimated monthly bill. These deposits earn interest and are returned to the customer either when the customer demonstrates a history of timely payments or when the customer no longer requires service.

### Advances and Contributions in Aid of Construction

The Company receives cash advances and property and cash contributions from real estate developers and builders to fund construction necessary to extend service to their properties. Advances for construction are refundable for limited periods of time as new customers begin to receive service. Advances that are no longer refundable are reclassified as contributions. Contributed property is depreciated at the same rate that the related contribution in aid of construction is amortized. As a result, a return is not earned on contributed property.

# Revenue Recognition

Customers are billed for residential water and wastewater services on a monthly, bimonthly or quarterly cycle. Revenues include amounts billed to customers and unbilled amounts based on estimated usage from the last billing date to the end of the accounting period.

### Allowance for Funds Used During Construction

The allowance for funds used during construction ("AFUDC") represents the capitalized cost of funds used to finance the construction of utility plant. AFUDC is not applied to projects funded by advances and contributions in aid of construction. AFUDC is recovered through rate base as the utility plant is depreciated. The AFUDC rate approximated 7.5% during 2010 and 8.5% during 2009 and 2008.

### Income Taxes

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hydro Star Holdings Corporation whose parent is Hydro Star, LLC. The Company is included in the federal income tax return of Hydro Star, LLC. Under a tax sharing arrangement, subsidiaries of Hydro Star, LLC contribute to the consolidated tax liability based on their share of taxable income or loss for each period. In the Company's financial statements, income tax expense and income taxes payable have been determined on a separate return basis.

Investment tax credits are deferred and amortized over the estimated useful lives used for financial reporting purposes of the related properties.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recorded for all temporary differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and the amounts reported in the financial statements, measured at the currently enacted statutory income tax rate. Certain temporary differences have not been recognized as deferred income tax expense for ratemaking purposes. In situations when such timing differences reverse and become currently payable, and it is probable that the higher income taxes

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

will be recoverable through rates charged customers, a net regulatory asset has been established to recognize this expected regulatory treatment.

Deferred taxes are recorded for differences that result from accelerated depreciation, contributions in aid of construction for certain contributions received from 1986 to 1996, and 2001 going forward, investment tax credits, certain deferred charges and certain other differences in the recognition of income and expense for tax and financial reporting purposes.

# Recently Adopted Financial Accounting Standards

The Company does not believe that there are any recently issued Accounting Standard Updates issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board that have a material effect on its financial position or results of operations.

# 3. Acquisitions and Dispositions

In the fourth quarter of 2010, one of the Company's subsidiaries, Bio Tech, ceased operating its non-regulated sludge hauling business. At December 31, 2010, the Company was actively marketing the remaining assets of Bio Tech which primarily include property, plant, structures, equipment and vehicles. These assets are considered as held for sale and are recorded at their net book value of \$2,119 which is lower than their estimated aggregate fair value. However, certain individual assets may be sold for less than their net book value. In the first quarter 2010, Bio Tech sold certain of its land with a net book value of \$470 for net proceeds of \$454. Goodwill of \$602, directly related to this business, was written off in the fourth quarter of 2010 and is included as a component of operations and maintenance expense.

In 2010, three of the Company's subsidiaries sold utility systems with a combined book value of \$11,643. Net proceeds from the sales of \$28,658 were used to pay off the entire balance of the revolving credit facility. Revenues related to these utility systems were \$3,096, \$4,171 and \$4,025 for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

In 2009, nine of the Company's subsidiaries sold utility systems with a combined book value of \$23,298. Net proceeds from the sales of \$30,504 were used to pay down the revolving credit facility. Revenues related to these utility systems were \$5,620 and \$7,960 for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Also in 2009, the Company purchased the assets of a wastewater utility system for \$880. No intangible assets or liabilities were acquired in conjunction with this transaction.

In 2008, two of the Company's subsidiaries sold utility systems with a combined book value of \$2,616. Net proceeds from the sales of \$3,894 were used to pay down the revolving credit facility. Revenues related to these utility systems were \$227 for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

# 4. Property, Plant and Equipment

The components of property, plant and equipment at December 31, are as follows:

	2010		2009		
Plant in service					
Water	\$	406,503	\$	393,822	
Wastewater		367,176		381,121	
Other		42,906		43,328	
Total	energy and the second s	816,585	gett gif gift gigner at the degree two to	818,271	
Plant under construction		4,533		9,599	
Accumulated depreciation		(121,317)		(115,855)	
Plant acquisition adjustments, net		(22,645)		(23,740)	
Property, plant and equipment, net	\$	677,156	\$	688,275	

# 5. Accounts Receivable

The components of accounts receivable at December 31, are as follows:

		2010		2009
Billed utility revenue	\$	10,219	\$	10,129
Unbilled utility revenue		5,665		6,278
Total	and a second of the second second second second	15,884	Deres .	16,407
Less allowance for doubtful accounts		1,408		1,381
Accounts receivable, net	\$	14,476	Ś	15.026

The following table summarizes the activity of the allowance for doubtful accounts for the years ended December 31:

	2010	2009	2008		
Balance at January 1,	\$ 1,381	\$ 522	\$	434	
Amounts charged to expense	1,237	2,510		1,226	
Amounts written off, net	 (1,210)	(1,651)		(1,138)	
Balance at December 31,	\$ 1,408	\$ 1,381	\$	522	

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

### 6. Goodwill

The following table summarizes the changes in the carrying amounts of goodwill for the years ended December 31:

	2010	2009		
Balance at January 1,	\$ 17,840	\$	20,148	
Discontinued non-regulated business	(602)		-	
Sold utility systems	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		(2,308)	
Balance at December 31,	\$ 17,238	\$	17,840	

Note: There are no accumulated impairment losses.

# 7. Regulatory Assets and Deferred Charges

The components of regulatory assets and deferred charges at December 31, are as follows:

	2010	2009	
Regulatory assets			
Rate case filing expenses	\$ 7,860	\$ 6,541	
Deferred income taxes	3,063	3,427	
Total	\$ 10,923	\$ 9,968	
Deferred charges			
Debt acquisition expense	\$ <b>1,26</b> 0	\$ 1,476	
Maintenance and testing	1,197	1,524	
Other	258	336	
Total	\$ 2,715	\$ 3,336	

The regulatory assets related to deferred income taxes will be adjusted as the amounts reverse and are included in income tax expense for regulatory purposes. Other regulatory assets and deferred charges are being amortized over periods that typically range from 3 to 12 years, corresponding to the period of rate recovery.

# 8. Long-term Debt

In July 2006, the Company entered into a Master Note Purchase Agreement for the issuance, in series, of collateral trust notes in an aggregate amount of up to \$400,000. The initial issuance of \$180,000 6.58% notes are due July 21, 2036. Interest is payable semi-annually in January and July. Annual principal payments of \$9,000 are due beginning in 2017 and continue through 2036.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

The common stock and indebtedness of subsidiary companies have been pledged as collateral for the long-term debt.

The fair value of the long-term debt has been determined by discounting the future cash flows using current market interest rates for similar financial instruments of the same duration. The following table summarizes the carrying amounts and fair value of long-term debt at December 31:

	2010			2009		
Carrying value	\$	180,000	\$	180,000		
Fair value	\$	178,355	\$	161,329		

### 9. Lines of Credit

The Company has a \$55,000 unsecured revolving credit facility (the "Credit Facility") with three banks which expires on November 10, 2011. Borrowings under the Credit Facility bear interest at the existing prime rate or LIBOR plus 250 basis points, at the option of the Company. Under the terms of the Credit Facility, the Company is subject to financial covenants which consist of a debt to capitalization ratio and a minimum interest coverage ratio.

Consistent with historic practice, the Company intends to extend or refinance the existing facility prior to its maturity date. Completion of this extension or refinancing is subject to a number of uncertainties. Accordingly, there is no assurance that the Company will be able to extend or refinance this debt when it becomes due or that the terms will not be substantially different from those under the current facility. If the Company is unable to refinance the revolving credit facility as described above, it expects to generate sufficient cash flows from operations to fund paydown of the facility, if needed, at its current maturity and to be able to continue in business for the foreseeable future and realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business. However, there is no assurance that sufficient cash flows will be generated. Insufficient cash flows from operations and an inability to refinance or extend the facility could have an adverse impact on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

There were no borrowings outstanding under the Credit Facility at December 31, 2010 while \$17,000 was outstanding at December 31, 2009. The Company also has letters of credit outstanding against the Credit Facility in the amount of \$6,589 and \$6,634 at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. During 2010 and 2009, the Company was in compliance with the financial covenants of the Credit Facility.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

### 10. Asset Retirement Obligation

Potential future asset retirement costs relating to certain water and wastewater properties have been identified. However, the Company has determined that it does not have any legal obligations to retire assets that would result in a material cost to the Company. In addition, the Company intends on using its assets indefinitely. Therefore, the Company has not recognized a liability for these potential asset retirement costs at December 31, 2010.

### 11. Employee Benefit Plans

During 2009 and 2008, the Company maintained a defined contribution retirement plan for all eligible employees. Contributions to the plan were based on a percentage of eligible compensation per participant. Contributions were expensed as incurred and were \$608 and \$585 for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Also during 2009 and 2008, a non-matching 401(k) plan was available to eligible employees which allowed for pre-tax and after-tax contributions ranging from 1% to 100% of their eligible compensation up to a combined maximum permitted by law. The Company also had the option of making discretionary contributions into the plan as approved by its Board of Directors. Contributions were expensed as incurred and were \$788 and \$746 for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

As of January 1, 2010, the Company merged the defined contribution retirement plan into the 401(k) plan. Under the terms of the newly merged plan, the Company will match \$.50 on every \$1.00 contributed by participants up to a maximum contribution equal to 3% of eligible compensation per participant or to the maximum permitted by law. The Company match expense is \$225 for the year ended December 31, 2010. The newly merged plan also includes a discretionary contribution based on the financial performance of the Company. The discretionary contribution was \$813 for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

### 12. Income Taxes

The provision for (benefit from) income taxes related to operations for the years ended December 31, is as follows:

	2010		2009		2008	
Current						
Federal	\$	872	\$ 2,277	\$	(1,812)	
State and local		67	654		65	
Deferred						
Federal		2,764	(2,477)		630	
State and local		483	34		105	
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	\$	4,186	\$ 488	\$	(1,012)	

The provision for income taxes related to the disposal of utility systems for the years ended December 31, is as follows:

	2010 2009		2009	2008	
Current					
Federal	\$ 6	\$	1,700	\$	818
State and local	(17)		391		74
Deferred		2016			
Federal	5,2 <b>95</b>		(251)		(318)
State and local	907		(9)		(3)
Provision for income taxes	\$ 6,191	\$	1,831	\$	571

A reconciliation of the statutory federal income tax rate to the effective income tax rate for the years ended December 31, is as follows:

	2010	2009	2008
Statutory federal income tax rate	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%
Equity component of AFUDC, not subject to tax	(0.1)	(1.2)	38.9
Amortization of investment tax credits	(0.1)	(0.4)	3.3
Amortization of excess book value	(0.5)	(1.5)	10.8
State income taxes, net of federal tax benefit	4.1	6.3	(15.0)
Reversal of tax reserve	-	(2.2)	_
Valuation allowance on state net operating losses	-	(3.6)	-
Other	6.1	(1.8)	(31.0)
Effective income tax rate	43.5%	29.6%	41.0%

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

The deferred tax assets and liabilities are attributable to the following components at December 31:

	2010		2009	
Deferred tax assets				
State net operating losses	\$	2,482	\$ 2,189	
Valuation allowances related to state net operating losses		(1,889)	(1,577)	
Alternative minimum taxes		689	689	
Bad debt		488	520	
Other		603	584	
Total	\$	2,373	\$ 2,405	
Deferred tax liabilities				
Plant related differences	\$	33,841	\$ 24,912	
Deferred charges		3,393	2,990	
Regulatory assets		3,063	3,427	
Organizational costs		2,814	2,696	
Total	\$	43,111	\$ 34,025	
Net deferred tax liability	\$	40,738	\$ 31,620	

The accumulated deferred tax liability attributed to regulatory assets reflects the probable future regulatory treatment afforded certain temporary differences such as the tax effect of investment tax credits, the equity component of AFUDC and other regulatory actions.

A deferred tax asset related to state net operating losses has been recorded, which will more likely than not be realized through future operations and the reversal of temporary differences. The state net operating losses vary in different amounts over different periods. Alternative minimum tax credits can be carried forward indefinitely.

The Company evaluates the realizability of its deferred tax assets on an annual basis. A valuation allowance is established when it is "more likely than not" that all or a portion of deferred tax assets will not be realized. The Company has established a valuation allowance related to its state net operating losses based on estimates of future taxable income in these jurisdictions.

# 13. Commitments and Contingencies

### Operating Leases

The Company leases office space in various buildings for its own use. Most of the lease terms are for relatively short periods of time, many of which are less than two years. The Company also leases parcels of land on which treatment plants and other facilities are situated. These land leases expire

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

at various dates through 2019. Rent expense, for both office and land, was \$580, \$667 and \$615 for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 respectively.

Minimum future lease payments due in each of the next five years and thereafter are as follows:

	0	ffice	La	and			
	Le	Leases		Leases		Total	
Year ending December 31,							
2011	\$	117	\$	27	\$	144	
2012		74		2		76	
2013		16		2		18	
2014		1		2		3	
2015		1		-		1	
Thereafter		4		_		4	
Total	\$	213	\$	33	\$	246	

### Litigation

The Company is subject to various claims and other litigation matters arising in the ordinary course of the Company's business. Some of these matters are covered by insurance. Although the Company's ultimate liability in these matters cannot be determined, based upon information currently available, the Company believes that the resolution of such claims and litigation will not have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

### **Contingencies**

In the normal course of business, the Company may enter into agreements with real estate developers related to the provision of water and/or wastewater service. These agreements may require payments to these developers that are contingent upon the number of customers added to the systems of the various operating companies. Connection charges are collected from customers as they sign up for service. Amounts due to developers are accrued as new customers are added and were \$23 and \$199 at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Naturally occurring elements are present in all ground water sources. In the western region of the United States, one of those elements is arsenic. After the federal limit on arsenic was lowered from 50 ppb to 10 ppb, one section of Spring Creek Utility Company ("SCUC"), like many other water utilities in Nevada, was granted a waiver by the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection. Subsequent to the expiration of this waiver on January 23, 2009, SCUC negotiated an Administrative Order on Consent which requires the Company to become compliant with current arsenic limits by December 31, 2011. In order to achieve compliance, the Company has begun a capital project to construct two new wells, water mains and appurtenances which is expected to

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cost approximately \$8,000 and be completed by December 31, 2011. Approximately \$700 has been spent on this project through December 31, 2010.

### 14. Reserve for Customer Refunds

On August 7, 2007, a regulated operating subsidiary of the Company filed an application with the South Carolina Public Service Commission (the "Commission") in an attempt to increase water rates. In their final order issued on February 11, 2008, the Commission denied the Company's request for rate increases. The Company petitioned the Commission to put the proposed rate increases in effect under bond and subject to refund to which the Commission agreed. The Company filed a Notice of Appeal with the South Carolina Supreme Court (the "Court") on July 2, 2009. Oral arguments were heard by the Court on November 4, 2010 and the matter is still pending.

At this time, the Company believes it is not probable that it will be required to refund the amounts collected from customers. This determination is, in part, based on briefs filed by the Office of Regulatory Staff to the Court during 2010 in which they argued that the rate increase is appropriate and that the Commission erred in finding that the Company failed to meet its burden of proof in establishing the need for rate increases. The rate increases billed to customers, from their effective date of May 8, 2008, total \$1,814 through December 31, 2010.

### 15. Value Creation Shares Plan

The Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") approved a Value Creation Shares Plan, (the "Plan") on May 1, 2006 and has subsequently amended the Plan on two occasions, most recently on May 21, 2010. The Plan provides for the issuance of Value Creation Shares ("VCS") that entitle participants, subject to vesting restrictions, to receive an amount equal to the difference between the VCS award value of \$1.40 and the fair market value of a VCS upon a liquidity event, based on a formula set forth in the Plan. A liquidity event is defined in the Plan as a "change in control event" as defined for purposes of Internal Revenue Code Section 409A. Holders of VCS will have no equity interest in the Company and, therefore, no rights as shareholders. The VCS do not have a contractual expiration date.

VCS awards vest at such time and are subject to the restrictions and conditions as set forth in each award agreement, the form of which has been approved by the Board. All VCS awards outstanding at December 31, 2010 become fully vested upon any of the following events:

- a) On the fifth anniversary of the Plan's effective date, if the participant has remained in employment with the Company continuously until that date.
- b) Upon a liquidation event, if the participant has remained in employment with the Company continuously until that date.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (In thousands of dollars)

VCS awards may also become partially vested if the participant's employment with the Company terminates due to disability or death, or if the participant's employment with the Company is terminated without cause.

Under the Plan, 10,000,000 VCS have been authorized for issuance. The following table summarizes VCS activity for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009:

	Number of
	Value Creation
acretina.	Shares
Outstanding at December 31, 2008	4,786,051
Granted	1,760,200
Forfeited	(1,448,239)
Outstanding at December 31, 2009	5,098,012
Granted	1,751,806
Forfeited	(76,834)
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	6,772,984

As of December 31, 2010, 1,895,449 VCS were vested. The Company has not recognized any compensation expense for awards granted under this plan as the occurrence of a liquidity event cannot be reasonably determined and is not considered probable until occurrence and the value of the VCS cannot be reasonably estimated.

### 16. Subsequent Events

Two subsidiaries of the Company entered into definitive agreements to sell utility systems. These sales are subject to approval by the state public utility commission. Total proceeds are expected to be in excess of the net book value of the assets to be sold.

The Company has evaluated events and transaction subsequent to the balance sheet date through March 6, 2011, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. Based on this evaluation, the Company is not aware of any additional events or transactions that occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date but prior to March 6, 2011 that would require recognition or disclosure in its Consolidated Financial Statements.