# JOHN N. HUGHES 

Attorney at Law
Professional Service Corporation
124 West Todd Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

July 30, 2021
Linda C. Bridwell
PSC Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
Re: Atmos Energy Corporation
Case No. 2021-00304
Dear Ms. Bridwell:
Atmos Energy Corporation submits its application to establish PRP Rider Rates for the twelve-month period commencing October 1, 2021. I certify that the electronic documents are true and correct copies of the original documents, which will be filed pursuant to the Commission's COVID-19 orders.

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

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Submitted By: } \\
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$$

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY <br> BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 

IN THE MATTER OF:

APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
TO ESTABLISH PRP RIDER RATES FOR THE
TWELVE MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING
OCTOBER 1, 2021
CASE NO. 2021-00304

## APPLICATION

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Company"), by counsel, applies to the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission"), for approval to establish PRP Rider Rates for the 12month period beginning October 1, 2021. In support of this Application, Company states as follows:

1. The Company is an operating public utility engaged in the business of supplying natural gas to the public in numerous cities, towns and communities in western and south central Kentucky. Correspondence and communications with respect to this Application should be directed to:

Brannon C. Taylor,
Atmos Energy Corporation, 810 Crescent Centre Dr. STE 600,
Franklin, TN 37067
(615) 771-8330 Ph
(615) 771-8301 fax
(brannon.taylor@atmosenergy.com)
Mark R. Hutchinson,
Wilson, Hutchinson \& Littlepage,
611 Frederica Street,
Owensboro, Kentucky 42301
2709265011 Ph
(270) 926-9394 fax
(randy@whplawfirm.com)
And

John N. Hughes
124 W. Todd St.
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 2277270 Ph
(jnhughes@johnnhughespsc.com)
2. The Company is a corporation duly qualified under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to carry on its business in the Commonwealth. A certified copy of Company's restated Articles of Incorporation, as amended, together with all amendments thereto, is on file in the records of the Commission and the same are incorporated herein by reference. See Case No. 2018-00281. The Company was initially incorporated in Texas on February 6, 1981 and in Virginia on July 21, 1997. Applicant attests that it is a foreign corporation in good standing to operate in Kentucky. Atmos Energy does not operate under an assumed name in Kentucky.
3. The Company is filing this application in compliance with the Commission's Order in Case No. 2018-00281 and Case No. 2020-00229. This Application and the attached supporting exhibits contain the facts on which the relief being requested is based, a request for the relief sought and references to the particular provisions of law requiring or providing for the relief sought as specified in 807 KAR 5:001

WHEREFORE, the Company requests the Commission to approve the attached PRP Rider Rates for the 12-month period beginning October 1, 2021.

Respectfully submitted this $30^{\text {st }}$ day of July, 2021.


WILSON, HUTCHINSON \& LITTLEPAGE
Mark R. Hutchinson
611 Frederica Street
Owensboro, Kentucky 42301
randy@whplawfirm.com

## CERTIFICATE

In accordance with the requirements of $807 \mathrm{KAR} 5: 001$, I certify that this electronic filing is a true and accurate copy of the documents to be filed in paper medium; that the electronic filing has been transmitted to the Commission on July 30, 2021; that an original of the filing will be delivered to the Commission pursuant to the requirements of the Commission's COVID-19 orders; and that no party has been excused from participation by electronic means.


John N. Hughes

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## IN THE MATTER OF:

## APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY )

 CORPORATION TO ESTABLISH PRP ) RIDER RATES FOR THE TWELVE MONTH ) CASE NO. 2021-00304 PERIOD BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 )
## AFFIDAVIT

The Affiant, Brannon C. Taylor, being duly sworn, deposes and states that the statements contained in the attached Application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.


## STATE OF TENNESSEE

## COUNTY OF DAVIDSON

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by Brannon C. Taylor on this the 23rd day of July, 2021.


# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## IN THE MATTER OF:

| APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY | ) |
| :--- | :--- |
| CORPORATION TO ESTABLISH PRP | ) |
| RIDER RATES FOR THE TWELVE | ) |
| MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING | () |
| OCTOBER 1, 2021 | ) |

TESTIMONY OF BRANNON C. TAYLOR

# INDEX TO THE DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRANNON C TAYLOR, WITNESS FOR ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION 

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## Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, POSITION AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. My name is Brannon C. Taylor. I am Vice President - Rates and Regulatory Affairs for the Kentucky/Mid-States Division of Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy" or the "Company"). My business address is 810 Crescent Centre Dr. Ste 600, Franklin, Tennessee, 37067.
Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES, AND PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.
A. I am responsible for all rate and regulatory matters in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. I graduated from Vanderbilt University in 2009 with a degree in Political Science. I also graduated from Emory University in 2012 with a law degree and am a licensed attorney. I have been with Atmos Energy Corporation since September 2012. I have served in a variety of positions of increasing responsibility in both the Corporate Rates and Regulatory Affairs group as well as the Kentucky/Mid-States Division prior to assuming my current responsibilities in 2020.
Q. HAVE YOU SUBMITTED TESTIMONY BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ("COMMISSION")?
A. Yes, I submitted Direct Testimony in Case No 2021-00214.

## Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TESTIMONY ON MATTERS BEFORE OTHER STATE REGULATORY COMMISSIONS?

A. Yes, I have filed testimony before the Tennessee Public Utility Commission.

## II. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

## Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. My direct testimony will address two areas referenced in the Final Order in Case No. 2020-00229 issued by the Commission in the Company's previous Pipeline Replacement Program ("PRP") Rider filing, as well as introduce the Company's other witness in this case. Specifically, I will address our compliance with changes to the revenue requirement calculation and compliance with evaluating the return on equity in this case ${ }^{1}$. I will sponsor the incorporation of the revenue requirement schedules to determine the PRP deficiency, incorporate the capital structure into the record in this case, and incorporate the addition of Aldyl-A projects. Finally, I will also address the relationship between the timing of this filing and the Company's pending general rate case.

[^0]
## Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY DISCUSS THE CHANGES TO THE REVENUE REQUIREMENT CALCULATION IN THIS CASE COMPARED TO THE COMPANY'S PRIOR PRP FILING.

A. The 2020-00229 Order stated, inter alia, that "Atmos's PRP rate base in any forecasted period will be calculated in a manner consistent with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 16(6)(c)" which the Order earlier states "requires utilities requesting a general rate adjustment based on a forecasted test year to calculate their rate bases using a 13-month average." The Company has calculated a 13-month average rate based for the forecasted period in this case in compliance with the order. The PRP plant additions and retirements are broken out by month as shown on Exhibit B-1.

## Q. DID THE COMPANY MAKES ANY CHANGES TO ITS ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAX ("ADIT") CALCULATION PURSUANT TO THE 2020-00229 ORDER?

A. Yes. The Company calculated ADIT in the same manner as approved by the Commission in 2020-00229. Specifically, the Company included in its rate base the ADIT that was generated from timing differences in the years ending September 2020 and 2021 as well as changes in ADIT during the forecasted period. These amounts are shown on Exhibit B-1 of the Company's filing.

## Q. HAS THE COMPANY UPDATED THE RATE OF RETURN USED IN THE PRP CALCULATION IN THIS FILING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 20-20-00229 ORDER?

A. Yes. The Final Order from Case No 2020-00229 ordered the Company to amend its PRP tariff to reflect that the overall rate of return will be established in the annual PRP rate application, rather than defaulting to the return on equity ("ROE") ordered by the Commission in the Atmos Energy's prior general rate case. The Company has complied with this in its filing by engaging consultant Dylan D'Ascendis to provide testimony to support the ROE used in this case. Because of the proximity of the timing of this PRP filing and Atmos Energy's pending rate case, and other reasons as described in Mr. D'Ascendis's testimony, the proposed ROE is equal to the ROE proposed in the general rate case.

## Q PLEASE DISCUSS THE RETURN ON EQUITY AMOUNT USED BY THE COMPANY IN THIS PRP FILING.

A. The Order in Case No. 2020-00229 stated " $[\mathrm{g}]$ iven the condensed timeline of these proceedings, the Commission strongly recommends that Atmos file adequate testimony to support its proposed rate of return, including a reasonable ROE." The testimony of Company Witness Dylan D'Ascendis sponsors the ROE calculations used by the Company. The overall rate of return is summarized in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Summary of Recommended Weighted Average Cost of Capital

| Type of Capital | Ratios | Cost Rate | Weighted Cost Rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Long-Term Debt | $42.77 \%$ | $4.00 \%$ | $1.71 \%$ |
| Short-Term Debt | $0.18 \%$ | $25.17 \%$ | $0.05 \%$ |
| Common Equity | $\underline{57.05 \%}$ | $\underline{10.35 \%}$ | $\underline{5.90 \%}$ |
| Total | $\underline{100.00 \%}$ |  | $\underline{\underline{7.66 \%}}$ |

## Q. WHAT SUPPORT IS THE COMPANY PROVIDING FOR THE CAPITAL STRUCTURE REFLECTED IN TABLE 1 ABOVE?

A. The ratemaking capital structure and cost of long-term debt is sponsored by Company Witness Christian in Case No. 2021-00214. The Company incorporates by reference Mr. Christian's testimony in that filing to support its rate of return in this filing.
Q. HAVE THE TYPES OF MATERIALS FOR REPLACEMENT BEEN EXPANDED IN THIS FILING AS COMPARED TO THE 2020-00229 CASE?
A. Yes. In Case No. 2021-00214, Atmos Energy witness T. Ryan Austin ${ }^{2}$ explains why it is in the public interest and consistent with the Commission's policy to include Aldyl-A replacement projects in the Company's PRP investment. The direct testimony of these witnesses in Case No. 2021-00214 is incorporated herein by reference. The Aldyl-A projects are listed in Exhibit K-3 of the Company's filing.

[^1]
## Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ATMOS ENERGY'S EXPERIENCE WITH ALDYLA IN ITS KENTUCKY SYSTEM.

A. As Ryan Austin explains in the above-referenced and fully incorporated testimony, over the past ten years, in Kentucky leaks on Aldyl-A within our system have averaged $35 \%$ higher per 100 miles of pipe than leaks on other types of PE pipe. When compared with leaks on coated steel, the rate is over $250 \%$ higher per 100 miles of pipe.

Atmos Energy's system in Cadiz, Kentucky is a good example of how we see the susceptibility to cracking of Aldyl-A. The Cadiz system was installed in the mid-1960s and is entirely Aldyl-A pipe. The system has had a history of leaks caused by the rocky bedding conditions impinging on the Aldyl-A pipe which has proven to lead to increased cracking. This area also has tracer wire on the pipe that has deteriorated with time which make it difficult to locate.

## Q. WHY DID ATMOS ENERGY INCLUDE THE ALDYL-A PROJECTS IN THIS FILING WHEN THE PRP TARIFF REFLECTS ONLY BARE-STEEL PIPE REPLACEMENT?

A. As discussed in the testimony of T. Ryan Austin in Case No. 2021-00214, it is both reasonable and prudent for the Company to pursue the accelerated replacement of pipe comprised of materials with known and documented risks. Replacement of these pipes allows Atmos Energy to mitigate the risk of incidents that can result in death, injury, or significant property damage. It would be in the public interest to allow Atmos Energy to utilize the PRP to accelerate the replacement of this
infrastructure. As part of the PRP, the Commission has the opportunity to review the project details of the Company's Aldyl-A projects each year. For these and the other reasons described in Case No. 2021-00214, Atmos Energy reflected the investment in the Aldyl-A projects listed in Exhibit K-3 as PRP capital spending rather than non-PRP capital spending. The Aldyl-A projects are included in this case for two reasons. First, their inclusion makes this case consistent with the Company's pending rate case. Second, the Commission found in Case 202000229 that it was appropriate to make substantive changes to the terms of the PRP tariff in the context of the PRP annual filing should the public interest warrant such a change. ${ }^{3}$ Atmos Energy believes that the evidence presented herein and incorporated by reference supports such a change to the tariff.

## Q. WHAT HAPPENS IF THE COMMISSION BELIEVES IT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO DEFER ITS DECISION REGARDING THE INCLUSION OF ALDYL-A PROJECTS FOR DETERMINATION IN CASE NO. 2021-00214?

A. During the course of this case, Atmos Energy can prepare a calculation of the PRP revenue requirement and rates that excludes those projects from the implementation of rates October 1. Alternatively, the Commission can allow the rates, as presently filed, to go into effect and be trued up in subsequent filings once the general rate case has been fully adjudicated.

[^2]
## Q. WHY DID THE COMPANY FILE A PRP IF THERE IS A RATE CASE PENDING BEFORE THE COMMISSION?

A. The Company's tariff allows the Company to file annually on or around August $1^{\text {st }}$ of each year to "reflect the anticipated impact on the Company's revenue requirements of net plant additions related to bare-steel pipe replacement as offset by operations and maintenance expense reductions during the upcoming fiscal year ending each September as well as a balancing adjustment to reconcile collections with actual investment for the program year from two years prior." The tariff also provides that "[s]uch adjustment to the Rider will become effective with meter readings on and after the first billing cycle of October."

This Commission approved this timing and methodology for annual PRP filings to reflect the policy reasons behind these safety-related alternative rate recovery mechanisms as expressed by the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration ("PHMSA") ${ }^{4}$, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") ${ }^{5}$, and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("NARUC") ${ }^{6}$. The general rate case process and statutory procedural schedule do

[^3]not meet these same policy objectives. Therefore, it is in the public interest to use the alternative rate mechanism of the PRP to achieve the policy objectives for which it was designed.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN FURTHER WHY NON-ADHERENCE TO THE SCHEDULE OUTLINED IN THE PRP TARIFF UNDERMINES THE POLICY GOALS OF THE ANNUAL MECHANISM.

A. Delay beyond October 1 introduces additional regulatory lag. Forward-looking treatment, as generally described in the context of rate of return regulation, entails forecasting cost of service components and implementing rates such that the timing of the Company's revenues collected from customers aligns with the timing of its cost of service. In allowing such treatment, regulators ensure that the rates customers are paying more closely align with the utility's cost of service and the value of investment provided during the same time period. Any material delay would result in significant under-recovery of the Company's PRP investments. This under recovery could only be addressed two years from this PRP filing as contemplated by the Company's tariff as part of the balancing adjustment, and layer that additional amount on top of any new rates approved by the Commission in that future docket.

## V. CONCLUSION

## Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. Yes, at this time.

[^4]
## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY ) CORPORATION TO ESTABLISH PR
RIDER RATES FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING OCTOBER 1,2021

CASE NO. 2021-00304

## CERTIFICATE AND AFFIDAVIT

The Affiant, Brannon C. Taylor, being duly sworn, deposes and states that the prepared testimony attached hereto and made a part hereof, constitutes the prepared direct testimony of this affiant in Case No. 2021-00304 and that if asked the questions propounded therein, this affiant would make the answers set forth in the attached prepared direct pre-filed testimony.


STATE OF TENNESSEE
COUNTY OF DAVIDSON

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by Brannon C. Taylor on this the $\qquad$ day of July, 2021.


Notary Public
My Commission Expires:


My Commission Expires
November 17, 2024

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

IN THE MATTER OF:

| APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY | ) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| CORPORATION TO ESTABLISH PRP | ) |  |
| RIDER RATES FOR THE TWELVE | ) | Case No. 2021-00304 |
| MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING | ) |  |
| OCTOBER 1, 2021 | ) |  |

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DYLAN W. D'ASCENDIS

RATE OF RETURN

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Exhibit No. DWD-2

## I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

## Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. My name is Dylan W. D'Ascendis. My business address is 3000 Atrium Way, Suite 241, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054.

## Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?

A. I am a Partner at ScottMadden, Inc.
Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.
A. I have offered expert testimony on behalf of investor-owned utilities before over 25 state regulatory commissions in the United States, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Alberta Utility Commission, and one American Arbitration Association panel on issues including, but not limited to, common equity cost rate, rate of return, valuation, capital structure, class cost of service, and rate design.

On behalf of the American Gas Association ("AGA"), I calculate the AGA Gas Index, which serves as the benchmark against which the performance of the American Gas Index Fund ("AGIF") is measured on a monthly basis. The AGA Gas Index and AGIF are a market capitalization weighted index and mutual fund, respectively, comprised of the common stocks of the publicly traded corporate members of the AGA.

I am a member of the Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts ("SURFA"). In 2011, I was awarded the professional designation "Certified Rate of Return Analyst" by SURFA, which is based on education, experience, and the successful completion of a comprehensive written examination.

I am also a member of the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts ("NACVA") and was awarded the professional designation "Certified Valuation Analyst" by the NACVA in 2015.

I am a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economic History. I have also received a Master of Business Administration with high honors and concentrations in Finance and International Business from Rutgers University.

The details of my educational background and expert witness appearances are shown in Appendix A.

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

A. In Atmos Energy Corporation's ("Atmos Energy" or the "Company") last Pipeline Replacement Program ("PRP") filing (Case No. 2020-00229), the Commission's Order stated:

Therefore, the Commission finds that Atmos should revise its tariff language to reflect that the overall rate of return will be established in the annual PRP rate application. Given the condensed processing timeline of these proceedings, the Commission strongly recommends that Atmos file adequate testimony to support its proposed rate of return, including a reasonable ROE.

I am the Company's direct witness in the currently pending general rate case, Case No. 2021-00214, in which I provide a recommendation regarding Atmos Energy's return on common equity ("ROE") for its natural gas distribution operations in Kentucky. The purpose of my testimony in this PRP filing is to adopt that same recommendation (i.e., $10.35 \%$ ) for use in setting rates pursuant to the Company's PRP tariff.

## Q. HAVE YOU PREPARED EXHIBITS IN SUPPORT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?

A. Yes. I have prepared Exhibit No. DWD-1, consisting of my direct testimony in Case No. 2021-00214 as well as Schedules DWD-1 through DWD-8, which were prepared by me or under my direction. I have also prepared Exhibit No. DWD-2, which summarizes the revenue stabilization mechanisms and alternative rate plans of the proxy companies used to derive my ROE recommendation in Exhibit No. DWD-1 (the "Utility Proxy Group").
Q. DO YOU ADOPT AND AFFIRM AS TRUE AND CORRECT YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY IN CASE NO. 2021-00214 AS IF FULLY RESTATED HEREIN?
A. Yes, I do.
Q. WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE FOR ATMOS ENERGY IN THAT DIRECT TESTIMONY?
A. I recommend that the Commission authorize Atmos Energy the opportunity to earn an ROE of $10.35 \%$ on its PRP investment. The ratemaking capital structure and cost of long-term debt is sponsored by Company Witness Christian in Case No. 2021-00214. The overall rate of return is summarized on page 1 of Schedule DWD1 and in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Summary of Recommended Weighted Average Cost of Capital

| Type of Capital | Ratios | Cost Rate | Weighted Cost Rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Long-Term Debt | $42.77 \%$ | $4.00 \%$ | $1.71 \%$ |
| Short-Term Debt | $0.18 \%$ | $25.17 \%$ | $0.05 \%$ |
| Common Equity | $\underline{57.05 \%}$ | $\underline{10.35 \%}$ | $\underline{5.90 \%}$ |
| Total | $\underline{\underline{100.00 \%}}$ |  | $\underline{\underline{7.66 \%}}$ |

## Q. WHY HAVE YOU RELIED ON THE SAME ANALYSES PRESENTED IN CASE NO. 2021-00214 FOR YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. The analytical models which I used to develop my recommended ROE in Case No. 2021-00214 were based on data as of May 28, 2021. Because the analytical models are based on relatively recent data and there have not been significant shifts in capital market conditions since May 28, 2021, those analytical models continue to represent reasonable estimates of the ROE for the Company's PRP investments.
II. USE OF ROE FOR SETTING RATES IN PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

## Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS RELATED TO THE ROE IN THIS PRP FILING?

A. Yes, I do. Because revenue stabilization mechanisms such as the PRP are common among the proxy companies, the $10.35 \%$ recommended ROE presented in Exhibit No. DWD-1 is reasonable and appropriate for the Company's PRP investments without adjustment.

## Q. DOES THE COMPANY'S UTILIZATION OF THE PRP AFFECT ITS RELATIVE RISK TO YOUR UTILITY PROXY GROUP?

A. No. As noted in Exhibit No. DWD-1 at page 6, the Hope and Bluefield "Comparable Earnings" standard requires the allowed ROE to be commensurate with the returns on investments of similar risk. The cost of capital is a comparative exercise, so if the mechanism is common throughout the companies on which one bases their analyses, the comparative risk is zero, because any effect of the perceived reduced risk of the mechanism(s) by investors would be reflected in the market data of the proxy group. To the extent the proxy companies have mechanisms in place to address revenue shortfalls and cost recovery, the PRP only serves to make it more comparable to its peers and have no impact on comparative risk.

To that point, Exhibit No. DWD-2 provides a summary of rate stabilization mechanisms currently in effect at each gas utility subsidiary of the proxy group companies. As Exhibit No. DWD-2 demonstrates, substantially all the proxy companies have recovery mechanisms and/or annual formula-based rate mechanisms in place. ${ }^{1}$

## Q. ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY STUDIES THAT HAVE ADDRESSED THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RATE STABILIZATION MECHANISMS, GENERALLY, AND ROE?

A. Yes. I, along with Richard A. Michelfelder of Rutgers University, and my colleague at ScottMadden, Pauline M. Ahern, examined the relationship between

[^5]PRP-like mechanisms and ROE among electric, gas, and water utilities. Using the generalized consumption asset pricing model, also known as the PRPM, we found PRP-like mechanisms to have no statistically significant effect on investor perceived risk, and hence, ROE. ${ }^{2}$

Also, in March 2014, The Brattle Group (Brattle) published a study addressing the effect of revenue decoupling structures on the cost of capital for electric utilities. ${ }^{3}$ In its report, which extended a prior analysis focused on natural gas distribution utilities, Brattle pointed out that although decoupling structures may affect revenues, net income still can vary. Brattle further noted that the distinction between diversifiable and non-diversifiable risk is important to equity investors, and the relationship between decoupling and ROE should be examined in that context. Further to that point, Brattle noted that although reductions in total risk may be important to bondholders, only reductions in non-diversifiable business risk would justify a reduction to the ROE. In November 2016, the Brattle study was updated based on data through the fourth quarter of 2015. ${ }^{4}$

Brattle's empirical analysis examined the relationship between decoupling and the After-Tax WACC for a group of electric utilities that had implemented decoupling structures in various jurisdictions throughout the United States. As with

[^6]Brattle's 2014 study, the updated study found no statistically significant link between the cost of capital and revenue decoupling structures. ${ }^{5}$

## Q. WHAT ARE YOUR CONCLUSIONS REGARDING THE EFFECT OF THE COMPANY'S PRP ON ROE?

A. The presence of Atmos Energy's PRP rider does not affect the Company's ROE. Atmos Energy's PRP rider does not affect the ROE because it is similar to riders present in the operating companies of the Utility Proxy Group used to derive the ROE. Since this is the case, the lower risk of having a PRP (if any) would already be subsumed in the market data for the Utility Proxy Group.

Furthermore, several studies show that rate stabilization mechanisms like the PRP do not materially affect the investor-required return for those companies. Given that, the Company's PRP rider does not lower the comparative risk of the Company relative to the Utility Proxy Group and therefore, the ROE should not be adjusted due to the Company's PRP rider.

## III. CONCLUSION

## Q. WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE FOR ATMOS ENERGY'S PRP INVESTMENTS?

A. Given the indicated ROE range applicable to the Utility Proxy Group of $9.44 \%$ to $12.42 \%$ and the Company-specific ROE range of $9.58 \%$ to $12.66 \%$, I conclude that an appropriate ROE for the Company's PRP investments is $10.35 \%$.

[^7]1 Q. IN YOUR OPINION, IS YOUR PROPOSED ROE OF 10.35\% FAIR AND 2 REASONABLE TO ATMOS ENERGY AND ITS CUSTOMERS?

3 A. Yes, it is.
4 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?
5 A. Yes, it does.

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


#### Abstract

APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY ) CORPORATION TO ESTABLISH PR RIDER RATES FOR THE TWELVE MONTH ) CASE NO. 2021-00304 PERIOD BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021


## CERTIFICATE AND AFFIDAVIT

The Affiant, Dylan W. D'Ascendis, being duly sworn, deposes and states that the prepared testimony attached hereto and made a part hereof, constitutes the prepared direct testimony of this affiant in Case No. 2021-00304 and that if asked the questions propounded therein, this affiant would make the answers set forth in the, attached prepared direct pre-filed testimony.


## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

COUNTY OF BURLINGTON

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by Dylan W. D'Ascendis on this the 23 day of July, 2021.


# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 

 COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKYAPPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY )<br>CORPORATION FOR AN ADJUSTMENT ) Case No. 2021-00214<br>OF RATES AND TARIFF MODIFICATIONS )

## DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DYLAN W. D'ASCENDIS

RATE OF RETURN

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Exhibit DWD-1

## I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

## Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. My name is Dylan W. D'Ascendis. My business address is 3000 Atrium Way, Suite 241, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054.

## Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?

A. I am a Partner at ScottMadden, Inc.
Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.
A. I have offered expert testimony on behalf of investor-owned utilities before over 25 state regulatory commissions in the United States, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Alberta Utility Commission, and one American Arbitration Association panel on issues including, but not limited to, common equity cost rate, rate of return, valuation, capital structure, class cost of service, and rate design.

On behalf of the American Gas Association ("AGA"), I calculate the AGA Gas Index, which serves as the benchmark against which the performance of the American Gas Index Fund ("AGIF") is measured on a monthly basis. The AGA Gas Index and AGIF are a market capitalization weighted index and mutual fund, respectively, comprised of the common stocks of the publicly traded corporate members of the AGA.

I am a member of the Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts ("SURFA"). In 2011, I was awarded the professional designation "Certified Rate of Return Analyst" by SURFA, which is based on education, experience, and the successful completion of a comprehensive written examination.

I am also a member of the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts ("NACVA") and was awarded the professional designation "Certified Valuation Analyst" by the NACVA in 2015.

I am a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economic History. I have also received a Master of Business Administration with high honors and concentrations in Finance and International Business from Rutgers University.

The details of my educational background and expert witness appearances are shown in Appendix A.
Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?
A. The purpose of my testimony is to present evidence and provide a recommendation regarding Atmos Energy Corporation's ("Atmos Energy" or the "Company") return on common equity ("ROE") for its natural gas distribution operations in Kentucky.
Q. HAVE YOU PREPARED AN EXHIBIT IN SUPPORT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION?
A. Yes. I have prepared Exhibit No. DWD-1, consisting of Schedules DWD-1 through DWD-8, which were prepared by me or under my direction.

## Q. WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE FOR ATMOS ENERGY?

A. I recommend that the Commission authorize Atmos Energy the opportunity to earn an ROE of $10.35 \%$ on its rate base. The ratemaking capital structure and cost of long-term debt is sponsored by Company Witness Christian. The overall rate of return is summarized on page 1 of Schedule DWD-1 and in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Summary of Recommended Weighted Average Cost of Capital

| Type of Capital | Ratios | Cost Rate | Weighted Cost Rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Long-Term Debt | $42.77 \%$ | $4.00 \%$ | $1.71 \%$ |
| Short-Term Debt | $0.18 \%$ | $25.17 \%$ | $0.05 \%$ |
| Common Equity | $\underline{57.05 \%}$ | $\underline{10.35 \%}$ | $\underline{5.90 \%}$ |
| Total | $\underline{\underline{100.00 \%}}$ |  | $\underline{\underline{7.66 \%}}$ |

## II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

## Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDED COMMON EQUITY COST RATE.

A. My recommended common equity cost rate of $10.35 \%$ is summarized on page 2 of Schedule DWD-1. I have assessed the market-based common equity cost rates of companies of relatively similar, but not necessarily identical, risk to Atmos Energy. Using companies of relatively comparable risk as proxies is consistent with the principles of fair rate of return established in the Hope ${ }^{1}$ and Bluefield ${ }^{2}$ decisions. No proxy group can be identical in risk to any single company. Consequently, there must be an evaluation of relative risk between the company and the proxy group to determine if it is appropriate to adjust the proxy group's indicated rate of return.

My recommendation results from applying several cost of common equity models, specifically the Discounted Cash Flow ("DCF") model, the Risk Premium Model ("RPM"), and the Capital Asset Pricing Model ("CAPM"), to the market data of a proxy group of seven natural gas distribution utilities ("Utility Proxy Group") whose selection criteria will be discussed below. In addition, I applied the DCF model, RPM, and CAPM to a proxy group of 48 domestic, non-price regulated
companies comparable in total risk to the Utility Proxy Group ("Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group"). The results derived from each are as follows:

Table 2: Summary of Common Equity Cost Rates

| Discounted Cash Flow Model | $9.44 \%$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Risk Premium Model | $10.96 \%$ |
| Capital Asset Pricing Model | $11.75 \%$ |
| Cost of Equity Models Applied to Comparable | $\underline{12.42 \%}$ |
| Risk, Non-Price Regulated Companies | $9.44 \%-12.42 \%$ |
| Indicated Range | $0.20 \%$ |
| Size Adjustment | $-0.10 \%$ |
| Credit Risk Adjustment | $\underline{0.04 \%}$ |
| Flotation Cost Adjustment | $9.58 \%-12.66 \%$ |
| Recommended Range | $\underline{10.35 \%}$ |
| Recommended Cost of Common Equity |  |

The indicated range of common equity cost rates applicable to the Utility Proxy Group is between $9.44 \%$ and $12.42 \%$ before any Company-specific adjustments. As ROE models are based on market data, the indicated results of the models would reflect current and expected capital markets, including the impacts of COVID-19. I then adjusted the indicated range by $0.20 \%$ and negative $0.10 \%$ to reflect the Company's smaller relative size and lower credit risk, as compared to the Utility Proxy Group companies, and by $0.04 \%$ for flotation costs. ${ }^{3}$ These adjustments resulted in a Company-specific indicated range of common equity cost rates between $9.58 \%$ and $12.66 \%$.

The wide range of model results may reflect increased uncertainty related to the COVID-19 pandemic and unknown timeframe for when economic conditions

See Section VII for a detailed discussion of my cost of common equity adjustments.
will normalize as vaccinations ramp up and the public health crises subsides. Because of this uncertainty, I recommend an ROE for the Company toward the lower end of my Company-specific range, specifically $10.35 \%$.

## Q. HOW IS THE REMAINDER OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY ORGANIZED?

A. The remainder of my Direct Testimony is organized as follows:

- Section III - Provides a summary of financial theory and regulatory principles pertinent to the development of the cost of common equity;
- Section IV - Explains my selection of the Utility Proxy Group used to develop my Cost of Common Equity analytical results;
- Section V - Describes the analyses on which my Cost of Common Equity recommendation is based;
- Section VI - Summarizes my common equity cost rate before adjustments to reflect Company-specific factors;
- Section VII - Explains my adjustments to my common equity cost rate to reflect Company-specific factors; and
- Section VIII - Presents my conclusions.


## III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Q. WHAT GENERAL PRINCIPLES HAVE YOU CONSIDERED IN ARRIVING AT YOUR RECOMMENDED COMMON EQUITY COST RATE OF 10.35\%?
A. In unregulated industries, marketplace competition is the principal determinant of the price of products or services. For regulated public utilities, regulation must act
as a substitute for marketplace competition. Assuring that the utility can fulfill its obligations to the public, while providing safe and reliable service at all times, requires a level of earnings sufficient to maintain the integrity of presently invested capital. Sufficient earnings also permit the attraction of needed new capital at a reasonable cost, for which the utility must compete with other firms of comparable risk, consistent with the fair rate of return standards established by the U.S. Supreme Court in the previously cited Hope and Bluefield cases.

The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the fair rate of return standards in Hope, when it stated:

The rate-making process under the Act, i.e., the fixing of 'just and reasonable' rates, involves a balancing of the investor and the consumer interests. Thus we stated in the Natural Gas Pipeline Co. case that 'regulation does not insure that the business shall produce net revenues.' 315 U.S. at page 590, 62 S.Ct. at page 745 . But such considerations aside, the investor interest has a legitimate concern with the financial integrity of the company whose rates are being regulated. From the investor or company point of view it is important that there be enough revenue not only for operating expenses but also for the capital costs of the business. These include service on the debt and dividends on the stock. Cf. Chicago \& Grand Trunk R. Co. v. Wellman, 143 U.S. 339, 345, 34612 S.Ct. 400,402. By that standard the return to the equity owner should be commensurate with returns on investments in other enterprises having corresponding risks. That return, moreover, should be sufficient to assure confidence in the financial integrity of the enterprise, so as to maintain its credit and to attract capital. ${ }^{4}$

Consistent with the findings in Hope, the Commission's decision in this proceeding should provide the Company with the opportunity to earn a return that is: (1) adequate to attract capital at reasonable cost and terms; (2) sufficient to

[^8]ensure their financial integrity; and (3) commensurate with returns on investments in enterprises having corresponding risks.

Also, the required return for a regulated public utility is established on a stand-alone basis, i.e., for the utility operating company at issue in a rate case. When funding is provided by a corporate entity to an operating division or business unit within the entity, the allowed return still must be sufficient to provide an incentive to allocate equity capital to the business unit rather than other internal or external investment opportunities. That is, the regulated operating division must compete for capital with all the operating divisions within the corporate entity, and with other, similarly situated companies. In that regard, investors value corporate entities on a sum-of-the-parts basis and expect each division within the parent company to provide an appropriate risk-adjusted return.

It therefore is important that the authorized ROE reflects the risks and prospects of the utility's operations and supports the utility's financial integrity from a stand-alone perspective as measured by their combined business and financial risks. Consequently, the ROE authorized in this proceeding should be sufficient to support the operational (i.e., business risk) and financing (i.e., financial risk) of the Company's Kentucky utility operations on a stand-alone basis.

## Q. WITHIN THAT BROAD FRAMEWORK, HOW IS THE COST OF CAPITAL ESTIMATED IN REGULATORY PROCEEDINGS?

A. Regulated utilities primarily use common stock and long-term debt to finance their permanent property, plant, and equipment (i.e., rate base). The fair rate of return for a regulated utility is based on its weighted average cost of capital, in which, as
noted earlier, the costs of the individual sources of capital are weighted by their respective book values.

The cost of capital is the return investors require to make an investment in a firm. Investors will provide funds to a firm only if the return that they expect is equal to, or greater than, the return that they require to accept the risk of providing funds to the firm.

The cost of capital (that is, the combination of the costs of debt and equity) is based on the economic principle of "opportunity costs." Investing in any asset (whether debt or equity securities) represents a forgone opportunity to invest in alternative assets. For any investment to be sensible, its expected return must be at least equal to the return expected on alternative, comparable risk investment opportunities. Because investments with like risks should offer similar returns, the opportunity cost of an investment should equal the return available on an investment of comparable risk.

Whereas the cost of debt is contractually defined and can be directly observed as the interest rate or yield on debt securities, the cost of common equity must be estimated based on market data and various financial models. Because the cost of common equity is premised on opportunity costs, the models used to determine it are typically applied to a group of "comparable" or "proxy" companies. In the end, the estimated cost of capital should reflect the return that investors require in light of the subject company's business and financial risks, and the returns available on comparable investments.

## Q. IS THE AUTHORIZED RETURN SET IN REGULATORY PROCEEDINGS GUARANTEED?

A. No, it is not. Consistent with the Hope and Bluefield standards, the rate-setting process should provide the utility a reasonable opportunity to recover its return of, and return on, its prudently incurred investments, but it does not guarantee that return. While a utility may have control over some factors that affect the ability to earn its authorized return (e.g., management performance, operating and maintenance expenses, etc.), there are several factors beyond a utility's control that affect its ability to earn its authorized return. Those may include factors such as weather, the economy, and the prevalence and magnitude of regulatory lag.

## A. Business Risk

Q. PLEASE DEFINE BUSINESS RISK AND EXPLAIN WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR DETERMINING A FAIR RATE OF RETURN.
A. The investor-required return on common equity reflects investors' assessment of the total investment risk of the subject firm. Total investment risk is often discussed in the context of business and financial risk.

Business risk reflects the uncertainty associated with owning a company's common stock without the company's use of debt and/or preferred stock financing. One way of considering the distinction between business and financial risk is to view the former as the uncertainty of the expected earned return on common equity, assuming the firm is financed with no debt.

Examples of business risks generally faced by utilities include, but are not limited to, the regulatory environment, mandatory environmental compliance requirements, customer mix and concentration of customers, service territory
economic growth, market demand, risks and uncertainties of supply, operations, capital intensity, size, the degree of operating leverage, and the like, all of which have a direct bearing on earnings. Although analysts, including rating agencies, may categorize business risks individually, as a practical matter, such risks are interrelated and not wholly distinct from one another. Therefore, it is difficult to specifically and numerically quantify the effect of any individual risk on investors' required return, i.e., the cost of capital. For determining an appropriate return on common equity, the relevant issue is where investors see the subject company as falling within a spectrum of risk. To the extent investors view a company as being exposed to high risk, the required return will increase, and vice versa.

For regulated utilities, business risks are both long-term and near-term in nature. Whereas near-term business risks are reflected in year-to-year variability in earnings and cash flow brought about by economic or regulatory factors, long-term business risks reflect the prospect of an impaired ability of investors to obtain both a fair rate of return on, and return of, their capital. Moreover, because utilities accept the obligation to provide safe, adequate and reliable service at all times (in exchange for a reasonable opportunity to earn a fair return on their investment), they generally do not have the option to delay, defer, or reject capital investments. Because those investments are capital-intensive, utilities generally do not have the option to avoid raising external funds during periods of capital market distress, if necessary.

Because utilities invest in long-lived assets, long-term business risks are of paramount concern to equity investors. That is, the risk of not recovering the return
on their investment extends far into the future. The timing and nature of events that may lead to losses, however, also are uncertain and, consequently, those risks and their implications for the required return on equity tend to be difficult to quantify. Regulatory commissions (like investors who commit their capital) must review a variety of quantitative and qualitative data and apply their reasoned judgment to determine how long-term risks weigh in their assessment of the market-required return on common equity.

## B. Financial Risk

Q. PLEASE DEFINE FINANCIAL RISK AND EXPLAIN WHY IT IS IMPORTANT IN DETERMINING A FAIR RATE OF RETURN.
A. Financial risk is the additional risk created by the introduction of debt and preferred stock into the capital structure. The higher the proportion of debt and preferred stock in the capital structure, the higher the financial risk to common equity owners (i.e., failure to receive dividends due to default or other covenants). Therefore, consistent with the basic financial principle of risk and return, common equity investors demand higher returns as compensation for bearing higher financial risk.

## Q. CAN BOND AND CREDIT RATINGS BE A PROXY FOR A FIRM'S COMBINED BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL RISKS TO EQUITY OWNERS (I.E., INVESTMENT RISK)?

A. Yes, similar bond ratings/issuer credit ratings reflect, and are representative of, similar combined business and financial risks (i.e., total risk) faced by bond investors. ${ }^{5}$ Although specific business or financial risks may differ between

5 Risk distinctions within S\&P's bond rating categories are recognized by a plus or minus, e.g., within the A category, an S\&P rating can by at A+, A, or A-. Similarly, risk distinction for
companies, the same bond/credit rating indicates that the combined risks are roughly similar from a debtholder perspective. The caveat is that these debtholder risk measures do not translate directly to risks for common equity.

## Q. DO RATING AGENCIES ACCOUNT FOR COMPANY SIZE IN THEIR BOND RATINGS? <br> A. No. Neither Standard \& Poor's ("S\&P") nor Moody's have minimum company size requirements for any given rating level. This means, all else equal, a relative size analysis must be conducted for equity investments in companies with similar bond ratings.

## IV. ATMOS ENERGY'S KENTUCKY OPERATIONS AND THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP

## Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH ATMOS ENERGY'S OPERATIONS?

A. Yes. Atmos Energy's Kentucky operations serve approximately 183,000 customers. ${ }^{6}$ Atmos Energy's Kentucky gas operations are not publicly-traded as they comprise an operating division of Atmos Energy Corporation ("ATO" or the "Company"), which operates in eight states ${ }^{7}$ and serves approximately 3.3 million gas ${ }^{8}$ and is publicly-traded under symbol ATO.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW YOU CHOSE THE COMPANIES IN THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP.

A. The companies selected for the Utility Proxy Group met the following criteria:

Moody's ratings are distinguished by numerical rating gradations, e.g., within the A category, a Moody's rating can be A1, A2 and A3.
6 Atmos Energy Corporation, 2020 SEC Form 10-K, at 4.
7 Ibid., In addition to Kentucky, ATO also serves customers in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia, Colorado, Kansas, and Tennessee.
Ibid.
(i) They were included in the Natural Gas Utility Group of Value Line's Standard Edition (Value Line) (May 28, 2021);
(ii) They have $60 \%$ or greater of fiscal year 2020 total operating income derived from, and $60 \%$ or greater of fiscal year 2020 total assets attributable to, regulated gas distribution operations;
(iii) At the time of preparation of this testimony, they had not publicly announced that they were involved in any major merger or acquisition activity (i.e., one publicly-traded utility merging with or acquiring another);
(iv) They have not cut or omitted their common dividends during the five years ended 2020 or through the time of preparation of this testimony;
(v) They have Value Line and Bloomberg Professional Services ("Bloomberg") adjusted betas;
(vi) They have positive Value Line five-year dividends per share ("DPS") growth rate projections; and
(vii) They have Value Line, Zacks, Yahoo! Finance, or Bloomberg consensus five-year earnings per share ("EPS") growth rate projections.

The following seven companies met these criteria: Atmos Energy
Corporation, New Jersey Resources Corp., Northwest Natural Holding Company,
One Gas, Inc., South Jersey Industries, Inc., Southwest Gas Holdings, Inc., and Spire, Inc.

## Q. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A PROXY GROUP WHEN ESTIMATING THE ROE FOR THE COMPANY?

A. Because the Company is not publicly traded and does not have publicly traded equity securities, it is necessary to develop groups of publicly traded, comparable companies to serve as "proxies" for the Company. In addition to the analytical necessity of doing so, the use of proxy companies is consistent with the Hope and Bluefield comparable risk standards, as discussed above. I have selected two proxy
groups that, in my view, are fundamentally risk-comparable to the Company: a Utility Proxy Group and a Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group, which is comparable in total risk to the Utility Proxy Group. ${ }^{9}$

Even when proxy groups are carefully selected, it is common for analytical results to vary from company to company. Despite the care taken to ensure comparability, because no two companies are identical, market expectations regarding future risks and prospects will vary within the proxy group. It therefore is common for analytical results to reflect a seemingly wide range, even for a group of similarly situated companies. At issue is how to estimate the ROE from within that range. That determination will be best informed by employing a variety of sound analyses that necessarily must consider the sort of quantitative and qualitative information discussed throughout my Direct Testimony. Additionally, a relative risk analysis between the Company and the Utility Proxy Group must be made to determine whether or not explicit Company-specific adjustments need to be made to the Utility Proxy Group indicated results.

## V. COMMON EQUITY COST RATE MODELS

## Q. IS IT IMPORTANT THAT COST OF COMMON EQUITY MODELS BE

 MARKET BASED?A. Yes. A public utility must compete for equity in capital markets along with all other companies of comparable risk, which includes non-utilities. The cost of common equity is thus determined based on equity market expectations for the returns of those comparable risk companies. If an individual investor is choosing to invest

[^9]their capital among companies of comparable risk, they will choose a company providing a higher return over a company providing a lower return.

## Q. ARE YOUR COST OF COMMON EQUITY MODELS MARKET BASED? <br> A. Yes. The DCF model uses market prices in developing the model's dividend yield component. The RPM uses bond ratings and expected bond yields that reflect the market's assessment of bond/credit risk. In addition, beta coefficients ( $\beta$ ), which reflect the market/systematic risk component of equity risk premium, are derived from regression analyses of market prices. The Predictive Risk Premium Model ("PRPM") uses monthly market returns in addition to expectations of the risk-free rate. The CAPM is market based for many of the same reasons that the RPM is market based (i.e., the use of expected bond yields and betas). Selection criteria for comparable risk non-price regulated companies are based on regression analyses of market prices and reflect the market's assessment of total risk.

## Q. WHAT ANALYTICAL APPROACHES DID YOU USE TO DETERMINE THE COMPANY'S ROE?

A. As discussed earlier, I have relied on the DCF model, the RPM, and the CAPM, which I apply to the Utility Proxy Group described above. I also applied these same models to a Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group described later in this section.

I rely on these models because reasonable investors use a variety of tools and do not rely exclusively on a single source of information or single model. Moreover, the models on which I rely focus on different aspects of return requirements, and provide different insights to investors' views of risk and return. The DCF model, for example, estimates the investor-required return assuming a
constant expected dividend yield and growth rate in perpetuity, while Risk Premium-based methods (i.e., the RPM and CAPM approaches) provide the ability to reflect investors' views of risk, future market returns, and the relationship between interest rates and the cost of common equity. Just as the use of market data for the Utility Proxy Group adds the reliability necessary to inform expert judgment in arriving at a recommended common equity cost rate, the use of multiple generally accepted common equity cost rate models also adds reliability and accuracy when arriving at a recommended common equity cost rate.

## A. Discounted Cash Flow Model

## Q. WHAT IS THE THEORETICAL BASIS OF THE DCF MODEL?

A. The theory underlying the DCF model is that the present value of an expected future stream of net cash flows during the investment holding period can be determined by discounting those cash flows at the cost of capital, or the investors' capitalization rate. DCF theory indicates that an investor buys a stock for an expected total return rate, which is derived from the cash flows received from dividends and market price appreciation. Mathematically, the dividend yield on market price plus a growth rate equals the capitalization rate; i.e., the total common equity return rate expected by investors as shown below:
$K_{e}=\left(D_{0}(1+g)\right) / P+g$
where:
$K_{e}=$ the required Return on Common Equity;
$D_{0}=$ the annualized Dividend Per Share;
$P=$ the current stock price; and
$g=$ the growth rate.

## Q. WHICH VERSION OF THE DCF MODEL DID YOU USE?

A. I used the single-stage constant growth DCF model in my analyses.
Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE DIVIDEND YIELD YOU USED IN APPLYING THE CONSTANT GROWTH DCF MODEL.
A. The unadjusted dividend yields are based on the proxy companies' dividends as of May 28, 2021, divided by the average closing market price for the 60 trading days ended May 28, 2021. ${ }^{10}$

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR ADJUSTMENT TO THE DIVIDEND YIELD.

A. Because dividends are paid periodically (e.g. quarterly), as opposed to continuously (daily), an adjustment must be made to the dividend yield. This is often referred to as the discrete, or the Gordon Periodic, version of the DCF model.

DCF theory calls for using the full growth rate, or $\mathrm{D}_{1}$, in calculating the model's dividend yield component. Since the companies in the Utility Proxy Group increase their quarterly dividends at various times during the year, a reasonable assumption is to reflect one-half the annual dividend growth rate in the dividend yield component, or $\mathrm{D}_{1 / 2}$. Because the dividend should be representative of the next 12-month period, this adjustment is a conservative approach that does not overstate the dividend yield. Therefore, the actual average dividend yields in Column 1, page 1 of Schedule DWD-2 have been adjusted upward to reflect one-half the average projected growth rate shown in Column 6.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE BASIS FOR THE GROWTH RATES YOU APPLY TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP IN YOUR CONSTANT GROWTH DCF MODEL.

A. Investors are likely to rely on widely available financial information services, such as Value Line, Zacks, Yahoo! Finance, and Bloomberg. Investors realize that analysts have significant insight into the dynamics of the industries and individual companies they analyze, as well as companies' ability to effectively manage the effects of changing laws and regulations, and ever-changing economic and market conditions. For these reasons, I used analysts' five-year forecasts of EPS growth in my DCF analysis.

Over the long run, there can be no growth in DPS without growth in EPS. Security analysts' earnings expectations have a more significant influence on market prices than dividend expectations. Thus, using earnings growth rates in a DCF analysis provides a better match between investors' market price appreciation expectations and the growth rate component of the DCF.

## Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE CONSTANT GROWTH DCF MODEL RESULTS.

A. As shown on page 1 of Schedule DWD-2, for the Utility Proxy Group, the mean result of applying the single-stage DCF model is $9.57 \%$, the median result is $9.30 \%$, and the average of the two is $9.44 \%$. In arriving at a conclusion for the constant growth DCF-indicated common equity cost rate for the Utility Proxy Group, I relied on an average of the mean and the median results of the DCF. This approach
considers all the proxy utilities' results, while mitigating the high and low outliers of those individual results.

## B. The Risk Premium Model

## Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE THEORETICAL BASIS OF THE RPM.

A. The RPM is based on the fundamental financial principle of risk and return; namely, that investors require greater returns for bearing greater risk. The RPM recognizes that common equity capital has greater investment risk than debt capital, as common equity shareholders are behind debt holders in any claim on a company's assets and earnings. As a result, investors require higher returns from common stocks than from bonds to compensate them for bearing the additional risk.

While it is possible to directly observe bond returns and yields, investors’ required common equity returns cannot be directly determined or observed. According to RPM theory, one can estimate a common equity risk premium over bonds (either historically or prospectively) and use that premium to derive a cost rate of common equity. The cost of common equity equals the expected cost rate for long-term debt capital, plus a risk premium over that cost rate, to compensate common shareholders for the added risk of being unsecured and last-in-line for any claim on the corporation's assets and earnings upon liquidation.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW YOU DERIVED YOUR INDICATED COST OF COMMON EQUITY BASED ON THE RPM.

A. To derive my indicated cost of common equity under the RPM, I used two risk premium methods. The first method was the PRPM and the second method was a risk premium model using a total market approach. The PRPM estimates the risk-
return relationship directly, while the total market approach indirectly derives a risk premium by using known metrics as a proxy for risk.

## 1. The Predictive Risk Premium Model

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE PRPM.

A. The PRPM, published in the Journal of Regulatory Economics, ${ }^{11}$ was developed from the work of Robert F. Engle, who shared the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2003 "for methods of analyzing economic time series with time-varying volatility ("ARCH")". ${ }^{12}$ Engle found that volatility changes over time and is related from one period to the next, especially in financial markets. Engle discovered that volatility of prices and returns cluster over time and is therefore highly predictable and can be used to predict future levels of risk and risk premiums.

The PRPM estimates the risk-return relationship directly, as the predicted equity risk premium is generated by predicting volatility or risk. The PRPM is not based on an estimate of investor behavior, but rather on an evaluation of the results of that behavior (i.e., the variance of historical equity risk premiums).

The inputs to the model are the historical returns on the common shares of each Utility Proxy Group company minus the historical monthly yield on long-term U.S. Treasury securities through May 2021. Using a generalized form of ARCH, known as GARCH, I calculated each Utility Proxy Group company's projected equity risk premium using Eviews ${ }^{\ominus}$ statistical software. When the GARCH model is applied to the historical return data, it produces a predicted GARCH variance

11 Autoregressive conditional heteroscedasticity. See "A New Approach for Estimating the Equity Risk Premium for Public Utilities", Pauline M. Ahern, Frank J. Hanley and Richard A. Michelfelder, Ph.D. The Journal of Regulatory Economics (December 2011), 40:261-278. www.nobelprize.org.
series ${ }^{13}$ and a GARCH coefficient ${ }^{14}$. Multiplying the predicted monthly variance by the GARCH coefficient and then annualizing it ${ }^{15}$ produces the predicted annual equity risk premium. I then added the forecasted 30-year U.S. Treasury bond yield of $2.88 \%{ }^{16}$ to each company's PRPM-derived equity risk premium to arrive at an indicated cost of common equity. The 30 -year U.S. Treasury bond yield is a consensus forecast derived from Blue Chip Financial Forecasts (Blue Chip). ${ }^{17}$ The mean PRPM indicated common equity cost rate for the Utility Proxy Group is $11.67 \%$, the median is $11.19 \%$, and the average of the two is $11.43 \%$. Consistent with my reliance on the average of the median and mean results of the DCF models, I relied on the average of the mean and median results of the Utility Proxy Group PRPM to calculate a cost of common equity rate of $11.43 \%$.

## Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR SELECTION OF A RISK-FREE RATE OF RETURN.

A. As shown in Schedules DWD-3 and 4, the risk-free rate adopted for applications of the RPM and CAPM is $2.88 \%$. This risk-free rate is based on the average of the Blue Chip consensus forecast of the expected yields on 30-year U.S. Treasury bonds for the six quarters ending with the third calendar quarter of 2022, and longterm projections for the years 2023 to 2027 and 2028 to 2032.

13 Illustrated on Columns 1 and 2, page 2 of Schedule DWD-3.
14 Illustrated on Column 4, page 2 of Schedule DWD-3.
15 Annualized Return = (1+Monthly Return) ${ }^{\wedge}$ 12-1
16 See Column 6, page 2 of Schedule DWD-3.
$17 \quad$ Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, June 1, 2021, at page 2 and 14.

## Q. WHY DO YOU USE THE PROJECTED 30-YEAR TREASURY YIELD IN YOUR ANALYSES?

A. The yield on long-term U.S. Treasury bonds is almost risk-free and its term is consistent with the long-term cost of capital to public utilities measured by the yields on Moody's A2-rated public utility bonds; the long-term investment horizon inherent in utilities' common stocks; and the long-term life of the jurisdictional rate base to which the allowed fair rate of return (i.e., cost of capital) will be applied. In contrast, short-term U.S. Treasury yields are more volatile and largely a function of Federal Reserve monetary policy.

## 2. The Total Market Risk Premium Approach

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE TOTAL MARKET APPROACH RPM.

A. The total market approach RPM adds a prospective public utility bond yield to an average of: 1) an equity risk premium that is derived from a beta-adjusted total market equity risk premium, 2) an equity risk premium based on the $\mathrm{S} \& \mathrm{P}$ Utilities Index, and 3) an equity risk premium based on authorized ROEs for gas distribution utilities.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF THE EXPECTED BOND YIELD OF 3.99\% APPLICABLE TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP.

A. The first step in the total market approach RPM analysis is to determine the expected bond yield. Because both ratemaking and the cost of capital, including common equity cost rate, are prospective in nature, a prospective yield on similarlyrated long-term debt is essential. I relied on a consensus forecast of about 50 economists of the expected yield on Aaa-rated corporate bonds for the six calendar quarters ending with the third calendar quarter of 2022, and Blue Chip's long-term
projections for 2023 to 2027, and 2028 to 2032. As shown on line 1, page 3 of Schedule DWD-3, the average expected yield on Moody's Aaa-rated corporate bonds is $3.56 \%$. To derive an expected yield on Moody's A2-rated public utility bonds, I made an upward adjustment of $0.39 \%$, which represents a recent spread between Aaa-rated corporate bonds and A2-rated public utility bonds, in order to adjust the expected Aaa-rated corporate bond yield to an equivalent A2-rated public utility bond yield. ${ }^{18}$ Adding that recent $0.39 \%$ spread to the expected Aaa-rated corporate bond yield of $3.56 \%$ results in an expected A2-rated public utility bond yield of $3.95 \%$.

I then reviewed the average credit rating for the Utility Proxy Group from Moody's to determine if an adjustment to the estimated A2-rated public utility bond was necessary. Since the Utility Proxy Group's average Moody's long-term issuer rating is A2/A3, another adjustment to the expected A2-rated public utility bond is needed to reflect the difference in bond ratings. An upward adjustment of $0.04 \%$, which represents one-sixth of a recent spread between A2-rated and Baa2-rated public utility bond yields, is necessary to make the A2 prospective bond yield applicable to an A2/A3-rated public utility bond. ${ }^{19}$ Adding the $0.04 \%$ to the $3.96 \%$ prospective A2-rated public utility bond yield results in a $3.99 \%$ expected bond yield applicable to the Utility Proxy Group.

18 As shown on line 2 and explained in note 2, page 3 of Schedule DWD-3.
19 As shown on line 4 and explained in note 3, page 3 of Schedule DWD-3. Moody's does not provide public utility bond yields for A2/A3-rated bonds. As such, it was necessary to estimate the difference between A2-rated and A2/A3-rated public utility bonds. Because there are three steps between Baa2 and A2 (Baa2 to Baa1, Baa1 to A3, and A3 to A2) I assumed an adjustment of one-sixth of the difference between the A2-rated and Baa2-rated public utility bond yield was appropriate.

Table 3: Summary of the Calculation of the Utility Proxy Group Projected Bond Yield ${ }^{20}$

| Prospective Yield on Moody's Aaa-Rated Corporate Bonds (Blue <br> Chip) | $3.56 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Adjustment to Reflect Yield Spread Between Moody's Aaa- <br> Rated Corporate Bonds and Moody's A2-Rated Utility Bonds | $0.39 \%$ |
| Adjustment to Reflect the Utility Proxy Group's Average <br> Moody's Bond Rating of A2/A3 | $\underline{0.04 \%}$ |
| Prospective Bond Yield Applicable to the Utility Proxy Group | $\underline{\underline{3.99 \%}}$ |

To develop the indicated ROE using the total market approach RPM, this prospective bond yield is then added to the average of the three different equity risk premiums described below.

## a. The Beta-Derived Risk Premium

Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE BETA-DERIVED EQUITY RISK PREMIUM IS DETERMINED.
A. The components of the beta-derived risk premium model are: 1) an expected market equity risk premium over corporate bonds, and 2) the beta coefficient. The derivation of the beta-derived equity risk premium that I applied to the Utility Proxy Group is shown on lines 1 through 9 , page 8 of Schedule DWD-3. The total betaderived equity risk premium I applied is based on an average of three historical market data-based equity risk premiums, two Value Line-based equity risk premiums, and a Bloomberg-based equity risk premium. Each of these is described below.

As shown on page 3 of Schedule DWD-3.

## Q. HOW DID YOU DERIVE A MARKET EQUITY RISK PREMIUM BASED ON LONG-TERM HISTORICAL DATA?

A. To derive a historical market equity risk premium, I used the most recent holding period returns for the large company common stocks from the Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation (SBBI) Yearbook 2021 (SBBI - 2021) ${ }^{21}$ less the average historical yield on Moody's Aaa/Aa-rated corporate bonds for the period 1928 to 2020. Using holding period returns over a very long time is appropriate because it is consistent with the long-term investment horizon presumed by investing in a going concern, i.e., a company expected to operate in perpetuity.

SBBI's long-term arithmetic mean monthly total return rate on large company common stocks was $11.94 \%$, and the long-term arithmetic mean monthly yield on Moody's Aaa/Aa-rated corporate bonds was $6.02 \% .{ }^{22}$ As shown on line 1, page 8 of Schedule DWD-3, subtracting the mean monthly bond yield from the total return on large company stocks results in a long-term historical equity risk premium of $5.92 \%$.

I used the arithmetic mean monthly total return rates for the large company stocks and yields (income returns) for the Moody's Aaa/Aa corporate bonds, because they are appropriate for the purpose of estimating the cost of capital as noted in SBBI - 2021. ${ }^{23}$ Using the arithmetic mean return rates and yields is appropriate because historical total returns and equity risk premiums provide insight into the variance and standard deviation of returns needed by investors in
estimating future risk when making a current investment. If investors relied on the geometric mean of historical equity risk premiums, they would have no insight into the potential variance of future returns, because the geometric mean relates the change over many periods to a constant rate of change, thereby obviating the year-to-year fluctuations, or variance, which is critical to risk analysis.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DERIVATION OF THE REGRESSION-BASED MARKET EQUITY RISK PREMIUM.

A. To derive the regression-based market equity risk premium of $8.69 \%$ shown on line 2, page 8 of Schedule DWD-3, I used the same monthly annualized total returns on large company common stocks relative to the monthly annualized yields on Moody's Aaa/Aa-rated corporate bonds as mentioned above. I modeled the relationship between interest rates and the market equity risk premium using the observed monthly market equity risk premium as the dependent variable, and the monthly yield on Moody's Aaa/Aa-rated corporate bonds as the independent variable. I then used a linear Ordinary Least Squares ("OLS") regression, in which the market equity risk premium is expressed as a function of the Moody's Aaa/Aarated corporate bonds yield:

$$
R P=\alpha+\beta\left(\mathrm{R}_{\text {Aaa } / \mathrm{Aa}}\right)
$$

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DERIVATION OF THE PRPM EQUITY RISK PREMIUM.

A. I used the same PRPM approach described above to the PRPM equity risk premium. The inputs to the model are the historical monthly returns on large company common stocks minus the monthly yields on Moody's Aaa/Aa-rated corporate
bonds during the period from January 1928 through May 2021. ${ }^{24}$ Using the previously discussed generalized form of ARCH, known as GARCH, the projected equity risk premium is determined using Eviews ${ }^{\ominus}$ statistical software. The resulting PRPM predicted a market equity risk premium of $9.02 \% .{ }^{25}$

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DERIVATION OF A PROJECTED EQUITY RISK PREMIUM BASED ON VALUE LINE DATA FOR YOUR RPM ANALYSIS.

A. As noted above, because both ratemaking and the cost of capital are prospective, a prospective market equity risk premium is needed. The derivation of the forecasted or prospective market equity risk premium can be found in note 4 , page 9 of Schedule DWD-3. Consistent with my calculation of the dividend yield component in my DCF analysis, this prospective market equity risk premium is derived from an average of the three- to five-year median market price appreciation potential by Value Line for the 13 weeks ended May 28, 2021, plus an average of the median estimated dividend yield for the common stocks of the 1,700 firms covered in Value Line's Standard Edition. ${ }^{26}$

The average median expected price appreciation is $28 \%$, which translates to a $6.37 \%$ annual appreciation, and, when added to the average of Value Line's median expected dividend yields of $1.79 \%$, equates to a forecasted annual total return rate on the market of $8.16 \%$. The forecasted Moody's Aaa-rated corporate bond yield of $3.56 \%$ is deducted from the total market return of $8.16 \%$, resulting in an equity risk premium of $4.60 \%$, as shown on line 4 , page 8 of Schedule DWD-3.

Data from January 1928 to December 2020 is from SBBI - 2021. Data from January 2021 to May 2021 is from Bloomberg.
Shown on line 3, page 8 of Schedule DWD-3.
As explained in detail in note 1, page 2 of Schedule DWD-4.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DERIVATION OF AN EQUITY RISK PREMIUM BASED ON THE S\&P 500 COMPANIES.

A. Using data from Value Line, I calculated an expected total return on the S\&P 500 companies using expected dividend yields and long-term growth estimates as a proxy for capital appreciation. The expected total return for the S\&P 500 is $14.32 \%$. Subtracting the prospective yield on Moody's Aaa-rated corporate bonds of 3.56\% results in an $10.76 \%$ projected equity risk premium.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DERIVATION OF AN EQUITY RISK PREMIUM BASED ON BLOOMBERG DATA.

A. Using data from Bloomberg, I calculated an expected total return on the S\&P 500 using expected dividend yields and long-term growth estimates as a proxy for capital appreciation, identical to the method described above. The expected total return for the S\&P 500 is $16.34 \%$. Subtracting the prospective yield on Moody's Aaa-rated corporate bonds of $3.56 \%$ results in a $12.78 \%$ projected equity risk premium.

## Q. WHAT IS YOUR CONCLUSION OF A BETA-DERIVED EQUITY RISK PREMIUM FOR USE IN YOUR RPM ANALYSIS?

A. I gave equal weight to all six equity risk premiums based on each source - historical, Value Line, and Bloomberg - in arriving at a $8.63 \%$ equity risk premium.

Table 4: Summary of the Calculation of the Equity Risk Premium Using Total Market Returns ${ }^{27}$

| Historical Spread Between Total Returns of Large Stocks and <br> Aaa and Aa2-Rated Corporate Bond Yields (1928-2020) | $5.92 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Regression Analysis on Historical Data | $8.69 \%$ |
| PRPM Analysis on Historical Data | $9.02 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Total Market Returns <br> from Value Line Summary \& Index less Projected Aaa <br> Corporate Bond Yields | $4.60 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Measures of Capital <br> Appreciation and Income Returns from Value Line for the S\&P <br> 500 less Projected Aaa Corporate Bond Yields | $10.76 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Measures of Capital <br> Appreciation and Income Returns from Bloomberg <br> Professional Services for the S\&P 500 less Projected Aaa <br> Corporate Bond Yields | $\underline{12.78 \%}$ |
| Average | $\underline{\underline{8.63 \%}}$ |

After calculating the average market equity risk premium of $8.63 \%$, I adjusted it by the beta coefficient to account for the risk of the Utility Proxy Group. As discussed below, the beta coefficient is a meaningful measure of prospective relative risk to the market as a whole, and is a logical way to allocate a company's, or proxy group's, share of the market's total equity risk premium relative to corporate bond yields. As shown on page 1 of Schedule DWD-4, the average of the mean and median beta coefficient for the Utility Proxy Group is 0.93 . Multiplying the 0.93 average by the market equity risk premium of $8.63 \%$ results in a beta-adjusted equity risk premium for the Utility Proxy Group of $8.03 \%$.

27 As shown on page 8 of Schedule DWD-3.

## b. The S\&P Utility Index Derived Risk Premium

## Q. HOW DID YOU DERIVE THE EQUITY RISK PREMIUM BASED ON THE S\&P UTILITY INDEX AND MOODY'S A-RATED PUBLIC UTILITY BONDS?

A. I estimated three equity risk premiums based on S\&P Utility Index holding period returns, and two equity risk premiums based on the expected returns of the $\mathrm{S} \& \mathrm{P}$ Utilities Index, using Value Line and Bloomberg data, respectively. Turning first to the S\&P Utility Index holding period returns, I derived a long-term monthly arithmetic mean equity risk premium between the S\&P Utility Index total returns of $10.65 \%$, and monthly Moody's A-rated public utility bond yields of $6.49 \%$ from 1928 to 2020 , to arrive at an equity risk premium of $4.16 \%{ }^{28}$ I then used the same historical data to derive an equity risk premium of $6.37 \%$ based on a regression of the monthly equity risk premiums. The final S\&P Utility Index holding period equity risk premium involved applying the PRPM using the historical monthly equity risk premiums from January 1928 to May 2021 to arrive at a PRPM-derived equity risk premium of $5.41 \%$ for the S\&P Utility Index.

I then derived expected total returns on the S\&P Utilities Index of 11.40\% and $9.77 \%$ using data from Value Line and Bloomberg, respectively, and subtracted the prospective Moody's A2-rated public utility bond yield of $3.95 \%{ }^{29}$, which resulted in equity risk premiums of $7.45 \%$ and $5.82 \%$, respectively. As with the market equity risk premiums, I averaged each risk premium based on each source

28 As shown on line 1, page 12 of Schedule DWD-3.
29
(i.e., historical, Value Line, and Bloomberg) to arrive at my utility-specific equity risk premium of $5.84 \%$.

Table 5: Summary of the Calculation of the Equity Risk Premium Using S\&P Utility Index Holding Returns ${ }^{30}$

| Historical Spread Between Total Returns of the S\&P Utilities <br> Index and A2-Rated Utility Bond Yields (1928-2020) | $4.16 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Regression Analysis on Historical Data | $6.37 \%$ |
| PRPM Analysis on Historical Data | $5.41 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Measures of Capital <br> Appreciation and Income Returns from Value Line for the S\&P <br> Utilities Index less Projected A2 Utility Bond Yields | $7.45 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Measures of Capital <br> Appreciation and Income Returns from Bloomberg <br> Professional Services for the S\&P Utilities Index less Projected <br> A2 Utility Bond Yields | $\underline{5.82 \%}$ |
| Average | $\underline{\underline{5.84 \%}}$ |

## c. $\quad$ Authorized Return-Derived Equity Risk Premium <br> Q. HOW DID YOU DERIVE AN EQUITY RISK PREMIUM OF 5.64\% BASED ON AUTHORIZED ROES FOR GAS DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES?

A. The equity risk premium of $5.64 \%$ shown on line 3 , page 7 of Schedule DWD-3 is the result of a regression analysis based on regulatory awarded ROEs related to the yields on Moody's A-rated public utility bonds. That analysis is shown on page 13 of Schedule DWD-3 which contains the graphical results of a regression analysis of 800 rate cases for gas distribution utilities which were fully litigated during the period from January 1, 1980 through May 28, 2021. It shows the implicit equity risk premium relative to the yields on A-rated public utility bonds immediately prior to the issuance of each regulatory decision. It is readily discernible that there is an inverse relationship between the yield on A-rated public utility bonds and equity risk premiums. In other words, as interest rates decline, the equity risk premium

As shown on page 12 of Schedule DWD-3.
rises and vice versa, a result consistent with financial literature on the subject. ${ }^{31}$ I used the regression results to estimate the equity risk premium applicable to the projected yield on Moody's A2-rated public utility bonds of 3.95\%. Given the expected A-rated utility bond yield of $3.95 \%$, it can be calculated that the indicated equity risk premium applicable to that bond yield is $5.64 \%$, which is shown on line 3, page 7 of Schedule DWD-3.

## Q. WHAT IS YOUR CONCLUSION OF AN EQUITY RISK PREMIUM FOR

 USE IN YOUR TOTAL MARKET APPROACH RPM ANALYSIS?A. The equity risk premium I apply to the Utility Proxy Group is $6.50 \%$, which is the average of the beta-adjusted equity risk premium for the Utility Proxy Group, the S\&P Utilities Index, and the authorized return utility equity risk premiums of $8.03 \%, 5.84 \%$, and $5.64 \%$, respectively. ${ }^{32}$
Q. WHAT IS THE INDICATED RPM COMMON EQUITY COST RATE BASED ON THE TOTAL MARKET APPROACH?
A. As shown on line 7, page 3 of Schedule DWD-3, I calculated a common equity cost rate of $10.49 \%$ for the Utility Proxy Group based on the total market approach RPM.

Table 6: Summary of the Total Market Return Risk Premium Model ${ }^{33}$

| Prospective Moody's A2/A3-Rated Utility Bond Applicable to <br> the Utility Proxy Group | $3.99 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium | $\underline{6.50 \%}$ |
| Indicated Cost of Common Equity | $\underline{10.49 \%}$ |

See, e.g., Robert S. Harris and Felicia C. Marston, The Market Risk Premium: Expectational Estimates Using Analysts' Forecasts, Journal of Applied Finance, Vol. 11, No. 1, 2001, at pages 11 to 12; Eugene F. Brigham, Dilip K. Shome, and Steve R. Vinson, The Risk Premium Approach to Measuring a Utility's Cost of Equity, Financial Management, Spring 1985, at pages 33 to 45.
32 As shown on page 7 of Schedule DWD-3.
33

## Q. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF YOUR APPLICATION OF THE PRPM AND THE TOTAL MARKET APPROACH RPM?

A. As shown on page 1 of Schedule DWD-3, the indicated RPM-derived common equity cost rate is $10.96 \%$, which gives equal weight to the PRPM (11.43\%) and the adjusted-market approach results ( $10.49 \%$ ).

## C. The Capital Asset Pricing Model

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE THEORETICAL BASIS OF THE CAPM.

A. CAPM theory defines risk as the co-variability of a security's returns with the market's returns as measured by the beta coefficient ( $\beta$ ). A beta coefficient less than 1.0 indicates lower variability than the market as a whole, while a beta coefficient greater than 1.0 indicates greater variability than the market.

The CAPM assumes that all non-market or unsystematic risk can be eliminated through diversification. The risk that cannot be eliminated through diversification is called market, or systematic, risk. In addition, the CAPM presumes that investors only require compensation for systematic risk, which is the result of macroeconomic and other events that affect the returns on all assets. The model is applied by adding a risk-free rate of return to a market risk premium, which is adjusted proportionately to reflect the systematic risk of the individual security relative to the total market as measured by the beta coefficient. The traditional CAPM model is expressed as:

$$
\text { Where: } \quad \begin{array}{ll}
\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{s}} & =\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}+\beta\left(\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{m}}-\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}\right) \\
\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{s}} & =\quad \text { Return rate on the common stock } \\
\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}} & =\quad \text { Risk-free rate of return } \\
& \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{m}} \\
& =\quad \text { Return rate on the market as a whole }
\end{array}
$$

1
$\beta=$ Adjusted beta coefficient (volatility of the security relative to the market as a whole)

Numerous tests of the CAPM have measured the extent to which security returns and beta coefficients are related as predicted by the CAPM, confirming its validity. The empirical CAPM ("ECAPM") reflects the reality that while the results of these tests support the notion that the beta coefficient is related to security returns, the empirical Security Market Line ("SML") described by the CAPM formula is not as steeply sloped as the predicted SML. ${ }^{34}$

The ECAPM reflects this empirical reality. Fama and French clearly state regarding Figure 2, below, that "[t]he returns on the low beta portfolios are too high, and the returns on the high beta portfolios are too low." 35

Figure 2 htpp//pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/0895330042162430
Average Annualized Monthly Return versus Beta for Value Weight Portfolios Formed on Prior Beta, 1928-2003


Roger A. Morin, New Regulatory Finance (Public Utility Reports, Inc., 2006), at 175. (Morin) Eugene F. Fama and Kenneth R. French, "The Capital Asset Pricing Model: Theory and Evidence", Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol. 18, No. 3, Summer 2004 at 33 (Fama \& French).

In addition, Morin observes that while the results of these tests support the notion that beta is related to security returns, the empirical SML described by the CAPM formula is not as steeply sloped as the predicted SML. Morin states:

With few exceptions, the empirical studies agree that ... low-beta securities earn returns somewhat higher than the CAPM would predict, and high-beta securities earn less than predicted. ${ }^{36}$

Therefore, the empirical evidence suggests that the expected return on a security is related to its risk by the following approximation:

$$
K=R_{F}+x \beta\left(R_{M}-R_{F}\right)+(1-x) \beta\left(R_{M}-R_{F}\right)
$$

where x is a fraction to be determined empirically. The value of x that best explains the observed relationship [is] Return $=0.0829+$ $0.0520 \beta$ is between 0.25 and 0.30 . If $x=0.25$, the equation becomes:

$$
K=R_{F}+0.25\left(R_{M}-R_{F}\right)+0.75 \beta\left(R_{M}-R_{F}\right)^{37}
$$

Fama and French provide similar support for the ECAPM when they state:
The early tests firmly reject the Sharpe-Lintner version of the CAPM. There is a positive relation between beta and average return, but it is too 'flat.'... The regressions consistently find that the intercept is greater than the average risk-free rate... and the coefficient on beta is less than the average excess market return... This is true in the early tests... as well as in more recent crosssection regressions tests, like Fama and French (1992). ${ }^{38}$

Finally, Fama and French further note:
Confirming earlier evidence, the relation between beta and average return for the ten portfolios is much flatter than the Sharpe-Linter CAPM predicts. The returns on low beta portfolios are too high, and the returns on the high beta portfolios are too low. For example, the predicted return on the portfolio with the lowest beta is 8.3 percent per year; the actual return as 11.1 percent. The predicted return on the portfolio with the $t$ beta is 16.8 percent per year; the actual is 13.7 percent. ${ }^{39}$

```
36 Morin, at 175.
37 Morin, at 190.
38 Fama & French, at }32
39 Ibid., at 33.
```

Clearly, the justification from Morin, Fama, and French, along with their reviews of other academic research on the CAPM, validate the use of the ECAPM. In view of theory and practical research, I have applied both the traditional CAPM and the ECAPM to the companies in the Utility Proxy Group and averaged the results.

## Q. WHAT BETA COEFFICIENTS DID YOU USE IN YOUR CAPM ANALYSIS?

A. For the beta coefficients in my CAPM analysis, I considered two sources: Value Line and Bloomberg Professional Services. While both of those services adjust their calculated (or "raw") beta coefficients to reflect the tendency of the beta coefficient to regress to the market mean of 1.00, Value Line calculates the beta coefficient over a five-year period, while Bloomberg calculates it over a two-year period.

## Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR SELECTION OF A RISK-FREE RATE OF RETURN.

A. As discussed previously, the risk-free rate adopted for both applications of the CAPM is $2.88 \%$. This risk-free rate is based on the average of the Blue Chip consensus forecast of the expected yields on 30-year U.S. Treasury bonds for the six quarters ending with the third calendar quarter of 2022, and long-term projections for the years 2023 to 2027 and 2028 to 2032.

## Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE ESTIMATION OF THE EXPECTED RISK PREMIUM FOR THE MARKET USED IN YOUR CAPM ANALYSES.

A. The basis of the market risk premium is explained in detail in note 1 on Schedule DWD-4. As discussed above, the market risk premium is derived from an average of three historical data-based market risk premiums, two Value Line data-based market risk premiums, and one Bloomberg data-based market risk premium.

The long-term income return on U.S. Government securities of $5.05 \%$ was deducted from the SBBI - 2021 monthly historical total market return of $12.20 \%$, which results in an historical market equity risk premium of $7.15 \%{ }^{40} \mathrm{I}$ applied a linear OLS regression to the monthly annualized historical returns on the S\&P 500 relative to historical yields on long-term U.S. Government securities from SBBI 2021. That regression analysis yielded a market equity risk premium of $9.39 \%$. The PRPM market equity risk premium is $10.04 \%$ and is derived using the PRPM relative to the yields on long-term U.S. Treasury securities from January 1926 through May 2021.

The Value Line-derived forecasted total market equity risk premium is derived by deducting the forecasted risk-free rate of $2.88 \%$, discussed above, from the Value Line projected total annual market return of $8.16 \%$, resulting in a forecasted total market equity risk premium of $5.28 \%$. The S\&P 500 projected market equity risk premium using Value Line data is derived by subtracting the projected risk-free rate of $2.88 \%$ from the projected total return of the S\&P 500 of $14.32 \%$. The resulting market equity risk premium is $11.44 \%$.

SBBI - 2021, at Appendix A-1 (1) through A-1 (3) and Appendix A-7 (19) through A-7 (21).

The S\&P 500 projected market equity risk premium using Bloomberg data is derived by subtracting the projected risk-free rate of $2.88 \%$ from the projected total return of the $\mathrm{S} \& \mathrm{P} 500$ of $16.34 \%$. The resulting market equity risk premium is $13.46 \%$. These six measures, when averaged, result in an average total market equity risk premium of $9.46 \%$.

Table 7: Summary of the Calculation of the Market Risk Premium for Use in the CAPM ${ }^{41}$

| Historical Spread Between Total Returns of Large Stocks and <br> Long-Term Government Bond Yields (1926-2020) | $7.15 \%$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Regression Analysis on Historical Data | $9.39 \%$ |
| PRPM Analysis on Historical Data | $10.04 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Total Market Returns <br> from Value Line Summary \& Index less Projected 30-Year <br> Treasury Bond Yields | $5.28 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Measures of Capital <br> Appreciation and Income Returns from Value Line for the S\&P <br> 500 less Projected 30-Year Treasury Bond Yields | $11.44 \%$ |
| Prospective Equity Risk Premium using Measures of Capital <br> Appreciation and Income Returns from Bloomberg <br> Professional Services for the S\&P 500 less Projected 30-Year <br> Treasury Bond Yields | $\underline{13.46 \%}$ |
| Average | $\underline{\underline{9.46 \%}}$ |

Q. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF YOUR APPLICATION OF THE TRADITIONAL AND EMPIRICAL CAPM TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP?
A. As shown on page 1 of Schedule DWD-4, the mean result of my CAPM/ECAPM analyses is $11.81 \%$, the median is $11.68 \%$, and the average of the two is $11.75 \%$. Consistent with my reliance on the average of mean and median DCF results discussed above, the indicated common equity cost rate using the CAPM/ECAPM is $11.75 \%$.

As shown on page 2 of Schedule DWD-4.

## D. Common Equity Cost Rates for a Proxy Group of Domestic, NonPrice Regulated Companies Based on the DCF, RPM, and CAPM

## Q. WHY DO YOU ALSO CONSIDER A PROXY GROUP OF DOMESTIC, NON-PRICE REGULATED COMPANIES?

A. In the Hope and Bluefield cases, the U.S. Supreme Court did not specify that comparable risk companies had to be utilities. Since the purpose of rate regulation is to be a substitute for marketplace competition, non-price regulated firms operating in the competitive marketplace make an excellent proxy group if they are comparable in total risk to the Utility Proxy Group being used to estimate the cost of common equity. The selection of such domestic, non-price regulated competitive firms theoretically and empirically results in a proxy group which is comparable in total risk to the Utility Proxy Group, since all of these companies compete for capital in the exact same markets.

## Q. HOW DID YOU SELECT NON-PRICE REGULATED COMPANIES THAT ARE COMPARABLE IN TOTAL RISK TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP?

A. In order to select a proxy group of domestic, non-price regulated companies similar in total risk to the Utility Proxy Group, I relied on the beta coefficients and related statistics derived from Value Line regression analyses of weekly market prices over the most recent 260 weeks (i.e., five years). These selection criteria resulted in a proxy group of 48 domestic, non-price regulated firms comparable in total risk to the Utility Proxy Group. Total risk is the sum of non-diversifiable market risk and diversifiable company-specific risks. The criteria used in selecting the domestic, non-price regulated firms was:
(i) They must be covered by Value Line Investment Survey (Standard Edition);
(ii) They must be domestic, non-price regulated companies, i.e., not utilities;
(iii) Their beta coefficients must lie within plus or minus two standard deviations of the average unadjusted beta coefficients of the Utility Proxy Group; and
(iv) The residual standard errors of the Value Line regressions which gave rise to the unadjusted beta coefficients must lie within plus or minus two standard deviations of the average residual standard error of the Utility Proxy Group.

Beta coefficients measure market, or systematic, risk, which is not diversifiable. The residual standard errors of the regressions measure each firm's company-specific, diversifiable risk. Companies that have similar beta coefficients and similar residual standard errors resulting from the same regression analyses have similar total investment risk.

## Q. HAVE YOU PREPARED AN SCHEDULE WHICH SHOWS THE DATA FROM WHICH YOU SELECTED THE 48 DOMESTIC, NON-PRICE REGULATED COMPANIES THAT ARE COMPARABLE IN TOTAL RISK TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP?

A. Yes, the basis of my selection and both proxy groups' regression statistics are shown in Schedule DWD-5.

## Q. DID YOU CALCULATE COMMON EQUITY COST RATES USING THE DCF MODEL, RPM, AND CAPM FOR THE NON-PRICE REGULATED PROXY GROUP?

A. Yes. Because the DCF model, RPM, and CAPM have been applied in an identical manner as described above, I will not repeat the details of the rationale and
application of each model. One exception is in the application of the RPM, where I did not use public utility-specific equity risk premiums, nor did I apply the PRPM to the individual non-price regulated companies.

Page 2 of Schedule DWD-6 derives the constant growth DCF model common equity cost rate. As shown, the indicated common equity cost rate, using the constant growth DCF for the Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group comparable in total risk to the Utility Proxy Group, is $12.83 \%$.

Pages 3 through 5 of Schedule DWD-6 contain the data and calculations that support the $12.49 \%$ RPM common equity cost rate. As shown on line 1, page 3 of Schedule DWD-6, the consensus prospective yield on Moody's Baa-rated corporate bonds for the six quarters ending in the third quarter of 2022, and for the years 2023 to 2027 and 2028 to 2032 , is $4.46 \%{ }^{42}$

When the beta-adjusted risk premium of $8.03 \%{ }^{43}$ relative to the Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group is added to the prospective Baa2-rated corporate bond yield of $4.46 \%$, the indicated RPM common equity cost rate is $12.49 \%$.

Page 6 of Schedule DWD-6 contains the inputs and calculations that support my indicated CAPM/ECAPM common equity cost rate of $11.69 \%$.

## Q. HOW IS THE COST RATE OF COMMON EQUITY BASED ON THE NONPRICE REGULATED PROXY GROUP COMPARABLE IN TOTAL RISK TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP?

A. As shown on page 1 of Schedule DWD-6, the results of the common equity models applied to the Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group -- which group is comparable in
total risk to the Utility Proxy Group -- are as follows: $12.83 \%$ (DCF), $12.49 \%$ (RPM), and $11.69 \%$ (CAPM). The average of the mean and median of these models is $12.42 \%$, which I used as the indicated common equity cost rates for the NonPrice Regulated Proxy Group.

## VI. CONCLUSION OF COMMON EQUITY COST RATE BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS

## Q. WHAT ARE THE INDICATED COMMON EQUITY COST RATES BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS?

A. By applying multiple cost of common equity models to the Utility Proxy Group and the Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group, the indicated range of common equity cost rates before any relative risk adjustment is between $9.44 \%$ and $12.42 \%$. The spread between the high and low values in the range (298 basis points) indicates that there is still a fair amount of uncertainty around the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. I used multiple cost of common equity models as primary tools in arriving at my recommended common equity cost rate, because no single model is so inherently precise that it can be relied on to the exclusion of other theoretically sound models. Using multiple models adds reliability to the estimated common equity cost rate, with the prudence of using multiple cost of common equity models supported in both the financial literature and regulatory precedent.

## VII. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE COMMON EQUITY COST RATE

## A. Size Adjustment

## Q. DOES ATMOS ENERGY'S SMALLER SIZE RELATIVE TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP COMPANIES INCREASE ITS BUSINESS RISK?

A. Yes. Atmos Energy's smaller size relative to the Utility Proxy Group companies indicates greater relative business risk for the Company because, all else being equal, size has a material bearing on risk.

Size affects business risk because smaller companies generally are less able to cope with significant events that affect sales, revenues and earnings. For example, smaller companies face more risk exposure to business cycles and economic conditions, both nationally and locally. Additionally, the loss of revenues from a few larger customers would have a greater effect on a small company than on a bigger company with a larger, more diverse, customer base.

As further evidence that smaller firms are riskier, investors generally demand greater returns from smaller firms to compensate for less marketability and liquidity of their securities. Duff \& Phelps $\underline{2020 \text { Valuation Handbook Guide to Cost }}$ of Capital - Market Results through 2019 (D\&P-2020) discusses the nature of the small-size phenomenon, providing an indication of the magnitude of the size premium based on several measures of size. In discussing "Size as a Predictor of Equity Premiums," D\&P-2020 states:

The size effect is based on the empirical observation that companies of smaller size are associated with greater risk and, therefore, have greater cost of capital [sic]. The "size" of a company is one of the most important risk elements to consider when developing cost of equity capital estimates for use in valuing a business simply because
size has been shown to be a predictor of equity returns. In other words, there is a significant (negative) relationship between size and historical equity returns - as size decreases, returns tend to increase, and vice versa. (footnote omitted) (emphasis in original) ${ }^{44}$

Furthermore, in "The Capital Asset Pricing Model: Theory and Evidence," Fama and French note size is indeed a risk factor which must be reflected when estimating the cost of common equity. On page 14, they note:
. . . the higher average returns on small stocks and high book-tomarket stocks reflect unidentified state variables that produce undiversifiable risks (covariances) in returns not captured in the market return and are priced separately from market betas. ${ }^{45}$

Based on this evidence, Fama and French proposed their three-factor model which includes a size variable in recognition of the effect size has on the cost of common equity.

Also, it is a basic financial principle that the use of funds invested, and not the source of funds, is what gives rise to the risk of any investment. ${ }^{46}$ Eugene Brigham, a well-known authority, states:

A number of researchers have observed that portfolios of smallfirms (sic) have earned consistently higher average returns than those of large-firm stocks; this is called the "small-firm effect." On the surface, it would seem to be advantageous to the small firms to provide average returns in a stock market that are higher than those of larger firms. In reality, it is bad news for the small firm; what the small-firm effect means is that the capital market demands higher returns on stocks of small firms than on otherwise similar stocks of the large firms. (emphasis added) ${ }^{47}$

[^10]Consistent with the financial principle of risk and return discussed above, increased relative risk due to small size must be considered in the allowed rate of return on common equity. Therefore, the Commission's authorization of a cost rate of common equity in this proceeding must appropriately reflect the unique risks of Atmos Energy, including its small size, which is justified and supported above by evidence in the financial literature.

## Q. IS THERE A WAY TO QUANTIFY A RELATIVE RISK ADJUSTMENT DUE TO ATMOS ENERGY'S SMALL SIZE RELATIVE TO THE UTILITY PROXY GROUP?

A. Yes. Atmos Energy has greater relative risk than the average utility in the Utility Proxy Group because of its smaller size compared with the utilities in that group, as measured by an estimated market capitalization of common equity for Atmos Energy.

Table 8: Size as Measured by Market Capitalization for Atmos Energy and the Utility Proxy Group

|  | Market <br> Capitalization* | Times <br> Greater than <br> The Company |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\$$ Millions) |  |
| Atmos Energy | $\$ 597.101$ |  |
| Utility Proxy Group | $\$ 4,615.314$ | 7.7 x |
| *From page 1 of Schedule DWD-7. |  |  |

Atmos Energy's estimated market capitalization was $\$ 597.101$ million as of May 28, 2021, ${ }^{48}$ compared with the market capitalization of the average company
$48 \quad \$ 597.101$ (company-provided forecasted rate base at Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2022) * requested equity ratio of $57.05 \%$ * $175.6 \%$ (market-to-book ratio of the Utility Proxy Group) as demonstrated on page 2 of Schedule DWD-7.
in the Utility Proxy Group of $\$ 4.6$ billion as of May 28, 2021. The average company in the Utility Proxy Group has a market capitalization 7.7 times the size of Atmos Energy's estimated market capitalization.

As a result, it is necessary to upwardly adjust the range of indicated common equity cost rates between $9.44 \%$ to $12.42 \%$ to reflect Atmos Energy's greater risk due to their smaller relative size. The determination is based on the size premiums for portfolios of New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange, and NASDAQ listed companies ranked by deciles for the 1926 to 2020 period. The average size premium for the Utility Proxy Group with a market capitalization of $\$ 4.6$ billion falls in the $4^{\text {th }}$ decile, while the Company's estimated market capitalization of $\$ 597.101$ million places it in the $8^{\text {th }}$ decile. The size premium spread between the $4^{\text {th }}$ decile and the $8^{\text {th }}$ decile is $0.71 \%$. Even though a $0.71 \%$ upward size adjustment is indicated, I applied a size premium of $0.20 \%$ to the Company's range of indicated common equity cost rates.

## Q. SINCE ATMOS ENERGY IS A DIVISION OF ATO, WHY IS THE SIZE OF THE TOTAL COMPANY NOT MORE APPROPRIATE TO USE WHEN DETERMINING THE SIZE ADJUSTMENT?

A. As discussed previously, rates are set using the stand-alone principle, which maintains that the utility operations of a diversified firm should be regulated as though they were independent (i.e., without subsidies to or from affiliated companies). Because of this, the return derived in this proceeding will not apply to ATO as a whole, but only Atmos Energy's Kentucky gas distribution operations. ATO is the sum of its constituent parts, including those constituent parts' ROEs.

Potential investors in the Company are aware that it is a combination of operations in each state, and that each state's operations experience the operating risks specific to their jurisdiction. The market's expectation of ATO's return is commensurate with the realities of its composite operations in each of the states in which it operates.

## B. Credit Risk Adjustment

## Q. PLEASE DISCUSS YOUR PROPOSED CREDIT RISK ADJUSTMENT.

 ATO's long-term issuer ratings are A1 and A from Moody's Investors Services and S\&P, respectively, which are less risky than the average long-term issuer ratings for the Utility Proxy Group of A2/A3 and A-, respectively. ${ }^{49}$ Hence, a downward credit risk adjustment is necessary to reflect the less risky credit rating, i.e., A1, of Atmos Energy relative to the A2/A3 average Moody's bond rating of the Utility Proxy Group. ${ }^{50}$An indication of the magnitude of the necessary downward adjustment to reflect the lower credit risk inherent in an A1 bond rating is one-third of a recent three-month average spread between Moody's A- and Aa-rated public utility bond yields and one-sixth of a recent spread between A- and Baa-rated public utility bonds, shown on page 4 of Schedule DWD-3, or $0.10 \% .{ }^{51}$

## C. Flotation Cost Adjustment

## Q. WHAT ARE FLOTATION COSTS?

A. Flotation costs are those costs associated with the sale of new issuances of common stock. They include market pressure and the mandatory unavoidable costs of issuance (e.g., underwriting fees and out-of-pocket costs for printing, legal, registration, etc.). For every dollar raised through debt or equity offerings, the Company receives less than one full dollar in financing.

## Q. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE FLOTATION COSTS IN THE ALLOWED COMMON EQUITY COST RATE?

A. It is important because there is no other mechanism in the ratemaking paradigm through which such costs can be recognized and recovered. Because these costs are real, necessary, and legitimate, recovery of these costs should be permitted. As noted by Morin:

The costs of issuing these securities are just as real as operating and maintenance expenses or costs incurred to build utility plants, and fair regulatory treatment must permit recovery of these costs....

The simple fact of the matter is that common equity capital is not free....[Flotation costs] must be recovered through a rate of return adjustment. ${ }^{52}$

## Q. SHOULD FLOTATION COSTS BE RECOGNIZED ONLY IF THERE WAS AN ISSUANCE DURING THE TEST YEAR OR THERE IS AN IMMINENT POST-TEST YEAR ISSUANCE OF ADDITIONAL COMMON STOCK?

A. No. As noted above, there is no mechanism to recapture such costs in the ratemaking paradigm other than an adjustment to the allowed common equity cost

52 Morin, at p. 321.
rate. Flotation costs are charged to capital accounts and are not expensed on a utility's income statement. As such, flotation costs are analogous to capital investments, albeit negative, reflected on the balance sheet. Recovery of capital investments relates to the expected useful lives of the investment. Since common equity has a very long and indefinite life (assumed to be infinity in the standard regulatory DCF model), flotation costs should be recovered through an adjustment to common equity cost rate, even when there has not been an issuance during the test year, or in the absence of an expected imminent issuance of additional shares of common stock.

Historical flotation costs are a permanent loss of investment to the utility and should be accounted for. When any company, including a utility, issues common stock, flotation costs are incurred for legal, accounting, printing fees and the like. For each dollar of issuing market price, a small percentage is expensed and is permanently unavailable for investment in utility rate base. Since these expenses are charged to capital accounts and not expensed on the income statement, the only way to restore the full value of that dollar of issuing price with an assumed investor required return of $10 \%$ is for the net investment, $\$ 0.95$, to earn more than $10 \%$ to net back to the investor a fair return on that dollar. In other words, if a company issues stock at $\$ 1.00$ with $5 \%$ in flotation costs, it will net $\$ 0.95$ in investment. Assuming the investor in that stock requires a $10 \%$ return on his or her
invested $\$ 1.00$ (i.e., a return of $\$ 0.10$ ), the company needs to earn approximately $10.5 \%$ on its invested $\$ 0.95$ to receive a $\$ 0.10$ return.

## Q. DO THE COMMON EQUITY COST RATE MODELS YOU HAVE USED ALREADY REFLECT INVESTORS' ANTICIPATION OF FLOTATION COSTS?

A. No. All of these models assume no transaction costs. The literature is quite clear that these costs are not reflected in the market prices paid for common stocks. For example, Brigham and Daves confirm this and provide the methodology utilized to calculate the flotation adjustment. ${ }^{53}$ In addition, Morin confirms the need for such an adjustment even when no new equity issuance is imminent. ${ }^{54}$ Consequently, it is proper to include a flotation cost adjustment when using cost of common equity models to estimate the common equity cost rate.

## Q. HOW DID YOU CALCULATE THE FLOTATION COST ALLOWANCE?

A. I modified the DCF calculation to provide a dividend yield that would reimburse investors for issuance costs in accordance with the method cited in literature by Brigham and Daves, as well as by Morin. The flotation cost adjustment recognizes the actual costs of issuing equity that were incurred by ATO in its last four equity issuances. Based on the issuance costs shown on page 1 of Schedule DWD-8, an adjustment of $0.04 \%$ is required to reflect the flotation costs applicable to the Utility Proxy Group.

[^11]VIII. CONCLUSION

## Q. WHAT IS YOUR RECOMMENDED ROE FOR ATMOS ENERGY?

A. Given the indicated ROE range applicable to the Utility Proxy Group of $9.44 \%$ to $12.42 \%$ and the Company-specific ROE range of $9.58 \%$ to $12.42 \%$, I conclude that an appropriate ROE for the Company is $10.35 \%$.
Q. IN YOUR OPINION, IS YOUR PROPOSED ROE OF 10.35\% FAIR AND REASONABLE TO ATMOS ENERGY AND ITS CUSTOMERS?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?
A. Yes, it does.

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY 

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF )
RATE APPLICATION OF ) ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION )

Case No. 2021-00214

## CERTIFICATE AND AFFIDAVIT

The Affiant, Dylan W. D'Ascendis, being duly sworn, deposes and states that the prepared testimony attached hereto and made a part hereof, constitutes the prepared direct testimony of this affiant in Case No. 2021-00214, in the Matter of the Rate Application of Atmos Energy Corporation, and that if asked the questions propounded therein, this affiant would make the answers set forth in the attached prepared direct pre-filed testimony.


STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me by Dylan W. D'Ascendis on this the $14^{\text {th }}$ day of June, 2021.

Margaret A Clancy Notary Public of Now Jersey My Commission Expires 6/9/2024


## Summary

Dylan is an experienced consultant and a Certified Rate of Return Analyst (CRRA) and Certified Valuation Analyst (CVA). He has served as a consultant for investor-owned and municipal utilities and authorities for 12 years. Dylan has extensive experience in rate of return analyses, class cost of service, rate design, and valuation for regulated public utilities. He has testified as an expert witness in the subjects of rate of return, cost of service, rate design, and valuation before 30 regulatory commissions in the U.S., one Canadian province, and an American Arbitration Association panel.

He also maintains the benchmark index against which the Hennessy Gas Utility Mutual Fund performance is measured.

## Areas of Specialization

| $\square$ | Regulation and Rates | Financial Modeling | Rate of Return |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Utilities | Valuation | Cost of Service |  |
| Mutual Fund Benchmarking | $\boxed{\text { Regulatory Strategy }}$ | - | Rate Design |
| Capital Market Risk | $\boxed{\text { Rate Case Support }}$ |  |  |

## Recent Expert Testimony Submission/Appearances

## Jurisdiction

- Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities
- New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
- Hawaii Public Utilities Commission
- South Carolina Public Service Commission
- American Arbitration Association


## Topic

Rate of Return
Rate of Return
Cost of Service, Rate Design
Return on Common Equity
Valuation

## Recent Assignments

- Provided expert testimony on the cost of capital for ratemaking purposes before numerous state utility regulatory agencies
- Maintains the benchmark index against which the Hennessy Gas Utility Mutual Fund performance is measured
- Sponsored valuation testimony for a large municipal water company in front of an American Arbitration Association Board to justify the reasonability of their lease payments to the City
- Co-authored a valuation report on behalf of a large investor-owned utility company in response to a new state regulation which allowed the appraised value of acquired assets into rate base


## Recent Publications and Speeches

- Co-Author of: "Decoupling, Risk Impacts and the Cost of Capital", co-authored with Richard A. Michelfelder, Ph.D., Rutgers University and Pauline M. Ahern. The Electricity Journal, March, 2020.
- Co-Author of: "Decoupling Impact and Public Utility Conservation Investment", co-authored with Richard A. Michelfelder, Ph.D., Rutgers University and Pauline M. Ahern. Energy Policy Journal, 130 (2019), 311-319.
- "Establishing Alternative Proxy Groups", before the Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts: 51st Financial Forum, April 4, 2019, New Orleans, LA.
- "Past is Prologue: Future Test Year", Presentation before the National Association of Water Companies 2017 Southeast Water Infrastructure Summit, May 2, 2017, Savannah, GA.
- Co-author of: "Comparative Evaluation of the Predictive Risk Premium Model ${ }^{\top \mathrm{TM}}$, the Discounted Cash Flow Model and the Capital Asset Pricing Model", co-authored with Richard A. Michelfelder, Ph.D., Rutgers University, Pauline M. Ahern, and Frank J. Hanley, The Electricity Journal, May, 2013.
- "Decoupling: Impact on the Risk and Cost of Common Equity of Public Utility Stocks", before the Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts: 45th Financial Forum, April 17-18, 2013, Indianapolis, IN.

Resume \& Testimony Listing of: Dylan W. D'Ascendis, CRRA, CVA

| SPONSOR | Date | Case/Applicant | Docket No. | SUBJECT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Regulatory Commission of Alaska |  |  |  |  |
| Alaska Power Company | 09/20 | Alaska Power Company; Goat Lake Hydro, Inc.; BBL Hydro, Inc. | Tariff Nos. TA886-2; TA6-521; TA4-573 | Capital Structure |
| Alaska Power Company | 07/16 | Alaska Power Company | Docket No. TA857-2 | Rate of Return |
| Alberta Utilities Commission |  |  |  |  |
| AltaLink, L.P., and EPCOR Distribution \& Transmission, Inc. | 01/20 | AltaLink, L.P., and EPCOR Distribution \& Transmission, Inc. | 2021 Generic Cost of Capital, Proceeding ID. 24110 | Rate of Return |
| Arizona Corporation Commission |  |  |  |  |
| EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. | 06/20 | EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. | Docket No. WS-01303A-200177 | Rate of Return |
| Arizona Water Company | 12/19 | Arizona Water Company - Western Group | Docket No. W-01445A-190278 | Rate of Return |
| Arizona Water Company | 08/18 | Arizona Water Company - Northern Group | Docket No. W-01445A-180164 | Rate of Return |
| Arkansas Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. | 05/21 | CenterPoint Arkansas Gas | Docket No. 21-004-U | Return on Equity |
| Colorado Public Utilities Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Summit Utilities, Inc. | 04/18 | Colorado Natural Gas Company | Docket No. 18AL-0305G | Rate of Return |
| Atmos Energy Corporation | 06/17 | Atmos Energy Corporation | Docket No. 17AL-0429G | Rate of Return |
| Delaware Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Delmarva Power \& Light Co. | 11/20 | Delmarva Power \& Light Co. | Docket No. 20-0149 (Electric) | Return on Equity |
| Delmarva Power \& Light Co. | 10/20 | Delmarva Power \& Light Co. | Docket No. 20-0150 (Gas) | Return on Equity |
| Tidewater Utilities, Inc. | 11/13 | Tidewater Utilities, Inc. | Docket No. 13-466 | Capital Structure |
| Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia |  |  |  |  |
| Washington Gas Light Company | 09/20 | Washington Gas Light Company | Formal Case No. 1162 | Rate of Return |
| Federal Energy Regulatory Commission |  |  |  |  |
| LS Power Grid California, LLC | 10/20 | LS Power Grid California, LLC | Docket No. ER21-195-000 | Rate of Return |
| Florida Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Tampa Electric Company | 04/21 | Tampa Electric Company | Docket No. 20210034-El | Return on Equity |
| Peoples Gas System | 09/20 | Peoples Gas System | Docket No. 20200051-GU | Rate of Return |
| Utilities, Inc. of Florida | 06/20 | Utilities, Inc. of Florida | Docket No. 20200139-WS | Rate of Return |
| Hawaii Public Utilities Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Launiupoko Irrigation Company, Inc. | 12/20 | Launiupoko Irrigation Company, Inc. | Docket No. 2020-0217 / <br> Transferred to 2020-0089 | Capital Structure |
| Lanai Water Company, Inc. | 12/19 | Lanai Water Company, Inc. | Docket No. 2019-0386 | Cost of Service / Rate Design |
| Manele Water Resources, LLC | 08/19 | Manele Water Resources, LLC | Docket No. 2019-0311 | Cost of Service / Rate Design |
| Kaupulehu Water Company | 02/18 | Kaupulehu Water Company | Docket No. 2016-0363 | Rate of Return |
| Aqua Engineers, LLC | 05/17 | Puhi Sewer \& Water Company | Docket No. 2017-0118 | Cost of Service / Rate Design |

Resume \& Testimony Listing of: Dylan W. D'Ascendis, CRRA, CVA

| SPONSOR | Date | CASE/APPLICANT | Docket No. | SUBJECT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hawaii Resources, Inc. | 09/16 | Laie Water Company | Docket No. 2016-0229 | Cost of Service / Rate Design |
| Illinois Commerce Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. | 02/21 | Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. | Docket No. 21-0198 | Rate of Return |
| Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois | 07/20 | Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois | Docket No. 20-0308 | Return on Equity |
| Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. | 11/17 | Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. | Docket No. 17-1106 | Cost of Service / Rate Design |
| Aqua Illinois, Inc. | 04/17 | Aqua Illinois, Inc. | Docket No. 17-0259 | Rate of Return |
| Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. | 04/15 | Utility Services of Illinois, Inc. | Docket No. 14-0741 | Rate of Return |
| Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Aqua Indiana, Inc. | 03/16 | Aqua Indiana, Inc. Aboite Wastewater Division | Docket No. 44752 | Rate of Return |
| Twin Lakes, Utilities, Inc. | 08/13 | Twin Lakes, Utilities, Inc. | Docket No. 44388 | Rate of Return |
| Kansas Corporation Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Atmos Energy | 07/19 | Atmos Energy | 19-ATMG-525-RTS | Rate of Return |
| Kentucky Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. | 06/21 | Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. | 2021-00190 | Return on Equity |
| Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company | 10/20 | Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company | 2020-00290 | Return on Equity |
| Louisiana Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Southwestern Electric Power Company | 12/20 | Southwestern Electric Power Company | Docket No. U-35441 | Return on Equity |
| Atmos Energy | 04/20 | Atmos Energy | Docket No. U-35535 | Rate of Return |
| Louisiana Water Service, Inc. | 06/13 | Louisiana Water Service, Inc. | Docket No. U-32848 | Rate of Return |
| Maryland Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Washington Gas Light Company | 08/20 | Washington Gas Light Company | Case No. 9651 | Rate of Return |
| FirstEnergy, Inc. | 08/18 | Potomac Edison Company | Case No. 9490 | Rate of Return |
| Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities |  |  |  |  |
| Unitil Corporation | 12/19 | Fitchburg Gas \& Electric Co. (Elec.) | D.P.U. 19-130 | Rate of Return |
| Unitil Corporation | 12/19 | Fitchburg Gas \& Electric Co. (Gas) | D.P.U. 19-131 | Rate of Return |
| Liberty Utilities | 07/15 | Liberty Utilities d/b/a New England Natural Gas Company | Docket No. 15-75 | Rate of Return |
| Minnesota Public Utilities Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Northern States Power Company | 11/20 | Northern States Power Company | Docket No. E002/GR-20-723 | Rate of Return |
| Mississippi Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Atmos Energy | 03/19 | Atmos Energy | Docket No. 2015-UN-049 | Capital Structure |
| Atmos Energy | 07/18 | Atmos Energy | Docket No. 2015-UN-049 | Capital Structure |
| Missouri Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Spire Missouri, Inc. | 12/20 | Spire Missouri, Inc. | Case No. GR-2021-0108 | Return on Equity |
| Indian Hills Utility Operating Company, Inc. | 10/17 | Indian Hills Utility Operating Company, Inc. | Case No. SR-2017-0259 | Rate of Return |


| SPONSOR | Date | Case/Applicant | Docket No. | SUBJECT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Raccoon Creek Utility Operating Company, Inc. | 09/16 | Raccoon Creek Utility Operating Company, Inc. | Docket No. SR-2016-0202 | Rate of Return |
| Public Utilities Commission of Nevada |  |  |  |  |
| Southwest Gas Corporation | 08/20 | Southwest Gas Corporation | Docket No. 20-02023 | Return on Equity |
| New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc. | 12/20 | Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc. | Docket No. DW 20-184 | Rate of Return |
| New Jersey Board of Public Utilities |  |  |  |  |
| Middlesex Water Company | 05/21 | Middlesex Water Company | Docket No. WR21050813 | Rate of Return |
| Atlantic City Electric Company | 12/20 | Atlantic City Electric Company | Docket No. ER20120746 | Return on Equity |
| FirstEnergy | 02/20 | Jersey Central Power \& Light Co. | Docket No. ER20020146 | Rate of Return |
| Aqua New Jersey, Inc. | 12/18 | Aqua New Jersey, Inc. | Docket No. WR18121351 | Rate of Return |
| Middlesex Water Company | 10/17 | Middlesex Water Company | Docket No. WR17101049 | Rate of Return |
| Middlesex Water Company | 03/15 | Middlesex Water Company | Docket No. WR15030391 | Rate of Return |
| The Atlantic City Sewerage Company | 10/14 | The Atlantic City Sewerage Company | Docket No. WR14101263 | Cost of Service / Rate Design |
| Middlesex Water Company | 11/13 | Middlesex Water Company | Docket No. WR1311059 | Capital Structure |
| New Mexico Public Regulation Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Southwestern Public Service Company | 01/21 | Southwestern Public Service Company | Case No. 20-00238-UT | Return on Equity |
| North Carolina Utilities Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Piedmont Natural Gas Co.Inc. | 03/21 | Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc. | Docket No. G-9, Sub 781 | Return on Equity |
| Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC | 07/20 | Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC | Docket No. E-7, Sub 1214 | Return on Equity |
| Duke Energy Progress, LLC | 07/20 | Duke Energy Progress, LLC | Docket No. E-2, Sub 1219 | Return on Equity |
| Aqua North Carolina, Inc. | 12/19 | Aqua North Carolina, Inc. | Docket No. W-218 Sub 526 | Rate of Return |
| Carolina Water Service, Inc. | 06/19 | Carolina Water Service, Inc. | Docket No. W-354 Sub 364 | Rate of Return |
| Carolina Water Service, Inc. | 09/18 | Carolina Water Service, Inc. | Docket No. W-354 Sub 360 | Rate of Return |
| Aqua North Carolina, Inc. | 07/18 | Aqua North Carolina, Inc. | Docket No. W-218 Sub 497 | Rate of Return |
| North Dakota Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Northern States Power Company | 11/20 | Northern States Power Company | Case No. PU-20-441 | Rate of Return |
| Public Utilities Commission of Ohio |  |  |  |  |
| Aqua Ohio, Inc. | 05/16 | Aqua Ohio, Inc. | Docket No. 16-0907-WW-AIR | Rate of Return |
| Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Vicinity Energy Philadelphia, Inc. | 04/21 | Vicinity Energy Philadelphia, Inc. | Docket No. R-2021-3024060 | Rate of Return |
| Delaware County Regional Water Control Authority | 02/20 | Delaware County Regional Water Control Authority | Docket No. A-2019-3015173 | Valuation |
| Valley Energy, Inc. | 07/19 | C\&T Enterprises | Docket No. R-2019-3008209 | Rate of Return |
| Wellsboro Electric Company | 07/19 | C\&T Enterprises | Docket No. R-2019-3008208 | Rate of Return |
| Citizens' Electric Company of Lewisburg | 07/19 | C\&T Enterprises | Docket No. R-2019-3008212 | Rate of Return |
| Steelton Borough Authority | 01/19 | Steelton Borough Authority | Docket No. A-2019-3006880 | Valuation |
| Mahoning Township, PA | 08/18 | Mahoning Township, PA | Docket No. A-2018-3003519 | Valuation |

Resume \& Testimony Listing of: Dylan W. D'Ascendis, CRRA, CVA

Partner

| SpONSOR | Date | CASE/APPLICANT | Docket No. | SUBJECT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SUEZ Water Pennsylvania Inc. | 04/18 | SUEZ Water Pennsylvania Inc. | Docket No. R-2018-000834 | Rate of Return |
| Columbia Water Company | 09/17 | Columbia Water Company | Docket No. R-2017-2598203 | Rate of Return |
| Veolia Energy Philadelphia, Inc. | 06/17 | Veolia Energy Philadelphia, Inc. | Docket No. R-2017-2593142 | Rate of Return |
| Emporium Water Company | 07/14 | Emporium Water Company | Docket No. R-2014-2402324 | Rate of Return |
| Columbia Water Company | 07/13 | Columbia Water Company | Docket No. R-2013-2360798 | Rate of Return |
| Penn Estates Utilities, Inc. | 12/11 | Penn Estates, Utilities, Inc. | Docket No. R-2011-2255159 | Capital Structure / Long-Term Debt Cost Rate |
| South Carolina Public Service Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Blue Granite Water Co. | 12/19 | Blue Granite Water Company | Docket No. 2019-292-WS | Rate of Return |
| Carolina Water Service, Inc. | 02/18 | Carolina Water Service, Inc. | Docket No. 2017-292-WS | Rate of Return |
| Carolina Water Service, Inc. | 06/15 | Carolina Water Service, Inc. | Docket No. 2015-199-WS | Rate of Return |
| Carolina Water Service, Inc. | 11/13 | Carolina Water Service, Inc. | Docket No. 2013-275-WS | Rate of Return |
| United Utility Companies, Inc. | 09/13 | United Utility Companies, Inc. | Docket No. 2013-199-WS | Rate of Return |
| Utility Services of South Carolina, Inc. | 09/13 | Utility Services of South Carolina, Inc. | Docket No. 2013-201-WS | Rate of Return |
| Tega Cay Water Services, Inc. | 11/12 | Tega Cay Water Services, Inc. | Docket No. 2012-177-WS | Capital Structure |
| Tennessee Public Utility Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Piedmont Natural Gas Company | 07/20 | Piedmont Natural Gas Company | Docket No. 20-00086 | Return on Equity |
| Public Utility Commission of Texas |  |  |  |  |
| Southwestern Public Service Company | 02/21 | Southwestern Public Service Company | Docket No. 51802 | Return on Equity |
| Southwestern Electric Power Company | 10/20 | Southwestern Electric Power Company | Docket No. 51415 | Rate of Return |
| Virginia State Corporation Commission |  |  |  |  |
| Virginia Natural Gas, Inc. | 04/21 | Virginia Natural Gas, Inc. | PUR-2020-00095 | Return on Equity |
| Massanutten Public Service Corporation | 12/20 | Massanutten Public Service Corporation | PUE-2020-00039 | Return on Equity |
| Aqua Virginia, Inc. | 07/20 | Aqua Virginia, Inc. | PUR-2020-00106 | Rate of Return |
| WGL Holdings, Inc. | 07/18 | Washington Gas Light Company | PUR-2018-00080 | Rate of Return |
| Atmos Energy Corporation | 05/18 | Atmos Energy Corporation | PUR-2018-00014 | Rate of Return |
| Aqua Virginia, Inc. | 07/17 | Aqua Virginia, Inc. | PUR-2017-00082 | Rate of Return |
| Massanutten Public Service Corp. | 08/14 | Massanutten Public Service Corp. | PUE-2014-00035 | Rate of Return / Rate Design |

Atmos Energy Corporation
Recommended Capital Structure and Cost Rates
for Ratemaking Purposes

| Type Of Capital | Ratios (1) | Cost Rate | Weighted Cost Rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Long-Term Debt | 42.77\% | 4.00\% (1) | 1.71\% |
| Short-Term Debt | 0.18\% | 25.17\% (1) | 0.05\% |
| Common Equity | 57.05\% | 10.35\% (2) | 5.90\% |
| Total | 100.00\% |  | 7.66\% |

Notes:
(1) Company-provided.
(2) From page 2 of this Schedule.

Atmos Energy Corporation
Brief Summary of Common Equity Cost Rate

| Line No. | $\underline{\text { Principal Methods }}$ | Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | Discounted Cash Flow Model (DCF) (1) | 9.44\% |
| 2. | Risk Premium Model (RPM) (2) | 10.96\% |
| 3. | Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) (3) | 11.75\% |
| 4. | Market Models Applied to Comparable Risk, Non-Price Regulated Companies (4) | 12.42\% |
| 5. | Range of Common Equity Model Results | 9.44\%-12.42\% |
| 6. | Size Risk Adjustment (5) | 0.20\% |
| 7. | Credit Risk Adjustment (6) | -0.10\% |
| 8. | Flotation Cost Adjustment (7) | 0.04\% |
| 9. | Indicated Range of Common Equity Cost Rates after Adjustment | 9.58\%-12.66\% |
| 10. | Recommended Common Equity Cost Rate | 10.35\% |

Notes: (1) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-2.
(2) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-3.
(3) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-4.
(4) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-6.
(5) Adjustment to reflect the Company's greater business risk due to its smaller size relative to the Utility Proxy Group as detailed in Mr. D'Ascendis' direct testimony.
(6) Company-specific risk adjustment to reflect Atmos Energy's lower risk due to a higher long-term issuer rating relative to the proxy group as detailed in Mr. D'Ascendis' direct testimony.
(7) From page 1 of Schedule DWD-8.

Atmos Energy Corporation
Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Using the Discounted Cash Flow Model for the Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies



NA= Not Available
NMF = Not Meaningful Figure

Notes:
(1) Indicated dividend at $05 / 28 / 2021$ divided by the average closing price of the last 60 trading days ending 05/28/2021 for each company.
(2) From pages 2 through 8 of this Schedule
(3) Average of columns 2 through 5 excluding negative growth rates.
(4) This reflects a growth rate component equal to one-half the conclusion of growth rate (from column 6) x column 1 to reflect the periodic payment of dividends (Gordon Model) as opposed to the continuous payment. Thus, for Atmos Energy Corporation, $2.54 \% \mathrm{x}(1+(1 / 2 \times 7.14 \%))=2.63 \%$.
(5) Column $6+$ column 7.

Value Line Investment Survey www.zacks.com Downloaded on 05/28/2021 www.yahoo.com Downloaded on 05/28/2021 Bloomberg Professional Services

# Atmos Energy Corporation <br> Summary of Risk Premium Models for the Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies 

Proxy Group of
Seven Natural Gas
Distribution
Companies

Predictive Risk Premium
Model (PRPM) (1) $11.43 \%$

Risk Premium Using an
Adjusted Total Market
Approach (2)
10.49 \%

Average 10.96 \%
Notes:
(1) From page 2 of this Schedule.
(2) From page 3 of this Schedule.
$\frac{\text { Atmos Energy Corporation }}{\text { Indicated ROE }}$
Derived by the Predictive Risk Premium Model (1)

|  | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] | [5] | [6] | [7] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies | LT Average Predicted Variance | Spot <br> Predicted Variance | Recommended Variance (2) | GARCH <br> Coefficient | $\begin{gathered} \text { Predicted } \\ \text { Risk } \\ \text { Premium (3) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Risk-Free Rate (4) | Indicated ROE (5) |
| Atmos Energy Corporation | 0.33\% | 0.48\% | 0.41\% | 2.2565 | 11.58\% | 2.88\% | 14.46\% |
| New Jersey Resources Corporation | 0.38\% | 0.34\% | 0.36\% | 2.0814 | 9.43\% | 2.88\% | 12.31\% |
| Northwest Natural Holding Company | 0.32\% | 0.38\% | 0.35\% | 1.5413 | 6.68\% | 2.88\% | 9.56\% |
| ONE Gas, Inc. | 0.30\% | 0.43\% | 0.37\% | 4.0633 | 19.39\% | 2.88\% | NMF |
| South Jersey Industries, Inc. | 0.39\% | 0.69\% | 0.54\% | 1.6346 | 11.03\% | 2.88\% | 13.91\% |
| Southwest Gas Holdings, Inc. | 0.43\% | 0.38\% | 0.41\% | 1.3628 | 6.84\% | 2.88\% | 9.72\% |
| Spire Inc. | 0.71\% | 0.52\% | 0.61\% | 0.9445 | 7.18\% | 2.88\% | 10.06\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Average | 11.67\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Median | 11.19\% |
|  |  |  |  |  | Average of M | and Median | 11.43\% |

## Notes:

(1) The Predictive Risk Premium Model uses historical data to generate a predicted variance and a GARCH coefficient. The historical data used are the equity risk premiums for the first available trading month as reported by Bloomberg Professional Service.
(2) Given current market conditions, I recommend using average of the the long-term average predicted variance and the spot variance.
(3) $\left(1+(\text { Column }[3] * \text { Column }[4])^{12}\right)-1$.
(4) From note 2 on page 2 of Schedule DWD-4.
(5) Column [5] + Column [6].

Atmos Energy Corporation<br>Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate<br>Through Use of a Risk Premium Model<br>Using an Adjusted Total Market Approach

| Line No. |  | Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | Prospective Yield on Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds (1) | 3.56 \% |
| 2. | Adjustment to Reflect Yield Spread Between Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds and A2 Rated Public Utility Bonds | 0.39 (2) |
| 3. | Adjusted Prospective Yield on A2 Rated Public Utility Bonds | 3.95 \% |
| 4. | Adjustment to Reflect Bond Rating Difference of Proxy Group | 0.04 (3) |
| 5. | Adjusted Prospective Bond Yield | 3.99 \% |
| 6. | Equity Risk Premium (4) | 6.50 |
| 7. | Risk Premium Derived Common Equity Cost Rate | 10.49 \% |

Notes: (1) Consensus forecast of Moody's Aaa Rated Corporate bonds from Blue Chip Financial Forecasts (see pages 10 and 11 of this Schedule).
(2) The average yield spread of A2 rated public utility bonds over Aaa rated corporate bonds of $0.39 \%$ from page 4 of this Schedule.
(3) Adjustment to reflect the A2/A3 Moody's LT issuer rating of the Utility Proxy Group as shown on page 5 of this Schedule. The $0.04 \%$ upward adjustment is derived by taking $1 / 6$ of the spread between A2 and Baa2 Public Utility Bonds $\left(1 / 6^{*} 0.26 \%=0.04 \%\right)$ as derived from page 4 of this Schedule.
(4) From page 7 of this Schedule.

Atmos Energy Corporation
Interest Rates and Bond Spreads for Moody's Corporate and Public Utility Bonds

## Selected Bond Yields - Moody's

|  | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Aaa Rated Corporate Bond | Aa2 Rated Public Utility Bond | A2 Rated Public Utility Bond | Baa2 Rated Public Utility Bond |
| May-2021 | 2.96 \% | 3.17 \% | 3.33 \% | 3.58 \% |
| Apr-2021 | 2.90 | 3.13 | 3.30 | 3.57 |
| Mar-2021 | 3.04 | 3.27 | 3.44 | 3.72 |
| Average | 2.97 \% | 3.19 \% | 3.36 \% | 3.62 \% |

## Selected Bond Spreads

A2 Rated Public Utility Bonds Over Aaa Rated Corporate Bonds:

$$
0.39 \%(1)
$$

Baa2 Rated Public Utility Bonds Over A2 Rated Public Utility Bonds:
$0.26 \%(2)$
A2 Rated Public Utility Bonds Over Aa2 Rated Public Utility Bonds:
0.17 \% (3) Notes:
(1) Column [3] - Column [1].
(2) Column [4] - Column [3].
(3) Column [3] - Column [2].

Source of Information:
Bloomberg Professional Service

Atmos Energy Corporation
Comparison of Long-Term Issuer Ratings for
Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

| Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies | Long-Term Issuer Rating (1) | Numerical <br> Weighting (2) | Long-Term Issuer Rating <br> (1) | Numerical <br> Weighting (2) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Atmos Energy Corporation | A1 | 5.0 | A- | 7.0 |
| New Jersey Resources Corporation | A1 | 5.0 | NR | -- |
| Northwest Natural Holding Company | Baa1 | 8.0 | A+ | 5.0 |
| ONE Gas, Inc. | A3 | 7.0 | BBB+ | 8.0 |
| South Jersey Industries, Inc. | A3 | 7.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Southwest Gas Holdings, Inc. | Baa1 | 8.0 | A- | 7.0 |
| Spire Inc. | A1/A2 | 5.5 | A- | 7.0 |
| Average | A2/A3 | 6.5 | A- | 7.2 |

Notes:
(1)

Ratings are that of the average of each company's utility operating subsidiaries.
(2) From page 6 of this Schedule.

| Numerical Assignment for Moody's and Standard \& Poor's Bond Ratings |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Moody's Bond Rating | Numerical Bond Weighting | Standard \& Poor's Bond Rating |
| Aaa | 1 | AAA |
| Aa1 | 2 | AA+ |
| Aa2 | 3 | AA |
| Aa3 | 4 | AA- |
| A1 | 5 | A+ |
| A2 | 6 | A |
| A3 | 7 | A- |
| Baa1 | 8 | BBB+ |
| Baa2 | 9 | BBB |
| Baa3 | 10 | BBB- |
| Ba1 | 11 | $\mathrm{BB}+$ |
| Ba 2 | 12 | BB |
| Ba3 | 13 | BB- |
| B1 | 14 | B+ |
| B2 | 15 | B |
| B3 | 16 | B- |

## Atmos Energy Corporation

Judgment of Equity Risk Premium for Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

Line

## No.

1. Calculated equity risk premium based on the total market using the beta approach (1)
2. Mean equity risk premium based on a study using the holding period returns of public utilities with A rated bonds (2)

Predicted Equity Risk Premium Based on Regression Analysis of 800 Fully-Litigated Natural Gas Utility Rate Cases

Average equity risk premium
$6.50 \%$

Notes: (1) From page 8 of this Schedule.
(2) From page 12 of this Schedule.
(3) From page 13 of this Schedule.

Atmos Energy Corporation
Derivation of Equity Risk Premium Based on the Total Market Approach
Using the Beta for the
Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

| $\underline{\text { Line No. }}$ | Equity Risk Premium Measure | Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ibbotson-Based Equity Risk Premiums: |  |  |
| 1. | Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium (1) | 5.92 \% |
| 2. | Regression on Ibbotson Risk Premium Data (2) | 8.69 |
| 3. | Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium based on PRPM (3) | 9.02 |
| 4. | Equity Risk Premium Based on Value Line Summary and Index (4) | 4.60 |
| 5. | Equity Risk Premium Based on Value Line S\&P 500 Companies (5) | 10.76 |
| 6. | Equity Risk Premium Based on Bloomberg S\&P 500 Companies (6) | 12.78 |
| 7. | Conclusion of Equity Risk Premium | 8.63 \% |
| 8. | Adjusted Beta (7) | 0.93 |
| 9. | Forecasted Equity Risk Premium | 8.03 \% |

Notes provided on page 9 of this Schedule.

Atmos Energy Corporation
Derivation of Equity Risk Premium Based on the Total Market Approach
Using the Beta for the
Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

## Notes:

(1) Based on the arithmetic mean historical monthly returns on large company common stocks from Duff \& Phelps 2021 SBBI® Yearbook minus the arithmetic mean monthly yield of Moody's average Aaa and Aa corporate bonds from 1928-2020.
(2) This equity risk premium is based on a regression of the monthly equity risk premiums of large company common stocks relative to Moody's average Aaa and Aa rated corporate bond yields from 1928-2020 referenced in Note 1 above.
(3) The Predictive Risk Premium Model (PRPM) is discussed in the accompanying direct testimony. The Ibbotson equity risk premium based on the PRPM is derived by applying the PRPM to the monthly risk premiums between Ibbotson large company common stock monthly returns and average Aaa and Aa corporate monthly bond yields, from January 1928 through March 2021.
(4) The equity risk premium based on the Value Line Summary and Index is derived by subtracting the average consensus forecast of Aaa corporate bonds of 3.56\% (from page 3 of this Schedule) from the projected 3-5 year total annual market return of 8.16\% (described fully in note 1 on page 2 of Schedule DWD-4).
(5) Using data from Value Line for the S\&P 500, an expected total return of $14.32 \%$ was derived based upon expected dividend yields and long-term earnings growth estimates as a proxy for capital appreciation. Subtracting the average consensus forecast of Aaa corporate bonds of $3.56 \%$ results in an expected equity risk premium of $10.76 \%$.
(6) Using data from the Bloomberg Professional Service for the S\&P 500, an expected total return of $16.34 \%$ was derived based upon expected dividend yields and long-term earnings growth estimates as a proxy for capital appreciation. Subtracting the average consensus forecast of Aaa corporate bonds of $3.56 \%$ results in an expected equity risk premium of $12.78 \%$.
(7) Average of mean and median beta from Schedule DWD-4.

Sources of Information:
Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation - 2021 SBBI Yearbook, John Wiley \& Sons, Inc. Industrial Manual and Mergent Bond Record Monthly Update.
Value Line Summary and Index
Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, June 1, 2021
Bloomberg Professional Service

# Atmos Energy Corporation <br> Derivation of Mean Equity Risk Premium Based Studies <br> Using Holding Period Returns and <br> Projected Market Appreciation of the S\&P Utility Index 



Notes: (1) Based on S\&P Public Utility Index monthly total returns and Moody's Public Utility Bond average monthly yields from 1928-2020. Holding period returns are calculated based upon income received (dividends and interest) plus the relative change in the market value of a security over a one-year holding period.
(2) This equity risk premium is based on a regression of the monthly equity risk premiums of the S\&P Utility Index relative to Moody's A2 rated public utility bond yields from 1928-2020 referenced in note 1 above.
(3) The Predictive Risk Premium Model (PRPM) is applied to the risk premium of the monthly total returns of the S\&P Utility Index and the monthly yields on Moody's A2 rated public utility bonds from January 1928 - May 2021.
(4) Using data from Value Line for the S\&P Utilities Index, an expected return of $11.40 \%$ was derived based on expected dividend yields and long-term growth estimates as a proxy for market appreciation. Subtracting the expected A2 rated public utility bond yield of $3.95 \%$, calculated on line 3 of page 3 of this Schedule results in an equity risk premium of $7.45 \%$. ( $11.40 \%-3.95 \%=7.45 \%$ )
(5) Using data from Bloomberg Professional Service for the S\&P Utilities Index, an expected return of $9.77 \%$ was derived based on expected dividend yields and longterm growth estimates as a proxy for market appreciation. Subtracting the expected A2 rated public utility bond yield of $3.95 \%$, calculated on line 3 of page 3 of this Schedule results in an equity risk premium of $5.82 \%$. $(9.77 \%-3.95 \%=$ 5.82\%)
(6) Average of lines 1 through 5.

Atmos Energy Corporation
Prediction of Equity Risk Premiums Relative to
Moody's A2 Rated Utility Bond Yields



Notes:
(1) From line 3 of page 3 of this Schedule.

Source of Information:
Regulatory Research Associates
Bloomberg Professional Services

Atmos Energy Corporation
Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate Through Use of the Traditional Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) and Empirical Capital Asset Pricing Model (ECAPM)

|  | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] | [5] | [6] | [7] | [8] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies | Value Line <br> Adjusted Beta $\qquad$ | Bloomberg Adjusted Beta | Average | Market Risk <br> Premium (1) | Risk-Free <br> Rate (2) | Traditional CAPM Cost Rate | $\begin{gathered} \text { ECAPM Cost } \\ \text { Rate } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Indicated <br> Common <br> Equity Cost <br> Rate (3) |
| Atmos Energy Corporation | 0.80 | 0.91 | 0.86 | 9.46 \% | 2.88 \% | 11.02 \% | 11.35 \% | 11.18 \% |
| New Jersey Resources Corporation | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.15 | 12.20 | 12.17 |
| Northwest Natural Holding Company | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 10.92 | 11.28 | 11.10 |
| ONE Gas, Inc. | 0.80 | 1.00 | 0.90 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.39 | 11.63 | 11.51 |
| South Jersey Industries, Inc. | 1.05 | 0.98 | 1.02 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.53 | 12.48 | 12.51 |
| Southwest Gas Holdings, Inc. | 0.95 | 1.09 | 1.02 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.53 | 12.48 | 12.51 |
| Spire Inc. | 0.85 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.58 | 11.77 | 11.68 |
| Mean |  |  | 0.94 |  |  | 11.73 \% | 11.88 \% | 11.81 \% |
| Median |  |  | 0.92 |  |  | 11.58 \% | 11.77 \% | 11.68 \% |
| Average of Mean and Median |  |  | 0.93 |  |  | 11.66 \% | 11.83 \% | 11.75 \% |

Notes on page 2 of this Schedule.

Atmos Energy Corporation
Notes to Accompany the Application of the CAPM and ECAPM

Notes:
(1) The market risk premium (MRP) is derived by using six different measures from three sources: Ibbotson, Value Line, and Bloomberg as illustrated below:

## Historical Data MRP Estimates:

Measure 1: Ibbotson Arithmetic Mean MRP (1926-2020)
Arithmetic Mean Monthly Returns for Large Stocks 1926-2020: $\quad 12.20 \quad \%$
Arithmetic Mean Income Returns on Long-Term Government Bonds:
$\overbrace{}^{5.15}$ \%

Measure 2: Application of a Regression Analysis to Ibbotson Historical Data
(1926-2020)
9.39 \%

Measure 3: Application of the PRPM to Ibbotson Historical Data:
(January 1926-May 2021)
$10.04 \%$

## Value Line MRP Estimates:

Measure 4: Value Line Projected MRP (Thirteen weeks ending May 28, 2021)
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Total projected return on the market 3-5 years hence*: } & 8.16 \% \\ \text { Projected Risk-Free Rate (see note 2): } & 2.88 \\ \text { MRP based on Value Line Summary \& Index: } & \boxed{5} \%\end{array}$
*Forcasted 3-5 year capital appreciation plus expected dividend yield
Measure 5: Value Line Projected Return on the Market based on the S\&P 500

| Total return on the Market based on the S\&P 500: | $14.32 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Projected Risk-Free Rate (see note 2): | 2.88 |
| MRP based on Value Line data | $11.44 \%$ |

Measure 6: Bloomberg Projected MRP

| Total return on the Market based on the S\&P 500: | $16.34 \%$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Projected Risk-Free Rate (see note 2): | MRP based on Bloomberg data | 2.88 |

Average of Value Line, Ibbotson, and Bloomberg MRP: $\quad 9.46 \%$
(2) For reasons explained in the direct testimony, the appropriate risk-free rate for cost of capital purposes is the average forecast of 30 year Treasury Bonds per the consensus of nearly 50 economists reported in Blue Chip Financial Forecasts. (See pages 10 and 11 of Schedule DWD-3.) The projection of the risk-free rate is illustrated below:

| Second Quarter 2021 | $2.40 \%$ |
| ---: | :--- |
| Third Quarter 2021 | 2.50 |
| Fourth Quarter 2021 | 2.60 |
| First Quarter 2022 | 2.60 |
| Second Quarter 2022 | 2.70 |
| Third Quarter 2022 | 2.80 |
| $2023-2027$ | 3.50 |
| 2028-2032 | $\frac{3.90}{2.88} \%$ |

(3) Average of Column 6 and Column 7.

Sources of Information:
Value Line Summary and Index
Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, June 1, 2021
Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation - 2021 SBBI Yearbook, John Wiley \& Sons, Inc.
Bloomberg Professional Services

Atmos Energy Corporation<br>Basis of Selection of Comparable Risk<br>Domestic Non-Price Regulated Companies

|  | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies | Value Line <br> Adjusted Beta | Unadjusted Beta | Residual <br> Standard <br> Error of the <br> Regression | Standard <br> Deviation <br> of Beta |
| Atmos Energy Corporation | 0.80 | 0.66 | 2.7453 | 0.0685 |
| New Jersey Resources Corporation | 0.95 | 0.92 | 3.0205 | 0.0754 |
| Northwest Natural Holding Company | 0.80 | 0.69 | 3.1454 | 0.0785 |
| ONE Gas, Inc. | 0.80 | 0.67 | 2.7077 | 0.0676 |
| South Jersey Industries, Inc. | 1.05 | 1.00 | 3.4767 | 0.0868 |
| Southwest Gas Holdings, Inc. | 0.95 | 0.88 | 3.0244 | 0.0755 |
| Spire Inc. | 0.85 | 0.71 | 2.8287 | 0.0706 |
| Average | 0.89 | 0.79 | 2.9927 | 0.0747 |
| Beta Range ( $+/-2$ std. Devs. of Beta) | 0.64 | 0.94 |  |  |
| 2 std. Devs. of Beta | 0.15 |  |  |  |
| Residual Std. Err. Range ( $+/-2$ std. Devs. of the Residual Std. Err.) | 2.7297 | 3.2557 |  |  |
| Std. dev. of the Res. Std. Err. | 0.1315 |  |  |  |
| 2 std. devs. of the Res. Std. Err. | 0.2630 |  |  |  |

## Atmos Energy Corporation <br> Proxy Group of Non-Price Regulated Companies <br> Comparable in Total Risk to the <br> Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

|  | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proxy Group of Forty-Eight Non-Price Regulated Companies | VL Adjusted Beta | Unadjusted Beta | Residual <br> Standard <br> Error of the <br> Regression | Standard Deviation of Beta |
| Apple Inc. | 0.90 | 0.81 | 3.1746 | 0.0792 |
| Abbott Labs. | 0.95 | 0.88 | 2.7401 | 0.0684 |
| Assurant Inc. | 0.90 | 0.84 | 2.9537 | 0.0737 |
| ANSYS, Inc. | 0.85 | 0.74 | 2.8841 | 0.0720 |
| Booz Allen Hamilton | 0.90 | 0.82 | 3.0468 | 0.0760 |
| Becton, Dickinson | 0.80 | 0.66 | 2.8952 | 0.0722 |
| Brown-Forman 'B' | 0.90 | 0.77 | 2.7453 | 0.0685 |
| Broadridge Fin'l | 0.85 | 0.70 | 2.7332 | 0.0682 |
| Brady Corp. | 1.00 | 0.93 | 3.0007 | 0.0749 |
| CACI Int'l | 0.95 | 0.86 | 3.1684 | 0.0791 |
| Casey's Gen'l Stores | 0.90 | 0.78 | 3.2522 | 0.0812 |
| Cadence Design Sys. | 0.90 | 0.79 | 3.0338 | 0.0757 |
| Cerner Corp. | 0.90 | 0.84 | 2.7309 | 0.0681 |
| CSW Industrials | 0.90 | 0.81 | 2.8884 | 0.0721 |
| Quest Diagnostics | 0.85 | 0.75 | 2.7411 | 0.0684 |
| Lauder (Estee) | 0.95 | 0.85 | 2.8216 | 0.0704 |
| Exponent, Inc. | 0.90 | 0.79 | 2.9131 | 0.0727 |
| Fastenal Co. | 0.90 | 0.85 | 3.2203 | 0.0804 |
| Gentex Corp. | 0.95 | 0.91 | 2.7546 | 0.0687 |
| Int'l Flavors \& Frag | 0.95 | 0.87 | 3.2238 | 0.0804 |
| Ingredion Inc. | 0.90 | 0.78 | 2.8793 | 0.0718 |
| Iron Mountain | 0.90 | 0.82 | 3.0897 | 0.0771 |
| Hunt (J.B.) | 0.95 | 0.86 | 2.8344 | 0.0707 |
| J\&J Snack Foods | 0.90 | 0.84 | 2.9208 | 0.0729 |
| Henry (Jack) \& Assoc | 0.85 | 0.71 | 2.7734 | 0.0692 |
| ManTech Int'l 'A' | 0.85 | 0.77 | 3.0653 | 0.0765 |
| McCormick \& Co. | 0.80 | 0.66 | 2.7887 | 0.0696 |
| Altria Group | 0.90 | 0.83 | 2.9215 | 0.0729 |
| MSA Safety | 1.00 | 0.94 | 3.0076 | 0.0750 |
| MSCI Inc. | 0.95 | 0.87 | 2.9662 | 0.0740 |
| Motorola Solutions | 0.90 | 0.80 | 2.7926 | 0.0697 |
| Vail Resorts | 0.95 | 0.88 | 3.1939 | 0.0797 |
| Maxim Integrated | 0.95 | 0.87 | 2.9404 | 0.0734 |
| Northrop Grumman | 0.85 | 0.71 | 2.9032 | 0.0724 |
| Old Dominion Freight | 0.90 | 0.83 | 3.0708 | 0.0766 |
| PerkinElmer Inc. | 0.95 | 0.86 | 2.8896 | 0.0721 |
| Philip Morris Int'l | 0.95 | 0.88 | 3.2481 | 0.0811 |
| Pool Corp. | 0.85 | 0.75 | 3.2001 | 0.0799 |
| Post Holdings | 0.95 | 0.86 | 3.0105 | 0.0751 |
| RLI Corp. | 0.80 | 0.64 | 2.9883 | 0.0746 |
| Rollins, Inc. | 0.85 | 0.73 | 2.9697 | 0.0741 |
| Selective Ins. Group | 0.85 | 0.77 | 3.0004 | 0.0749 |
| Sirius XM Holdings | 0.95 | 0.91 | 2.7995 | 0.0699 |
| Bio-Techne Corp. | 0.80 | 0.67 | 3.2475 | 0.0810 |
| Tetra Tech | 0.90 | 0.84 | 3.0245 | 0.0755 |
| Waters Corp. | 0.95 | 0.86 | 2.7531 | 0.0687 |
| West Pharmac. Svcs. | 0.85 | 0.70 | 3.1887 | 0.0796 |
| Western Union | 0.80 | 0.67 | 2.7346 | 0.0682 |
| Average | 0.90 | 0.80 | 2.9609 | 0.0739 |
| Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas |  |  |  |  |
| Distribution Companies | 0.89 | 0.79 | 2.9927 | 0.0747 |

Atmos Energy Corporation<br>Summary of Cost of Equity Models Applied to<br>Proxy Group of Forty-Eight Non-Price Regulated Companies<br>Comparable in Total Risk to the<br>Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

| Principal Methods | Proxy Group of Forty-Eight NonPrice Regulated Companies |
| :---: | :---: |
| Discounted Cash Flow Model (DCF) (1) | 12.83 \% |
| Risk Premium Model (RPM) (2) | 12.49 |
| Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) (3) | 11.69 |
|  | 12.34 \% |
|  | 12.49 \% |
|  | 12.42 \% |

Notes:
(1) From page 2 of this Schedule.
(2) From page 3 of this Schedule.
(3) From page 6 of this Schedule.

DCF Results for the Proxy Group of Non-Price-Regulated Companies Comparable in Total Risk to the Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

|  |  | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] | [5] | [6] | [7] | [8] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proxy Group of Forty-Eight Non-Price Regulated Companies |  | Average Dividend Yield | Value Line <br> Projected Five <br> Year Growth in EPS | Zack's Five Year Projected Growth Rate in EPS | Bloomberg's Five Year Projected Growth Rate in EPS | Yahoo! Finance <br> Projected Five <br> Year Growth in EPS | Average Projected Five Year Growth Rate in EPS | Adjusted <br> Dividend <br> Yield | Indicated <br> Common Equity Cost Rate (1) |
| Apple Inc. |  | 0.69 \% | 14.50 \% | 12.50 \% | 12.10 \% | 17.93 \% | 14.26 \% | 0.74 \% | 15.00 \% |
| Abbott Labs. |  | 1.51 | 11.50 | 13.80 | 13.63 | 16.49 | 13.86 | 1.61 | 15.47 |
| Assurant Inc. |  | 1.76 | 11.50 | 17.50 | 17.50 | 17.50 | 16.00 | 1.90 | 17.90 |
| ANSYS, Inc. |  | - | 8.00 | 12.30 | 12.58 | 10.74 | 10.90 | - | NA |
| Booz Allen Hamilton |  | 1.80 | 10.50 | 10.60 | 13.00 | 9.67 | 10.94 | 1.90 | 12.84 |
| Becton, Dickinson |  | 1.35 | 7.50 | 8.90 | 8.30 | 11.85 | 9.14 | 1.41 | 10.55 |
| Brown-Forman 'B' |  | 0.97 | 11.00 | NA | 5.39 | 7.40 | 7.93 | 1.01 | 8.94 |
| Broadridge Fin'l |  | 1.48 | 8.50 | NA | 12.30 | 11.60 | 10.80 | 1.56 | 12.36 |
| Brady Corp. |  | 1.59 | 7.50 | 7.00 | 9.00 | 7.00 | 7.63 | 1.65 | 9.28 |
| CACI Int'l |  | - | 13.50 | 13.10 | 12.06 | 13.68 | 13.08 | - | NA |
| Casey's Gen'l Stores |  | 0.63 | 8.00 | NA | 15.81 | 7.85 | 10.55 | 0.66 | 11.21 |
| Cadence Design Sys. |  | - | 9.50 | 14.40 | 11.60 | 14.40 | 12.48 | - | NA |
| Cerner Corp. |  | 1.18 | 8.00 | 12.30 | 10.46 | 11.63 | 10.60 | 1.24 | 11.84 |
| CSW Industrials |  | 0.45 | 8.50 | NA | 12.00 | 12.00 | 10.83 | 0.47 | 11.30 |
| Quest Diagnostics |  | 1.91 | 10.00 | 26.50 | (5.40) | 3.26 | 13.25 | 2.04 | 15.29 |
| Lauder (Estee) |  | 0.71 | 11.00 | 10.70 | 18.20 | 27.18 | 16.77 | 0.77 | 17.54 |
| Exponent, Inc. |  | 0.83 | 12.50 | NA | 13.30 | 15.00 | 13.60 | 0.89 | 14.49 |
| Fastenal Co. |  | 2.21 | 8.00 | 9.00 | 8.70 | 7.95 | 8.41 | 2.30 | 10.71 |
| Gentex Corp. |  | 1.35 | 10.50 | 10.10 | 13.15 | 15.80 | 12.39 | 1.43 | 13.82 |
| Int'l Flavors \& Frag |  | 2.20 | 7.50 | 9.80 | 21.48 | 7.72 | 11.63 | 2.33 | 13.96 |
| Ingredion Inc. |  | 2.76 | 7.50 | NA | 11.00 | 1.90 | 6.80 | 2.85 | 9.65 |
| Iron Mountain |  | 6.32 | 11.50 | 1.70 | 0.66 | 1.70 | 3.89 | 6.44 | 10.33 |
| Hunt (J.B.) |  | 0.71 | 8.00 | 15.00 | 15.00 | 21.53 | 14.88 | 0.76 | 15.64 |
| J\&J Snack Foods |  | 1.55 | 10.00 | NA | NA | 6.00 | 8.00 | 1.61 | 9.61 |
| Henry (Jack) \& Assoc |  | 1.18 | 9.00 | 10.90 | 12.47 | 10.64 | 10.75 | 1.24 | 11.99 |
| ManTech Int'l 'A' |  | 1.79 | 9.00 | 5.10 | 5.53 | 3.87 | 5.88 | 1.84 | 7.72 |
| McCormick \& Co. |  | 1.53 | 5.50 | 6.70 | 5.87 | 6.00 | 6.02 | 1.58 | 7.60 |
| Altria Group |  | 6.94 | 6.00 | 4.00 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 4.68 | 7.10 | 11.78 |
| MSA Safety |  | 1.10 | 6.50 | NA | 9.00 | 18.00 | 11.17 | 1.16 | 12.33 |
| MSCI Inc. |  | 0.69 | 16.00 | NA | 15.00 | 15.31 | 15.44 | 0.74 | 16.18 |
| Motorola Solutions |  | 1.49 | 7.00 | 9.00 | 12.20 | 7.37 | 8.89 | 1.56 | 10.45 |
| Vail Resorts |  | - | 9.50 | NA | 87.08 | 72.95 | 56.51 | - | NA |
| Maxim Integrated |  | - | 8.00 | 10.00 | 11.95 | 21.91 | 12.97 | - | NA |
| Northrop Grumman |  | 1.84 | 7.00 | NA | 5.67 | 5.77 | 6.15 | 1.90 | 8.05 |
| Old Dominion Freight |  | 0.32 | 9.00 | 17.20 | 18.98 | 18.93 | 16.03 | 0.35 | 16.38 |
| PerkinElmer Inc. |  | 0.21 | 11.00 | 37.90 | 5.66 | 37.90 | 23.11 | 0.23 | 23.34 |
| Philip Morris Int'l |  | 5.19 | 6.50 | 8.70 | 10.75 | 12.75 | 9.67 | 5.44 | 15.11 |
| Pool Corp. |  | 0.83 | 15.00 | NA | NA | 17.00 | 16.00 | 0.90 | 16.90 |
| Post Holdings |  | - | 11.00 | NA | 20.30 | 31.20 | 20.83 | - | NA |
| RLI Corp. |  | 0.89 | 12.50 | NA | NA | 9.80 | 11.15 | 0.94 | 12.09 |
| Rollins, Inc. |  | 0.91 | 11.50 | NA | NA | 8.20 | 9.85 | 0.95 | 10.80 |
| Selective Ins. Group |  | 1.33 | 8.50 | 9.50 | 9.51 | 5.10 | 8.15 | 1.38 | 9.53 |
| Sirius XM Holdings |  | 0.96 | 35.50 | 12.70 | 40.32 | 10.10 | 24.66 | 1.08 | 25.74 |
| Bio-Techne Corp. |  | 0.32 | 12.50 | 14.00 | 19.03 | 15.00 | 15.13 | 0.34 | 15.47 |
| Tetra Tech |  | 0.62 | 13.50 | 15.00 | 13.85 | 15.00 | 14.34 | 0.66 | 15.00 |
| Waters Corp. |  | - | 6.00 | 7.10 | 8.19 | 7.77 | 7.26 | - | NA |
| West Pharmac. Svcs. |  | 0.22 | 17.00 | 25.80 | 18.55 | 25.80 | 21.79 | 0.24 | 22.03 |
| Western Union |  | 3.74 | 6.00 | NA | 4.57 | 9.19 | 6.59 | 3.86 | 10.45 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Mean | 13.33 \% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Median | 12.33 \% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Average of Mean and Median |  | 12.83 \% |
| NA $=$ Not Available |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (1) The application of the DCF model to the domestic, non-price regluated comparable risk companies is identical to the application of the DCF to the Utility Proxy Group. The dividend yield is derived by using the 60 day average price and the spot indicated dividend as of May 28,2021 . The dividend yield is then adjusted by $1 / 2$ the average projected growth rate in EPS, which is calculated by averaging the 5 year projected growth in EPS provided by Value Line, www.zacks.com, Bloomberg Professional Services, and www.yahoo.com (excluding any negative growth rates) and then adding that growth rate to the adjusted dividend yield. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source of Information: | Value Line Investment Survey www.zacks.com Downloaded on 05/28/2021 www.yahoo.com Downloaded on 05/28/2021 Bloomberg Professional Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Atmos Energy Corporation<br>Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate<br>Through Use of a Risk Premium Model<br>Using an Adjusted Total Market Approach

## Line No.

Proxy Group of FortyEight Non-Price Regulated Companies

1. Prospective Yield on Baa2 Rated Corporate Bonds (1) 4.46 \%
2. Equity Risk Premium (2)
3. Risk Premium Derived Common Equity Cost Rate

Notes: (1) Average forecast of Baa2 corporate bonds based upon the consensus of nearly 50 economists reported in Blue Chip Financial Forecasts dated June 1, 2021 (see pages 10 and 11 of Schedule DWD-3). The estimates are detailed below.

| Second Quarter 2021 | $3.80 \%$ |
| ---: | :---: |
| Third Quarter 2021 | 4.00 |
| Fourth Quarter 2021 | 4.10 |
| First Quarter 2022 | 4.20 |
| Second Quarter 2022 | 4.20 |
| Third Quarter 2022 | 4.30 |
| 2023-2027 | 5.30 |
| 2028-2032 | 5.80 |
| Average | 4.46 |

(2) From page 5 of this Schedule.

Comparison of Long-Term Issuer Ratings for the
Proxy Group of Forty-Eight Non-Price Regulated Companies of Comparable risk to the Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

| Moody's | Standard \& Poor's |
| :---: | :---: |
| Long-Term Issuer Rating | Long-Term Issuer Rating |
| May 2021 | May 2021 |


| Proxy Group of Forty-Eight Non-Price Regulated Companies | Long-Term Issuer Rating | Numerical Weighting (1) | Long-Term Issuer Rating | Numerical Weighting (1) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Apple Inc. | Aa1 | 2.0 | AA+ | 2.0 |
| Abbott Labs. | A2 | 6.0 | A+ | 5.0 |
| Assurant Inc. | Baa3 | 10.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| ANSYS, Inc. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Booz Allen Hamilton | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Becton, Dickinson | Baa3 | 10.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Brown-Forman 'B' | A1 | 5.0 | A- | 7.0 |
| Broadridge Fin'l | Baa1 | 8.0 | BBB+ | 8.0 |
| Brady Corp. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| CACI Int'l | NA | -- | BB+ | 11.0 |
| Casey's Gen'l Stores | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Cadence Design Sys. | Baa2 | 9.0 | BBB+ | 8.0 |
| Cerner Corp. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| CSW Industrials | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Quest Diagnostics | Baa2 | 9.0 | BBB+ | 8.0 |
| Lauder (Estee) | A1 | 5.0 | A+ | 5.0 |
| Exponent, Inc. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Fastenal Co. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Gentex Corp. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Int'l Flavors \& Frag | Baa3 | 10.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Ingredion Inc. | Baa1 | 8.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Iron Mountain | Ba3 | 13.0 | BB- | 13.0 |
| Hunt (J.B.) | Baa1 | 8.0 | BBB+ | 8.0 |
| J\&J Snack Foods | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Henry (Jack) \& Assoc | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| ManTech Int'l 'A' | WR | -- | BB+ | 11.0 |
| McCormick \& Co. | Baa2 | 9.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Altria Group | A3 | 7.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| MSA Safety | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| MSCI Inc. | Ba1 | 11.0 | BB+ | 11.0 |
| Motorola Solutions | Baa3 | 10.0 | BBB- | 10.0 |
| Vail Resorts | B2 | 15.0 | BB | 12.0 |
| Maxim Integrated | Baa1 | 8.0 | BBB+ | 8.0 |
| Northrop Grumman | Baa2 | 9.0 | BBB+ | 8.0 |
| Old Dominion Freight | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| PerkinElmer Inc. | Baa3 | 10.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Philip Morris Int'l | A2 | 6.0 | A | 6.0 |
| Pool Corp. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Post Holdings | B2 | 15.0 | B+ | 14.0 |
| RLI Corp. | Baa2 | 9.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Rollins, Inc. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Selective Ins. Group | Baa2 | 9.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Sirius XM Holdings | NA | -- | BB | 12.0 |
| Bio-Techne Corp. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Tetra Tech | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Waters Corp. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| West Pharmac. Svcs. | NA | -- | NA | -- |
| Western Union | Baa2 | 9.0 | BBB | 9.0 |
| Average | Baa2 | 8.8 | BBB | 8.9 |

Notes:
(1) From page 6 of Schedule DWD-3.

Source of Information:
Bloomberg Professional Services

Atmos Energy Corporation
Derivation of Equity Risk Premium Based on the Total Market Approach Using the Beta for Proxy Group of Forty-Eight Non-Price Regulated Companies of Comparable risk to the Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

| Line No. | Equity Risk Premium Measure | Proxy Group of Forty-Eight NonPrice Regulated Companies |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ibbotson-Based Equity Risk Premiums: |  |  |
| 1. | Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium (1) | 5.92 \% |
| 2. | Regression on Ibbotson Risk Premium Data (2) | 8.69 |
| 3. | Ibbotson Equity Risk Premium based on PRPM (3) | 9.02 |
| 4. | Equity Risk Premium Based on Value Line Summary and Index (4) | 4.60 |
| 5 | Equity Risk Premium Based on Value Line S\&P 500 Companies (5) | 10.76 |
| 6. | Equity Risk Premium Based on Bloomberg S\&P 500 Companies (6) | 12.78 |
| 7. | Conclusion of Equity Risk Premium | 8.63 \% |
| 8. | Adjusted Beta (7) | 0.93 |
| 9. | Forecasted Equity Risk Premium | 8.03 \% |

Notes:
(1) From note 1 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-3.
(2) From note 2 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-3.
(3) From note 3 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-3.
(4) From note 4 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-3.
(5) From note 5 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-3.
(6) From note 6 of page 9 of Schedule DWD-3.
(7) Average of mean and median beta from page 6 of this Schedule.

Sources of Information:
Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation - 2021 SBBI Yearbook, John Wiley \& Sons, Inc.
Value Line Summary and Index
Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, June 1, 2021
Bloomberg Professional Services

Traditional CAPM and ECAPM Results for the Proxy Group of Non-Price-Regulated Companies Comparable in Total Risk to the Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

|  | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] | [5] | [6] | [7] | [8] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Proxy Group of Forty-Eight Non-Price Regulated Companies | Value Line Adjusted Beta | Bloomberg Beta | Average <br> Beta | Market Risk Premium (1) | Risk-Free Rate (2) | Traditional CAPM Cost Rate | ECAPM Cost <br> Rate | Indicated Common Equity Cost Rate (3) |
| Apple Inc. | 0.90 | 1.01 | 0.96 | 9.46 \% | 2.88 \% | 11.96 \% | 12.06 \% | 12.01 \% |
| Abbott Labs. | 0.90 | 0.85 | 0.88 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.20 | 11.49 | 11.35 |
| Assurant Inc. | 0.90 | 1.00 | 0.95 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.87 | 11.99 | 11.93 |
| ANSYS, Inc. | 0.85 | 0.97 | 0.91 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.49 | 11.70 | 11.59 |
| Booz Allen Hamilton | 0.90 | 0.92 | 0.91 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.49 | 11.70 | 11.59 |
| Becton, Dickinson | 0.80 | 0.58 | 0.69 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 9.41 | 10.14 | 9.77 |
| Brown-Forman 'B' | 0.90 | 0.97 | 0.94 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.77 | 11.91 | 11.84 |
| Broadridge Fin'l | 0.80 | 0.84 | 0.82 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 10.64 | 11.06 | 10.85 |
| Brady Corp. | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.02 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.53 | 12.48 | 12.51 |
| CACI Int'l | 0.95 | 1.01 | 0.98 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.15 | 12.20 | 12.17 |
| Casey's Gen'l Stores | 0.90 | 0.91 | 0.91 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.49 | 11.70 | 11.59 |
| Cadence Design Sys. | 0.90 | 0.98 | 0.94 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.77 | 11.91 | 11.84 |
| Cerner Corp. | 0.90 | 0.89 | 0.90 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.39 | 11.63 | 11.51 |
| CSW Industrials | 0.90 | 1.05 | 0.97 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.06 | 12.13 | 12.09 |
| Quest Diagnostics | 0.85 | 0.96 | 0.91 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.49 | 11.70 | 11.59 |
| Lauder (Estee) | 0.95 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.15 | 12.20 | 12.17 |
| Exponent, Inc. | 0.90 | 0.94 | 0.92 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.58 | 11.77 | 11.68 |
| Fastenal Co. | 0.90 | 0.95 | 0.92 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.58 | 11.77 | 11.68 |
| Gentex Corp. | 0.95 | 1.06 | 1.01 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.43 | 12.41 | 12.42 |
| Int'l Flavors \& Frag | 0.95 | 1.08 | 1.02 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.53 | 12.48 | 12.51 |
| Ingredion Inc. | 0.90 | 0.92 | 0.91 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.49 | 11.70 | 11.59 |
| Iron Mountain | 0.90 | 1.02 | 0.96 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.96 | 12.06 | 12.01 |
| Hunt (J.B.) | 0.95 | 0.91 | 0.93 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.68 | 11.84 | 11.76 |
| J\&J Snack Foods | 0.90 | 0.77 | 0.84 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 10.83 | 11.20 | 11.02 |
| Henry (Jack) \& Assoc | 0.85 | 0.89 | 0.87 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.11 | 11.42 | 11.26 |
| ManTech Int'l 'A' | 0.85 | 1.11 | 0.98 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.15 | 12.20 | 12.17 |
| McCormick \& Co. | 0.80 | 0.70 | 0.75 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 9.97 | 10.57 | 10.27 |
| Altria Group | 0.90 | 0.88 | 0.89 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.30 | 11.56 | 11.43 |
| MSA Safety | 1.00 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.34 | 12.34 | 12.34 |
| MSCI Inc. | 0.95 | 0.94 | 0.94 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.77 | 11.91 | 11.84 |
| Motorola Solutions | 0.90 | 0.96 | 0.93 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.68 | 11.84 | 11.76 |
| Vail Resorts | 0.95 | 1.14 | 1.05 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.81 | 12.69 | 12.75 |
| Maxim Integrated | 0.95 | 0.99 | 0.97 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.06 | 12.13 | 12.09 |
| Northrop Grumman | 0.85 | 0.80 | 0.83 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 10.73 | 11.13 | 10.93 |
| Old Dominion Freight | 0.95 | 0.97 | 0.96 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.96 | 12.06 | 12.01 |
| PerkinElmer Inc. | 0.90 | 0.84 | 0.87 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.11 | 11.42 | 11.26 |
| Philip Morris Int'l | 0.95 | 0.91 | 0.93 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.68 | 11.84 | 11.76 |
| Pool Corp. | 0.85 | 0.95 | 0.90 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.39 | 11.63 | 11.51 |
| Post Holdings | 0.95 | 0.90 | 0.93 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.68 | 11.84 | 11.76 |
| RLI Corp. | 0.80 | 0.90 | 0.85 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 10.92 | 11.28 | 11.10 |
| Rollins, Inc. | 0.85 | 0.69 | 0.77 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 10.16 | 10.71 | 10.44 |
| Selective Ins. Group | 0.85 | 0.97 | 0.91 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.49 | 11.70 | 11.59 |
| Sirius XM Holdings | 0.95 | 1.10 | 1.02 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.53 | 12.48 | 12.51 |
| Bio-Techne Corp. | 0.80 | 0.93 | 0.86 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.02 | 11.35 | 11.18 |
| Tetra Tech | 0.95 | 1.06 | 1.00 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 12.34 | 12.34 | 12.34 |
| Waters Corp. | 0.95 | 0.86 | 0.91 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.49 | 11.70 | 11.59 |
| West Pharmac. Svcs. | 0.80 | 0.75 | 0.78 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 10.26 | 10.78 | 10.52 |
| Western Union | 0.80 | 1.05 | 0.93 | 9.46 | 2.88 | 11.68 | 11.84 | 11.76 |
|  |  | Mean | 0.92 |  |  | 11.55 \% | 11.75 \% | 11.65 \% |
|  |  | Median | 0.93 |  |  | 11.63 \% | 11.81 \% | 11.72 \% |
|  | Average of | n and Median | 0.93 |  |  | 11.59 \% | 11.78 \% | 11.69 \% |

Notes:
(1) From note 1 of page 2 of Schedule DWD-4.
(2) From note 2 of page 2 of Schedule DWD-4.
(3) Average of CAPM and ECAPM cost rates.

## Atmos Energy Corporation

Derivation of Investment Risk Adjustment Based upon
Ibbotson Associates' Size Premia for the Decile Portfolios of the NYSE/AMEX/NASDAQ

*From 2021 Duff \& Phelps Cost of Capital Navigator
Notes:
(1) From page 2 of this Schedule.
(2) Gleaned from Columns [B] and [C] on the bottom of this page. The appropriate decile (Column [A]) corresponds to the market capitalization of the proxy group, which is found in Column [1].
(3) Corresponding risk premium to the decile is provided in Column [D] on the bottom of this page.
(4) Line No. 1 Column [3] - Line No. 2 Column [3]. For example, the $0.71 \%$ in Column [4], Line No. 2 is derived as follows $0.71 \%=1.46 \%-0.75 \%$.

## Atmos Energy Corporation

Market Capitalization of Atmos Energy Corporation and the
Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies

| Company | Exchange | [1] |  | [2] |  | [3] |  | [4] |  | [5] | [6] |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Common Stock Shares Outstanding at Fiscal Year End 2020 |  | Book Value per Share at Fiscal Year End 2020 <br> (1) |  | Total Common Equity at Fiscal Year End 2020 |  | Closing Stock Market Price on May 28, 2021 |  | Market-toBook Ratio on May 28, $2021 \text { (2) }$ |  | Market Capitalization on May 28, 2021 (3) |  |
|  |  |  | ons ) |  |  |  | llions ) |  |  |  |  |  | millions) |
| Atmos Energy Corporation |  |  | NA |  | NA |  | 340.035 |  | NA |  |  |  |  |
| Based upon Proxy Group of Seven |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural Gas Distribution Companies |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 175.6 | (5) | \$ | 597.101 |
| Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atmos Energy Corporation | NYSE | \$ | 125.882 | \$ | 53.949 | \$ | 6,791.203 |  | 99.170 | 183.8 | \% | \$ | 12,483.765 |
| New Jersey Resources Corporation | NYSE |  | 95.949 |  | 19.226 |  | 1,844.692 |  | 42.720 | 222.2 |  |  | 4,098.949 |
| Northwest Natural Holding Company | NYSE |  | 30.589 |  | 29.054 |  | 888.733 |  | 52.880 | 182.0 |  |  | 1,617.546 |
| ONE Gas, Inc. | NYSE |  | 53.167 |  | 42.006 |  | 2,233.311 |  | 74.320 | 176.9 |  |  | 3,951.352 |
| South Jersey Industries, Inc. | NYSE |  | 100.592 |  | 16.571 |  | 1,666.876 |  | 26.660 | 160.9 |  |  | 2,681.781 |
| Southwest Gas Holdings, Inc. | NYSE |  | 57.193 |  | 46.771 |  | 2,674.953 |  | 66.010 | 141.1 |  |  | 3,775.305 |
| Spire Inc. | NYSE |  | 51.612 |  | 44.182 |  | 2,280.300 |  | 71.660 | 162.2 |  |  | 3,698.501 |
| Average |  | \$ | 73.569 | \$ | 35.966 | \$ | 2,625.724 |  | 61.917 | 175.6 | \% | \$ | 4,615.314 |

NA= Not Available
Notes: (1) Column 3 / Column 1
(2) Column 4 / Column 2
(3) Column 1 * Column 4.
(4) Requested rate base multiplied by the initial requested common equity ratio
(5) The market-to-book ratio of Atmos Energy Corporation on May 28, 2021 is assumed to be equal to the market-to-book ratio of Proxy Group of Seven Natural Gas Distribution Companies on May 28, 2021 as appropriate.
(6) Column [3] multiplied by Column [5].

Source of Information: 2020 Annual Forms 10K
yahoo.finance.com
Bloomberg Professional

## Atmos Energy Corporation

Derivation of the Flotation Cost Adjustment to the Cost of Common Equity

Equity Issuances and Flotation Costs for FY 2019, 2018, 2017, and 2016

|  |  | [Column 1] | [Column 2] |  | [Column 3] |  | [Column 4] |  | [Column 5] |  | [Column 6] |  | [Column 7] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fiscal Year | Transaction (1) | Shares Issued | Average Offering Price per Share (2) |  | Net Proceeds per Share (3) |  | Gross Equity Issue before Costs |  | $\underline{\text { Total Net Proceeds }}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Total Flotation } \\ \text { Costs }(4) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Flotation Cost <br> Percentage (5) |
| 2019 | At the Market Equity Offering | 5,390,836 | \$ | 92.7500 | \$ | 91.6555 | \$ | 500,000,000 | \$ | 494,100,000 | \$ | 5,900,000 | 1.18\% |
| 2018 | At the Market Equity Offering | 4,558,404 | \$ | 87.7500 | \$ | 86.6751 | \$ | 400,000,000 | \$ | 395,100,000 | \$ | 4,900,000 | 1.23\% |
| 2017 | At the Market Equity Offering | 1,303,494 | \$ | 76.7169 | \$ | 75.7963 | \$ | 100,000,000 | \$ | 98,800,000 | \$ | 1,200,000 | 1.20\% |
| 2016 | At the Market Equity Offering | 1,360,756 | \$ | 73.4886 |  | 72.4597 | \$ | 100,000,000 | \$ | 98,600,000 | \$ | 1,400,000 | 1.40\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,100,000,000 | \$ | 1,086,600,000 |  | 13,400,000 | 1.22\% |

## Flotation Cost Adjustment



See page 2 of this Schedule for notes.
Source of Information: Company SEC filings

Summary of Adjustment Clauses \& Alternative Regulation/Incentive Plans

|  |  |  | Adjustment Clauses |  |  |  |  | Alternative Regulation / Incentive Plans |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Company | Parent | State | Gas Commodity/Supply | Decoupling (F/P) [1] | Capital Investment [2] | $\begin{gathered} \text { Energy Efficiency } \\ {[3]} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Other [4] | Formula-Based Rates | Earnings Sharing/PBR |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Colorado | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Kansas | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Kentucky | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  | $\checkmark$ |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Louisiana | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Mississippi | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Tennessee | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Texas | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Atmos Energy | ATO | Virginia | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  |  |  |  |
| New Jersey Natural Gas | NJR | New Jersey | $\checkmark$ | F | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Northwest Natural Gas | NWN | Oregon | $\checkmark$ | P |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Northwest Natural Gas | NWN | Washington | $\checkmark$ |  |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Kansas Gas Service | OGS | Kansas | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Oklahoma Natural Gas | OGS | Oklahoma | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Texas Gas Service | OGS | Texas | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Elizabethtown Gas | SJI | New Jersey | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| South Jersey Gas | SJI | New Jersey | $\checkmark$ | F | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Alabama Gas Corporation | SR | Alabama | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Spire Gulf Inc. (Mobile Gas Corporation) | SR | Alabama | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Spire Missouri East | SR | Missouri | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Spire Missouri West | SR | Missouri | $\checkmark$ | P | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Southwest Gas Corporation | SWX | Arizona | $\checkmark$ | F | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Southwest Gas Corporation | SWX | California | $\checkmark$ | F | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Southwest Gas Corporation | SWX | Nevada | $\checkmark$ | F | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |

Notes:
Note: A mechanism may cover one or more cost categories; therefore, designations may not indicate separate mechanisms for each category.
[1] Full or partial decoupling (such as Fixed Variable rate design, weather normalization clauses, and recovery of lost revenues as a result of Energy Efficiency programs). All full or partial decoupling mechanisms include weather normalization adjustments.
[2] Includes recovery of costs related to infrastructure replacement, system integrity/hardening, and other capita expenditures
[3] Utility-sponsored conservation, energy efficiency, or other demand side management programs.
[4] Pension expenses, bad debt costs, storm costs, transmission/transportation costs, environmental regulatory fee, government \& franchise fees and taxes, economic development, and low income programs.

Sources: Operating company tariffs; Regulatory Research Associates, Alternative Ratemaking Plans in the US, April 16, 2020; Regulatory Research Associates, Adjustment Clauses: A State-by-State Overview, November 12, 2019; Edison Electric Institute, Alternative Regulation for Emerging Utility Challenges: 2015 Update, November 11, 2015

Cancelling
Third Revised SHEET No. 38

## Pipeline Replacement Program Rider

## PRP

1. Applicable

Applicable to all customers receiving service under the Company's Rate Schedules G-1, G-2, T-3 and T-4.
2. Calculation of Pipe Replacement Rider Revenue Requirement

The PRP Revenue Requirement includes the following:
a) PRP-related Plant In-Service not included in base gas rates minus the associated PRP-related accumulated depreciation and accumulated deferred income taxes;
b) Retirement and removal of plant related PRP construction;
c) Overall rate of return will be established in the annual PRP rate application.
d) Depreciation expense on the PRP related Plant In-Service less retirement and removals;
e) Reduction for savings in Operating and Maintenance expenses; and,
f) Adjustment for ad valorem taxes;
g) PRP Rate base in any forecasted period will be calculated in a manner consistent with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 16(6)(c);

## 3. Pipe Replacement Program Factors

All customers receiving service under tariff Rate Schedules G-1, G-2, T-3 and T-4 shall be assessed an adjustment to their applicable rate schedule that will enable the Company to complete the pipe replacement program. The allocation to G-1 residential, G-1 non-residential, G-2, T-3 and T-4 will be in proportion to their relative base revenue share approved in the Company's most recently concluded base rate case.

The PRP Rider may be filed annually on or around August $1^{\text {st }}$ of each year. The filing will reflect the anticipated impact on the Company's revenue requirements of net plant additions related to bare-steel and (T) Aldyl-A pipe replacement as offset by operations and maintenance expense reductions during the upcoming (T) fiscal year ending each September as well as a balancing adjustment to reconcile collections with actual investment for the program year from two years prior. Such adjustment to the Rider will become effective with meter readings on and after the first billing cycle of October.

| DATE OF ISSUE | July 30, 2021 |
| :---: | :---: |
| DATE EFFECTIVE | Month/Date/Year |
| DActober 1, 2021 |  |

ISSUED
BY
/s/ Brannon C. Taylor
Signature of Officer
TITLE $\qquad$

PSC KY. No. 2
Tenth Revised SHEET No. 39

## Cancelling

Ninth Revised SHEET No. 39

## Pipeline Replacement Program Rider

4. Pipe Replacement Rider Rates

The charges for the respective gas service schedules for the revenue month beginning October 1, 2021 per billing period are:


DATE OF ISSUE

DATE EFFECTIVE

July 30, 2021 Month/Date/Year

October 1, 2021 Month/Date/Year

ISSUED BY
/s/ Brannon C. Taylor Signature of Officer

TITLE Vice President - Rates and Regulatory Affairs $\qquad$

## Atmos Energy Corporation Pipe Replacement Program Filing <br> Table of Contents

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## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 SURCHARGE SUMMARY

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Line } \\ \text { Number } \end{gathered}$ | Tariff Schedule |  | Customer Charge |  | Volumetric Charge |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | RESIDENTIAL (Rate G-1) |  | \$ | 2.47 | 0.0000 |
| 2 | NON-RESIDENTIAL (Rate G-1) |  | \$ | 8.20 | 0.0000 |
| 3 | INTERRUPTIBLE (Rate G-2) |  | \$ | 48.14 |  |
| 4 |  | Sales: 1-15,000 |  |  | 0.0975 |
| 5 |  | Sales: Over 15,000 |  |  | 0.0748 |
| 6 | TRANSPORTATION (T-3) |  | \$ | 41.59 |  |
| 7 |  | Interrupt Transport: 1-15,000 |  |  | 0.0793 |
| 8 |  | Interrupt Transport: Over 15,000 |  |  | 0.0608 |
| 9 | TRANSPORTATION (T-4) |  | \$ | 42.00 |  |
| 10 |  | Firm Transport: 1-300 |  |  | 0.1265 |
| 11 |  | Firm Transport: 301-15,000 |  |  | 0.0874 |
| 12 |  | Firm Transport: Over 15,000 |  |  | 0.0698 |

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

## KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 DEFICIENCY

Line Number

Description
Total

| Project Additions | \$ | 66,948,567 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Project Retirements | \$ | $(10,674,151)$ |
| Net Change to Gross Plant | \$ | 56,274,416 |
| Cost of Removal to Accumulated Depr. | \$ | 3,418,765 |
| Retirements from Accumulated Depr. |  | 10,674,151 |
| Depreciation Accrual to Accumulated Depr. |  | (1,272,172) |
| Net Change to Accumulated Depreciation |  | 12,820,744 |
| Net Change to Net Plant | \$ | 69,095,159 |
| Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes |  | $(1,226,495)$ |
| Net Change to Rate Base | \$ | 67,868,665 |
| Rate of Return |  | 7.66\% |
| Required Operating Income | \$ | 5,199,270 |
| Depreciation \& Amortization Expense |  | 980,195 |
| O\&M Savings |  | $(36,171)$ |
| Ad Valorem Tax Increase |  | 448,829 |
| Income Taxes on Cost of Service Items |  | $(347,517)$ |
| Income Taxes on Adjusted Interest Expense |  | $(297,366)$ |
| Operating Income at Present Rates | \$ | 747,971 |
| Deficiency | \$ | 5,947,241 |
| Tax Factor |  | 74.52\% |
| Total Rate Adjustment | \$ | 7,980,233 |
| Project Cost True-up | \$ | $(9,219)$ |
| Revenue Recovery True-up |  | 130,277 |
| Total True-up | \$ | 121,058 |
| Total Rate Adjustment | \$ | 8,101,291 |

## Cumulative

| No. | Description |  | Sep-21 |  | Oct-21 |  | Nov-21 |  | Dec-21 |  | Jan-22 |  | Feb-22 |  | Mar-22 |  | Apr-22 |  | May-22 |  | Jun-22 |  | Jul-22 |  | Aug-22 |  | Sep-22 |  | 13-Month Average |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | (1) |  | (2) |  | (3) |  | (4) |  | (5) |  | (6) |  | (7) |  | (8) |  | (9) |  | (10) |  | (11) |  | (12) |  | (13) |  | (14) |
|  | Net Investment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Plant in Service | \$ | 52,460,999 | \$ | 55,621,394 | \$ | 57,379,909 | \$ | 59,575,369 | \$ | 62,224,702 | \$ | 64,459,935 | \$ | 66,648,134 | \$ | 69,098,894 | \$ | 71,481,811 | \$ | 73,981,458 | \$ | 76,579,398 |  | 79,010,473 |  | 81,808,893 | \$ | 66,948,567 |
| 2 | Retirements | \$ | $(7,720,264)$ | \$ | $(8,322,767)$ | \$ | $(8,662,665)$ | \$ | $(9,126,983)$ | \$ | (9,677,440) | \$ | $(10,148,934)$ |  | (10,611,085) |  | (11,121,121) | \$ 1 | $(11,618,330)$ | \$ 1 | $(12,137,444)$ |  | $(12,676,769)$ |  | $(13,183,458)$ |  | $(13,756,707)$ | \$ | (10,674,151) |
| 3 4 | Investments Activity (Additions n | \$ | 44,740,735 | \$ | 47,298,627 | S | 48,717,244 | \$ | 50,448,387 | \$ | 52,547,262 | \$ | 54,311,002 | \$ | 56,037,048 | S | 57,977,773 | \$ 5 | 59,863,481 | \$ | 61,844,014 | \$ | 63,902,629 | S | 65,827,015 | \$ | 68,052,186 | \$ | 56,274,416 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | Accumulated Depreciation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Depreciation Expense | \$ | $(824,203)$ | \$ | $(891,319)$ | \$ | $(959,404)$ | \$ | $(1,028,992)$ | \$ | $(1,100,549)$ | \$ | $(1,174,012)$ | \$ | $(1,249,613)$ | \$ | $(1,327,950)$ | \$ | $(1,409,493)$ | \$ | $(1,495,212)$ | \$ | $(1,586,714)$ | \$ | $(1,686,379)$ | \$ | $(1,804,398)$ | \$ | $(1,272,172)$ |
|  | Retirement | \$ | 7,720,264 | \$ | 8,322,767 | \$ | 8,662,665 | \$ | 9,126,983 | \$ | 9,677,440 | \$ | 10,148,934 | \$ | 10,611,085 | \$ | 11,121,121 | \$ | 11,618,330 | \$ | 12,137,444 | \$ | 12,676,769 | \$ | 13,183,458 | - | 13,756,707 | \$ | 10,674,151 |
| 10 | Cost of Removal | \$ | 2,682,622 | \$ | 2,847,899 |  | 2,939,341 | \$ | 3,049,028 | \$ | 3,182,495 | \$ | 3,294,307 | \$ | 3,403,702 | \$ | 3,527,071 | \$ | 3,646,880 | S | 3,772,833 | \$ | 3,903,761 | \$ | 4,026,055 | S | 4,167,949 | \$ | 3,418,765 |
| 11 | Accumulated Depreciation | \$ | 9,578,683 | S | 10,279,346 | \$ | 10,642,602 | S | 11,147,019 | + | 11,759,386 | \$ | 12,269,228 | \$ | 12,765,175 | \$ | 13,320,242 | \$ 1 | 13,855,717 | \$ 1 | 14,415,065 | \$ | 14,993,815 | \$ | 15,523,134 | \$ | 16,120,258 | \$ | 12,820,744 |
| 12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 | Accumulated Deferred Income | Tax |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | ADIT | \$ | $(6,299,832)$ | \$ | $(6,635,764)$ |  | $(6,832,199)$ |  | $(7,067,481)$ | \$ | $(7,348,537)$ | \$ | $(7,589,091)$ | \$ | $(7,825,720)$ | \$ | $(8,089,593)$ | \$ | $(8,347,766)$ | \$ | $(8,618,946)$ | \$ | $(8,901,606)$ | \$ | (9,170,471) | \$ | $(9,482,271)$ | \$ | $(7,862,252)$ |
| 17 | NOLC Variable | \$ | 5,306,569 | \$ | 5,525,296 | \$ | 5,744,023 | \$ | 5,962,750 | \$ | 6,181,478 | \$ | 6,400,205 |  | 6,618,932 | \$ | 6,837,659 | \$ | 7,056,386 | \$ | 7,275,114 | \$ | 7,493,841 | \$ | 7,712,568 | \$ | 8,150,022 | \$ | 6,635,757 |
| 18 | Net ADIT | \$ | $(993,263)$ | \$ | $(1,110,468)$ | \$ | $(1,088,175)$ | \$ | $(1,104,730)$ | \$ | $(1,167,060)$ | \$ | $(1,188,886)$ | \$ | $(1,206,788)$ | \$ | $(1,251,934)$ | ( | $(1,291,379)$ | \$ | $(1,343,832)$ | \$ | $(1,407,765)$ | \$ | $(1,457,903)$ | \$ | $(1,332,248)$ | \$ | $(1,226,495)$ |
| 19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 67,868,66 |

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY

AS OF OCTOBER 2019 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2020 RECOVERY SCHEDULE

| Line | Surcharge | Actual Recovery Year |  | Approved Recovery Amt |  | Actual Recovery Amt |  | Over / (Under) Recovered |  | Carrying Charges |  | Total Over / (Under) |  | Weighted Average Cost of Capital |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No. | Report |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2020 | Oct-19 | Sep-20 |  | 2,912,291 |  | 2,791,091 |  | $(121,200)$ |  | $(9,077)$ |  | $(130,277)$ | 7.49\% |
| 2 |  |  |  | \$ | 2,912,291 | \$ | 2,791,091 | \$ | $(121,200)$ | \$ | $(9,077)$ | \$ | $(130,277)$ |  |

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

## KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

 SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITYAS OF OCTOBER 2019 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2020
DEFICIENCY

| Line |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number |  | Actual |  | As Filed |  |
| 1 | Project Additions | \$ | 25,769,533 | \$ | 26,650,299 |
| 2 | Project Retirements |  | $(1,110,218)$ |  | $(5,832,823)$ |
| 3 | Net Change to Gross Plant | \$ | 24,659,315 | \$ | 20,817,475 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Cost of Removal to Accumulated Depr. |  | 1,356,291 |  | 1,351,236 |
| 6 | Retirements from Accumulated Depr. |  | 1,110,218 |  | 5,832,823 |
| 7 | Depreciation Accrual to Accumulated Depr. |  | $(215,443)$ |  | $(178,001)$ |
| 8 | Net Change to Accumulated Depreciation |  | 2,251,065 |  | 7,006,058 |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Net Change to Net Plant | \$ | 26,910,380 | \$ | 27,823,534 |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes |  | $(492,073)$ |  | $(508,770)$ |
| 13 | Net Change to Rate Base | \$ | 26,418,308 | \$ | 27,314,764 |
| 14 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15 | Rate of Return |  | 7.49\% |  | 7.49\% |
| 16 | Required Operating Income | \$ | 1,978,630 | \$ | 2,045,771 |
| 17 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18 | Depreciation \& Amortization Expense |  | 215,443 |  | 178,001 |
| 19 | O\&M Savings |  | $(6,544)$ |  | $(6,544)$ |
| 20 | Ad Valorem Tax Increase |  | 196,676 |  | 166,034 |
| 21 | Income Taxes on Cost of Service Items |  | $(101,191)$ |  | $(84,204)$ |
| 22 | Income Taxes on Adjusted Interest Expense |  | $(119,415)$ |  | $(128,588)$ |
| 23 | Operating Income at Present Rates | \$ | 184,969 | \$ | 124,699 |
| 24 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 | Deficiency | \$ | 2,163,600 | \$ | 2,170,471 |
| 26 | Tax Factor |  | 74.53\% |  | 74.53\% |
| 27 | Total Proposed Rate Adjustment | \$ | 2,903,072 | \$ | 2,912,291 |
| 28 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 29 | 2020 approved deficiency | \$ | 2,912,291 | \$ | 2,912,291 |
| 30 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 31 | Increase in deficiency | \$ | $(9,219)$ | \$ | - |

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 ADDITIONS

| Line |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number | Description |  | Mains |  | Services |  | Meters |  | Total |
| 1 | Prior Year: 2020 |  | 15,898,814 |  | 9,870,719 |  | - |  | 25,769,533 |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Prior Year: 2021 |  | 16,583,188 |  | 9,684,233 |  | 424,045 |  | 26,691,466 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Current Year: 2022 |  | 21,328,783 |  | 7,696,203 |  | 322,908 |  | 29,347,894 |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Total Additions | \$ | 53,810,785 | \$ | 27,251,155 | \$ | 746,953 | \$ | 81,808,893 |


| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Line } \\ & \text { No. } \end{aligned}$ | Description |  | annual rate | Prior Yr | Oct-21 | Nov-21 | Dec-21 | Jan-22 | Feb-22 | Mar-22 | Apr-22 | May-22 | Jun-22 | Jul-22 | Aug-22 |  | Sep-22 |  | Annual Totals | 13-Month Average |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FERC 37600: Mains |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Monthly Investment Additio | tions |  |  | \$ 3,017,058 | \$ 1,608,294 | 1,402,538 | \$ 1,841,691 | \$ 1,446,662 | \$ 1,407,442 | \$ 1,690,987 | \$ 1,624,603 | \$ 1,741,310 | \$ 1,812,856 | \$ 1,666,040 | \$ | 2,069,301 |  | \$ 21,328,783 |  |
| 2 | Cumulative Investment |  |  | 32,482,001 | 35,499,059 | 37,107,353 | 38,509,892 | 40,351,583 | 41,798,245 | 43,205,687 | 44,896,674 | 46,521,277 | 48,262,587 | 50,075,444 | 51,741,484 |  | 53,810,785 |  |  | 43,404,775 |
| 3 | Monthly Retirements |  | 18.76\% |  | 566,144 | 301,793 | 263,183 | 345,589 | 271,463 | 264,103 | 317,310 | 304,853 | 326,753 | 340,178 | 312,629 |  | 388,300 |  | 4,002,298 |  |
| 4 | Cumulative Retirements |  |  | 4,888,971 | 5,455,115 | 5,756,907 | 6,020,091 | 6,365,680 | 6,637,143 | 6,901,246 | 7,218,556 | 7,523,409 | 7,850,162 | 8,190,340 | 8,502,969 |  | 8,891,268 |  |  | 6,938,604 |
| 5 | Depreciable Base |  |  | 32,482,001 | 2,450,914 | 1,306,501 | 1,139,355 | 1,496,102 | 1,175,199 | 1,143,339 | 1,373,677 | 1,319,750 | 1,414,558 | 1,472,678 | 1,353,412 |  | 1,681,001 |  | 17,326,486 |  |
| 6 | Monthly Depreciation Exp | pense, book bas |  | - | 34,342 | 35,191 | 36,006 | 37,194 | 38,245 | 39,413 | 41,050 | 42,937 | 45,465 | 48,975 | 53,814 |  | 65,833 |  | 518,465 |  |
| 7 | Cumulative Depreciation |  |  | 413,443 | 447,785 | 482,976 | 518,982 | 556,176 | 594,421 | 633,834 | 674,883 | 717,820 | 763,286 | 812,261 | 866,075 |  | 931,907 |  |  | 647,219 |
| 8 |  | (nvestment $\begin{gathered}\text { Net }\end{gathered}$ | Depr. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | ${ }_{\text {prior }}$ Month | $\frac{\text { Investment }}{27,593,031}$ | $\frac{\text { Rate }}{1.43 \%}$ | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 | 32,882 |  | 32,882 |  | 394,580 |  |
| 11 | Oct-21 | 2,450,914 | 1.43\% |  | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 | 1,460 |  | 1,460 |  | 17,524 |  |
| 12 | Nov-21 | 1,306,501 | 1.43\% |  |  | 849 | 849 | 849 | 849 | 849 | 849 | 849 | 849 | 849 | 849 |  | 849 |  | 9,341 |  |
| 13 | Dec-21 | 1,139,355 | 1.43\% |  |  |  | 815 | 815 | 815 | 815 | 815 | 815 | 815 | 815 | 815 |  | 815 |  | 8,146 |  |
| 14 | Jan-22 | 1,496,102 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  | 1,189 | 1,189 | 1,189 | 1,189 | 1,189 | 1,189 | 1,189 | 1,189 |  | 1,189 |  | 10,697 |  |
| 15 | Feb-22 | 1,175,199 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  | 1,050 | 1,050 | 1,050 | 1,050 | 1,050 | 1,050 | 1,050 |  | 1,050 |  | 8,403 |  |
| 16 | Mar-22 | 1,143,339 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,168 | 1,168 | 1,168 | 1,168 | 1,168 | 1,168 |  | 1,168 |  | 8,175 |  |
| 17 | Apr-22 | 1,373,677 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,637 | 1,637 | 1,637 | 1,637 | 1,637 |  | 1,637 |  | 9,822 |  |
| 18 | May-22 | 1,319,750 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,887 | 1,887 | 1,887 | 1,887 |  | 1,887 |  | 9,436 |  |
| 19 | Jun-22 | 1,414,558 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2,529 | 2,529 | 2,529 |  | 2,529 |  | 10,114 |  |
| 20 | Jul-22 | 1,472,678 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3,510 | 3,510 |  | 3,510 |  | 10,530 |  |
| 21 | Aug-22 | 1,353,412 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4,838 |  | 4,838 |  | 9,677 |  |
| 22 | Sep-22 | 1,681,001 | 1.43\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 12,019 |  | 12,019 |  |
| 23 | Total: FERC 376 Depl | 44,919,516 |  | 32,882 | 34,342 | 35,191 | 36,006 | 37,194 | 38,245 | 39,413 | 41,050 | 42,937 | 45,465 | 48,975 | 53,814 | \$ | 65,833 |  | \$ 518,465 |  |
| 2425 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26 | FERC 38000: Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 27 | Monthly Investment Additio | tions |  |  | \$ 137,565 | \$ 144,172 | \$ 760,993 | 775,120 | 756,817 | \$ 749,317 | 729,180 | 727,778 | \$ 727,800 | 753,471 | \$ 734,229 | \$ | 699,760 | \$ | \$ 7,696,203 |  |
| 28 | Cumulative Investment |  |  | 19,554,952 | 19,692,518 | 19,836,690 | 20,597,683 | 21,372,803 | 22,129,620 | 22,878,937 | 23,608,117 | 24,335,896 | 25,063,696 | 25,817,166 | 26,551,395 |  | 27,251,155 |  |  | 22,976,202 |
| 29 | Monthly Retirements |  | 24.900\% |  | 34,254 | 35,899 | 189,487 | 193,005 | 188,447 | 186,580 | 181,565 | 181,217 | 181,222 | 187,614 | 182,823 |  | 174,240 |  | 1,916,352 |  |
| 30 | Cumulative Retirements |  |  | 2,679,202 | 2,713,456 | 2,749,354 | 2,938,842 | 3,131,846 | 3,320,293 | 3,506,873 | 3,688,439 | 3,869,655 | 4,050,877 | 4,238,491 | 4,421,314 |  | 4,595,554 |  |  | 3,531,092 |
| 31 | Depreciable Base |  |  | 19,554,952 | 103,312 | 108,273 | 571,506 | 582,115 | 568,370 | 562,738 | 547,614 | 546,562 | 546,578 | 565,857 | 551,406 |  | 525,520 |  | 5,779,851 |  |
| 32 | Monthly Depreciation Exp | pense, book basi |  | - | 31,739 | 31,850 | 32,493 | 33,220 | 34,019 | 34,924 | 35,951 | 37,180 | 38,718 | 40,840 | 43,941 |  | 49,853 |  | 444,728 |  |
| 33 | Cumulative Depreciation |  |  | 404,587 | 436,326 | 468,175 | 500,668 | 533,888 | 567,907 | 602,831 | 638,782 | 675,962 | 714,680 | 755,520 | 799,461 |  | 849,314 |  |  | 611,392 |
| 34 |  | Net | Depr. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35 | Month | Investment | Rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 36 | prior period | 16,875,750 | 2.25\% | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 | 31,642 |  | 31,642 |  | 379,704 |  |
| 37 | Oct-21 | 103,312 | 2.25\% |  | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 | 97 |  | 97 |  | 1,162 |  |
| 38 | Nov-21 | 108,273 | 2.25\% |  |  | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 | 111 |  | 111 |  | 1,218 |  |
| 39 | Dec-21 | 571,506 | 2.25\% |  |  |  | 643 | 643 | 643 | 643 | 643 | 643 | 643 | 643 | 643 |  | 643 |  | 6,429 |  |
| 40 | Jan-22 | 582,115 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  | 728 | 728 | 728 | 728 | 728 | 728 | 728 | 728 |  | 728 |  | 6,549 |  |
| 41 | Feb-22 | 568,370 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  | 799 | 799 | 799 | 799 | 799 | 799 | 799 |  | 799 |  | 6,394 |  |
| 42 | Mar-22 | 562,738 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  |  | 904 | 904 | 904 | 904 | 904 | 904 |  | 904 |  | 6,331 |  |
| 43 | Apr-22 | 547,614 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,027 | 1,027 | 1,027 | 1,027 | 1,027 |  | 1,027 |  | 6,161 |  |
| 44 | May-22 | 546,562 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,230 | 1,230 | 1,230 | 1,230 |  | 1,230 |  | 6,149 |  |
| 45 | Jun-22 | 546,578 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,537 | 1,537 | 1,537 |  | 1,537 |  | 6,149 |  |
| 46 | Jul-22 | 565,857 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2,122 | 2,122 |  | 2,122 |  | 6,366 |  |
| 47 | Aug-22 | 551,406 | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3,102 |  | 3,102 |  | 6,203 |  |
| 48 49 | Total: FERC 380 Depi | $\underline{525,520}$ | 2.25\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5,912 49,853 |  | 5 $\quad \begin{array}{r}\text { 544,912 } \\ \hline\end{array}$ |  |
| 49 50 | Total: FERC 380 Depı | 22,655,601 |  | \$ 31,642 | \$ 31,739 | 31,850 | 32,493 | \$ 33,220 | 34,019 | 34,924 | 35,951 | 37,180 | \$ 38,718 | 40,840 | 43,941 | \$ | 49,853 |  | \$ 444,728 |  |

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT RROGRAM } \\
& \text { SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIITY } \\
& \text { AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUG SEPTEMER 2022 } \\
& \text { MONTHLY DEPRECIATION EXPENSE FOR FISCAL YEAR } 2022
\end{aligned}
$$

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Line } \\ & \text { No } \end{aligned}$ | Description |  | annual rate | Prior Yr |  | Oct-21 |  | Nov-21 |  | Dec-21 |  | Jan-22 |  | Feb-22 |  | Mar-22 |  | Apr-22 |  | May-22 |  | Jun-22 |  | Jul-22 |  | Aug-22 |  | Sep-22 |  | Annual Totals |  | 13-Month Average |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 53 | FERC 38100: MetersMonthl Investment AdditionsCumulative Investment |  |  |  | 424,045 | \$ | 429,817 |  | 435,866 |  | 467,795 | \$ | 500,316 | \$ | 532,070 | \$ | 563,509 | s | 594,103 | s | 624,638 | \$ | 30,536 | \$ | 686,788 | \$ | $30,806$ |  | $\begin{array}{r} 29,360 \\ 746,953 \end{array}$ |  |  | $567,590$ |
| 54 | Monthly Retirements |  | 36.48\% |  |  |  | 2,106 |  | 2,207 |  | 11,647 |  | 11,864 |  | 11,583 |  | 11,469 |  | 11,160 |  | 11,139 |  | 11,139 |  | 11,532 |  | 11,238 |  | 10,710 |  | 117,794 |  |
| 55 | Cumulative Retirements |  |  |  | 152,091 |  | 154,196 |  | 156,403 |  | 168,050 |  | 179,914 |  | 191,498 |  | 202,966 |  | 214,127 |  | 225,266 |  | 236,405 |  | 247,937 |  | 259,175 |  | 269,885 |  |  | 204,455 |
| 56 | Depreciable Base |  |  |  | 424,045 |  | 3,666 |  | 3,842 |  | 20,281 |  | 20,658 |  | 20,170 |  | 19,970 |  | 19,434 |  | 19,396 |  | 19,397 |  | 20,081 |  | 19,568 |  | 18,650 |  | 205,114 |  |
| 57 | Monthly Depreciation Ex | pense, book ba |  |  | - |  | 1,036 |  | 1,044 |  | 1,090 |  | 1,142 |  | 1,199 |  | 1,264 |  | 1,337 |  | 1,425 |  | 1,536 |  | 1,688 |  | 1,910 |  | 2,333 |  | 17,003 |  |
| 58 | Cumulative Depreciation |  |  |  | 6,173 |  | 7,209 |  | 8,253 |  | 9,343 |  | 10,485 |  | 11,684 |  | 12,948 |  | 14,285 |  | 15,711 |  | 17,246 |  | 18,934 |  | 20,843 |  | 23,176 |  |  | 13,561 |
| 59 |  | Net | Depr. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60 | Month | $\underline{\text { Investment }}$ | Rate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 61 | prior period | 271,954 | 4.54\% |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 1,029 |  | 12,346.72 |  |
| 62 | Oct-21 | 3,666 | 4.54\% |  |  |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 7 |  | 83.23 |  |
| 63 | Nov-21 | 3,842 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 8 |  | 87.22 |  |
| 64 | Dec-21 | 20,281 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 46 |  | 460.39 |  |
| 65 | Jan-22 | 20,658 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 52 |  | 468.94 |  |
| 66 | Feb-22 | 20,170 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 57 |  | 57 |  | 57 |  | 57 |  | 57 |  | 57 |  | 57 |  | 57 |  | 457.86 |  |
| 67 | Mar-22 | 19,970 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 65 |  | 65 |  | 65 |  | 65 |  | 65 |  | 65 |  | 65 |  | 453.33 |  |
| 68 | Apr-22 | 19,434 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 74 |  | 74 |  | 74 |  | 74 |  | 74 |  | 74 |  | 441.14 |  |
| 69 | May-22 | 19,396 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 88 |  | 88 |  | 88 |  | 88 |  | 88 |  | 440.30 |  |
| 70 | Jun-22 | 19,397 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 110 |  | 110 |  | 110 |  | 110 |  | 440.31 |  |
| 71 | Jul-22 | 20,081 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 152 |  | 152 |  | 152 |  | 455.84 |  |
| 72 | Aug-22 | 19,568 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 222 |  | 222 |  | 444.20 |  |
| 73 | Sep-22 | 18,650 | 4.54\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 423 |  | 423.34 |  |
| 74 | Total: FERC 381 Depi | 477,068 |  | \$ | 1,029 | \$ | 1,036 | \$ | 1,044 |  | 1,090 | \$ | 1,142 | \$ | 1,199 | \$ | 1,264 | \$ | 1,337 | \$ | 1,425 | \$ | 1,536 | \$ | 1,688 | \$ | 1,910 | \$ | 2,333 | \$ | 17,003 |  |
| 75 76 | Total Depreciation Exp | ense, Monthly | (Lines 22+44 |  | 65,553 | \$ | 67,117 | \$ | 68,085 |  | 69,588 | \$ | 71,557 | \$ | 73,463 | \$ | 75,600 | \$ | 78,338 | \$ | 81,543 | \$ | 85,719 | \$ | 91,502 | \$ | 99,665 | \$ | 118,019 |  | 980,195 |  |

Notes: This Depreciation methodology is consistent with how the Company accounts for Depreciation expense on its books.


## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 RETIREMENTS

Line

Description
Prior Year: 2020
Prior Year: 2021
Current Year: 2022
Total Retirements

| Mains | Services | Meters | Total |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| \$783,252 | 326,966 |  |  | $1,110,218$ |
| $\$ 4,105,719$ | $2,352,236$ | 152,091 | $6,610,046$ |  |
| $\$ 4,002,298$ | $1,916,352$ | 117,794 | $6,036,444$ |  |
| $8,891,268$ | $\$$ | $4,595,554$ | $\$$ | 269,885 |

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 DEPRECIATION EXPENSE

| Line Jumbe | Description |  | Mains |  | Services |  | Meters |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Net Change to Gross Plant | \$ | 44,919,516 | \$ | 22,655,601 | \$ | 477,068 |  |  |
| 2 | Depreciation Rates |  | 1.43\% |  | 2.25\% |  | 4.54\% |  |  |
| 3 | Proforma Annual Depreciation Expense | \$ | 642,349 | \$ | 509,751 | \$ | 21,659 | \$ | 1,173,759 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Current Year Change to Net Plant | \$ | 17,326,486 | \$ | 5,779,851 | \$ | 205,114 |  |  |
| 6 | Depreciation Rates |  | 1.43\% |  | 2.25\% |  | 4.54\% |  |  |
| 7 | Proforma Annual Depreciation Expense | \$ | 247,769 | \$ | 130,047 | \$ | 9,312 | \$ | 387,128 |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | Depreciation Accrual to Accumulated De | atio | from Prior A |  | oved Filing |  |  | \$ | 824,203 |
| 10 | Accumulated Depreciation on Prior Addition | (ful | ll years deprec | iati |  |  |  |  | 786,631 |
| 11 | Accumulated Depreciation on Current Additions (half-year convention) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 193,564 |
| 12 |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Depreciation Accrual to Accumulated Depreciation |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | 1,804,398 |

## Kentucky PRP ADIT Calculation <br> FY2022



Kentucky PRP ADIT Calculation
FY2022

Line No

```
Book Cost
M Tax Cost
Prior Y Y Bal
Current Yr 
M
L Deferred Rate
FXA01 Prorated
Book Depreciation
F\, Tax Depreci
Prior Yr Bal
Current Yr 
FXA02 Cumulative
Deferred Rate
FXAO2 Prorated
```

Cumulative Deferred Inc. Taxes and Investment $T$
(excluding forecasted change in $N O L C$ )
(excluding forecasted change in NOLC)
Forecasted Change in NOLC
Forecasted ADIT in Rate Base
Calculation of Change in NOLC
Forecasted Test Period
Net Change to Rate Base
Required Operating Income
Interest Deduction
Return on Equity Portion of Rate Base
Return, grossed up for Income Tax
Tax Expense on Return
Change In ADIT, excluding forecasted change in $I$
Required Change in NOLC

Total Required Change in Accumulated Deferr

\$ $(15,541,561) \$(16,334,523) \$(17,127,485) \$(17,920,447) \$(18,713,409) \$(19,506,371) \$(20,299,332) \$(21,092,294) \$(21,885,256) \$(22,678,218) \$(23,471,180) \$(24,264,142) \$(24,264,142)$


|  | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 50,730 | 608,759 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112,817 | 112817 | 11217 | 112,817 | \% |
| s |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| \$ | (302,726) | \$ | $(364,813)$ | \$ | (426,901) | \$ | (488,988) | \$ | (551,076) | \$ | (613,163) | \$ | $(675,250)$ | \$ | (737,338) | \$ | (799,425) | \$ | (861,512) | \$ | $(923,600)$ | \$ | $(985,687)$ | \$ | $(985,687)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95 |  | 24. |  | 24.95\% |  |  |
| s | (75,530) | $s$ | (91,021) | $s$ | (106,512) | 5 | (122,003) | $s$ | (137,493) | $s$ | (152,984) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Kentucky PRP ADIT Calculation
FY2022

Line No

```
Mook Cost
M TxA01
MPior Yr Bal 
# CXA01 Cumulative
l}\begin{array}{l}{\mathrm{ Deferred Rate }}\\{\mathrm{ FXA01 Tax Effected}}
FXA01 Tax Effecte
Mook Depreciation
M Tax Depr
Mrior Y Y Bal
Mrior Yr Bal 
FXAO2 Cumulative
Deferred Rate
FXAO2 Prorated
```

Cumulative Deferred Inc. Taxes and Investment $T$
(excluding forecasted change in $N O L C$ )
(excluding forecasted change in NOLC)
Forecasted ADIT in Rate Base
Calculation of Change in NOLC
Forecasted Test Period
Net Change to Rate Base
Required Operating Income
Interest Deduction
Return on Equity Portion of Rate Base
Return, grossed up for Income Tax
Tax Expense on Return
Change In ADIT, excluding forecasted change in I
Required Change in NOLC
Total Required Change in Accumulated Deferr
ADIT Reconciliation
Change in ADIT, excluding forecasted change in
Forecasted ADIT in Rate Base
Total Required Change in Accumulated Deferr


| ct-21 | Nov-21 | c-21 | Jan-22 | Feb-22 | Mar-22 | Apr-22 | May-22 | Jun-22 | Jul-22 | Aug-2 | Sep-22 | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,557,892 | 8,617 | 1,731,143 | 3,875 | 3,74 | 6,047 | 1,940,725 | 85,7 | 1,980,533 | 58,6 | 24,3 | 25, | 23,311,450 |
| 1,299,731 | 720,836 | 879,638 | 1,066,493 | 896,202 | 877,049 | 986,132 | 958,177 | 1,006,360 | 1,046,036 | 977,830 | 1,130,667 | 11,845, |
| (1,258,161) | (697,781) | (851,504) | (1,032,383) | (867,538) | (848,998) | (954,592) | (927,531) | (974,173) | (1,012,580) | (946,556) | (1,094,504) | (11,466 |
| ,64,142 | (24,264,142) | ,264,142) | 264, | (24,264,142) | (24,264,142) | (24,264,142) | (264, | (2,264,142) | 12) | , 26 | (24,264, 142) | 24,26, |
| $(1,258,161)$ | (697,781) | (851,504) | $(1,032,383)$ | (867,538) | (848,998) | (954,592) | (927,531) | (974,173) | $(1,012,580)$ | $(946,556)$ | $(1,094,504)$ | (11,466,300) |
| $(25,522,303)$ | (26,220,084) | $(27,071,588)$ | $(28,103,971)$ | $(28,971,509)$ | (29,820,507) | $(30,775,099)$ | $(31,702,630)$ | (32,676,803) | (33,689,383) | $(34,635,939)$ | (35,730,442) | (35,730,442) |
| 24.95\% | 24.95\% | \% | S ${ }^{24,95 \%}$ | \% | 24,95\% | 24.95\% | 24.95\% | 24,95\% | 24.95\% | 24.95\% | - $\frac{24.95 \%}{}$ |  |
| $5(6,354,484)$ | $(6,506,878)$ | \$ (6,674,801) | 5 (,0, | (,220,3) | , |  | ) | 2) | (0,40,90) | (0,04, 06 | 5 (0,44, | (7,470, |


|  | 67,117 | 68,085 | 69,588 | 71,557 | 73,463 | 75,600 | 78,338 | 81,543 | 85,719 | 91,502 | 99,665 | 118,019 | 980,195 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 155,376 | 157,616 | 161,097 | 165,654 | 170,068 | 175,015 | 181,352 | 188,772 | 9 | 29 | 230,724 | 273.215 | 9 |
| s | (88259) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


\$ $(7,862,574)$
\$ 8,150,022
67,868,665
5,199,270
4,007,424
5,339,672
\$ $(7,862,574)$
$\underset{(1,332,248)}{ }$
$\qquad$
$\begin{array}{r}287,448 \\ \hline 287,448 \\ \hline\end{array}$

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 DEFERRED INCOME TAXES

Line
Number
Description
Mains
Services
Meters
Total

Additions to Gross Plant - Book 2020
Less: Retirements to Book 2020

## Book Basis

Repairs Percentage
Less: Repairs
Add: Deferred Retirements
Tax Basis Before Bonus
Bonus Depreciation \%
Bonus Depreciation
Tax Basis

Additions to Gross Plant - Book 2021
Less: Retirements to Book 2021

## Book Basis

Repairs Percentage
Less: Repairs
Add: Deferred Retirements
Tax Basis Before Bonus
Bonus Depreciation \%
Bonus Depreciation
Tax Basis

Additions to Gross Plant - Book 2022
Less: Retirements to Book 2022

## Book Basis

Repairs Percentage
Less: Repairs
$\left.\begin{array}{lclrlclc}\$ & 15,898,814 & \$ & 9,870,719 & \$ & - & \$ & 25,769,533 \\ (783,252)\end{array}\right)$

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 DEFERRED INCOME TAXES

| Line | Description | Mains |  | Services |  | Meters |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 28 | Add: Deferred Retirements | \$ | 4,002,298 | \$ | 1,916,352 | \$ | 117,794 |  | 6,036,444 |
| 29 | Tax Basis Before Bonus | \$ | 9,061,276 | \$ | 2,460,966 | \$ | 322,908 | \$ | 11,845,150 |
| 30 | Bonus Depreciation \% |  | 0.00\% |  | 0.00\% |  | 0.00\% |  |  |
| 31 | Bonus Depreciation | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | - |
| 32 | Tax Basis | \$ | 9,061,276 | \$ | 2,460,966 | \$ | 322,908 | \$ | 11,845,150 |
| 33 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 34 | FXA01-Gross | \$ | $(22,058,654)$ | \$ | $(13,941,673)$ | \$ | 269,885 | \$ | $(35,730,442)$ |
| 35 | Deferred Rate |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  |  |
| 36 | FXA01-Tax Effected | \$ | (5,503,634) | \$ | (3,478,447) | \$ | 67,336 | \$ | (8,914,745) |
| 37 | FXA01-Tax Effected Prorated |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | $(7,470,513)$ |
| 38 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 39 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40 | Book Depreciation 2020 | \$ | 108,076 | \$ | 107,367 | \$ | - | \$ | 215,443 |
| 41 | Book Depreciation 2021 | \$ | 305,366 | \$ | 297,219 | \$ | 6,173 | \$ | 608,759 |
| 42 | Book Depreciation 2022 | \$ | 518,465 | \$ | 444,728 | \$ | 17,003 | \$ | 980,195 |
| 43 | Book Depreciation | \$ | 931,907 | \$ | 849,314 | \$ | 23,176 | \$ | 1,804,398 |
| 44 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 45 | Tax Depreciation 2020 | \$ | 337,721 | \$ | 118,361 | \$ | - | \$ | 456,082 |
| 46 | Tax Depreciation 2021 | \$ | 993,928 | \$ | 343,978 | \$ | 15,902 | \$ | 1,353,808 |
| 47 | Tax Depreciation 2022 | \$ | 1,699,857 | \$ | 526,580 | \$ | 42,721 | \$ | 2,269,159 |
| 48 | Tax Depreciation | \$ | 3,031,507 | \$ | 988,920 | \$ | 58,623 | \$ | 4,079,049 |

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 DEFERRED INCOME TAXES

| Line Number | Description | Mains |  | Services |  |  | Meters | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 50 | FXA02 - Gross | \$ | (2,099,599) | \$ | $(139,605)$ | \$ | $(35,446)$ | \$ | (2,274,651) |
| 51 | Deferred Rate |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  | 24.95\% |  |  |
| 52 | FXA02-Tax Effected | \$ | $(523,850)$ | \$ | (34,832) | \$ | $(8,844)$ | \$ | $(567,525)$ |
| 53 | FXA02-Tax Effected Prorated |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$ | $(392,061)$ |
| 54 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 55 | Calculation of Book Depreciation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 56 | Book Basis - 2020 | \$ | 15,115,562 | \$ | 9,543,753 | \$ | - | \$ | 24,659,315 |
| 57 | Book Depreciation Rates - Year 1 |  | 0.72\% |  | 1.13\% |  | 2.27\% |  |  |
| 58 | Book Depreciation Rates - Year 2 |  | 1.43\% |  | 2.25\% |  | 4.54\% |  |  |
| 59 | Book Depreciation Rates - Year 3 |  | 1.43\% |  | 2.25\% |  | 4.54\% |  |  |
| 60 | Book Depreciation 2020 | \$ | 540,381 | \$ | 536,836 | \$ | - | \$ | 1,077,217 |
| 61 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 62 | Book Basis - 2021 | \$ | 12,477,469 | \$ | 7,331,998 | \$ | 271,954 | \$ | 20,081,420 |
| 63 | Book Depreciation Rates - Year 1 |  | 0.72\% |  | 1.13\% |  | 2.27\% |  |  |
| 64 | Book Depreciation Rates - Year 2 |  | 1.43\% |  | 2.25\% |  | 4.54\% |  |  |
| 65 | Book Depreciation 2021 | \$ | 267,642 | \$ | 247,455 | \$ | 18,520 | \$ | 533,617 |
| 66 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 67 | Book Basis - 2022 | \$ | 17,326,486 | \$ | 5,779,851 | \$ | 205,114 | \$ | 23,311,451 |
| 68 | Book Depreciation Rates - Year 1 |  | 0.72\% |  | 1.13\% |  | 2.27\% |  |  |
| 69 | Book Depreciation 2022 | \$ | 123,884 | \$ | 65,023 | \$ | 4,656 | \$ | 193,564 |
| 70 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 71 | Calculation of Tax Depreciation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 72 | Tax Basis - 2020 | \$ | 6,754,419 | \$ | 3,156,297 | \$ | - | \$ | 9,910,716 |
| 73 | Tax Depreciation Rates - Year 1 |  | 5.00\% |  | 3.75\% |  | 3.75\% |  |  |
| 74 | Tax Depreciation Rates - Year 2 |  | 9.50\% |  | 7.22\% |  | 7.22\% |  |  |
| 75 | Tax Depreciation Rates - Year 3 |  | 8.55\% |  | 6.68\% |  | 6.68\% |  |  |
| 76 | Tax Depreciation 2020 | \$ | 1,556,894 | \$ | 556,960 | \$ | - | \$ | 2,113,854 |
| 77 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 78 | Tax Basis - 2021 | \$ | 7,045,167 | \$ | 3,096,666 | \$ | 424,045 | \$ | 10,565,878 |

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION <br> KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY <br> AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 DEFERRED INCOME TAXES

| Line Number | Description | Mains |  | Services |  | Meters |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 79 | Tax Depreciation Rates - Year 1 |  | 5.00\% |  | 3.75\% |  | 3.75\% |  |  |
| 80 | Tax Depreciation Rates - Year 2 |  | 9.50\% |  | 7.22\% |  | 7.22\% |  |  |
| 81 | Tax Depreciation 2021 | \$ | 1,021,549 | \$ | 339,673 | \$ | 46,513 | \$ | 1,407,736 |
| 82 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 83 | Tax Basis - 2022 | \$ | 9,061,276 | \$ | 2,460,966 | \$ | 322,908 | \$ | 11,845,150 |
| 84 | Tax Depreciation Rates - Year 1 |  | 5.00\% |  | 3.75\% |  | 3.75\% |  |  |
| 85 | Tax Depreciation 2022 | \$ | 453,064 | \$ | $\mathbf{9 2 , 2 8 6}$ | \$ | 12,109 | \$ | 557,459 |
| 86 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 87 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 88 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 89 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 90 | Tax Rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 91 | Ad Valorem Tax Rate |  | 0.798\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 92 | Income Tax Rate |  | 24.950\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 93 | State Tax Rate |  | 5.00\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 94 | Federal Tax Rate |  | 21.00\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 95 | Uncollectible accounts expense |  | 0.50\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 96 | PSC Assessment |  | 0.2000\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 97 | Gross Up Factor |  | 1.3418 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 RATE OF RETURN

| Line <br> Number | Description | Percent | Cost | Weighted <br> Cost |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | ST Debt | $0.18 \%$ | $25.17 \%$ | $0.05 \%$ |
| 2 | LT Debt | $42.77 \%$ | $4.00 \%$ | $1.71 \%$ |
| 3 | Equity | $57.05 \%$ | $10.35 \%$ | $5.90 \%$ |
| 4 |  | $100.0 \%$ |  | $7.66 \%$ |

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022 O\&M SAVINGS

| Line Number | Description | Annual Savings |  | Cumulative Savings |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Prior Year: 2020 | \$ | 6,544 | \$ | 6,544 |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Prior Year: 2021 | \$ | 12,152 | \$ | 18,695 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Current Year: 2022 | \$ | 17,475 | \$ | 36,171 |



ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORECASTED ACTIVITY
AS OF OCTOBER 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2022
CUSTOMERS \& VOLUMES

Line

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Line } \\ \text { Number } \end{gathered}$ | Tariff | Description |  | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Customers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | G-1 | Residential | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 159,014 | 159,559 | 160,870 | 161,333 | 161,046 | 162,261 | 162,249 | 162,977 | 160,357 | 159,254 | 158,268 | 156,604 | 1,923,791 |
| 2 | G-1 | Commercial Firm | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 17,905 | 18,134 | 18,407 | 18,579 | 18,557 | 18,759 | 18,398 | 18,232 | 18,009 | 17,872 | 17,731 | 17,715 | 218,297 |
| 3 | G-1 | Public Authority | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 1,516 | 1,509 | 1,521 | 1,525 | 1,525 | 1,553 | 1,504 | 1,522 | 1,535 | 1,505 | 1,512 | 1,511 | 18,237 |
| 4 | G-1 | Industrial Firm | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 235 | 2,820 |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| 6 | G-2 | Commercial Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud |  | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 28 |
| 7 | G-2 | Industrial Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 72 |
| 8 | G-2 | Public Authority Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| 10 | T-3 | Transportation Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 | 816 |
| 11 | T-4 | Transportation Firm | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 1,428 |
| 12 |  |  |  | 178,866 | 179,632 | 181,228 | 181,867 | 181,559 | 183,004 | 182,581 | 183,161 | 180,330 | 179,061 | 177,941 | 176,260 | 2,165,489 |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 |  |  | Volumes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | G-2 | Commercial Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 171 | 927 | 1,597 | 1,306 | 2,844 | 1,401 | 866 | 375 | 172 | 26 | 26 | 33 | 9,744 |
| 17 | G-2 | Industrial Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 20,589 | 22,877 | 18,294 | 24,550 | 27,014 | 27,918 | 23,120 | 20,510 | 13,144 | 19,797 | 22,658 | 21,423 | 261,894 |
| 18 | G-2 | Public Authority Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud |  |  |  |  | , |  | , |  | , |  |  |  | - |
| 19 |  | (1) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |
| 20 | T-3 | Transportation Interruptible | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 664,171 | 747,355 | 735,991 | 762,722 | 818,492 | 760,412 | 730,878 | 678,356 | 635,410 | 624,303 | 584,152 | 655,676 | 8,397,918 |
| 21 | T-4 | Transportation Firm | Fiscal 2022 Bud | 542,268 | 599,357 | 673,140 | 799,365 | 840,890 | 784,557 | 682,261 | 579,814 | 516,386 | 481,241 | 491,031 | 505,285 | 7,495,596 |
| 22 |  |  |  | 1,227,199 | 1,370,516 | 1,429,022 | 1,587,943 | 1,689,241 | 1,574,288 | 1,437,126 | 1,279,054 | 1,165,112 | 1,125,367 | 1,097,867 | 1,182,418 | 16,165,152 |

atMos energy corporation
KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY

## 2020 project details


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KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY
2020 Project details

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KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY
2020 project details

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KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY
2021 PRoject details

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Kentucky pipe replacement program
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY
2021 Project details

| Projects | Project Description | No. of services | Installation |  |  | Cost of Removal |  |  | Retirements |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Main | Services | Meters | Main | Services | Meters | Main | Services | Meters |
| PRP.2637.Bridge St Ph. 2 | Replace 299 ft . of 6 " Bare Steel, $1,382 \mathrm{ft}$ of 6 " Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 1 ft of 2" Epoxy, 76 ft of 6 " Mill Wrap, 605 ft . of Fusion Bonded Epoxy, 60 ft of 2" Bare and $6,378 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " Mill Wrap Bare Joint. Install $6,536 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " and $2,265 \mathrm{ft}$. of $6^{\prime \prime}$ HDPE. 140 Services | 140 | 788,703 |  |  | \$41,511 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 429,590 |  |  | 22,610 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 53,200 | 21,140 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 144,113 | 6,310 |  | 6,749 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2637.Broad St | Replace 2 ft . of 2" Epoxy, 3,767 ft. of 6" Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 1,786 ft. of 2" Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 166 ft . of 2" PE, 5 ft . of Fusion Bond Epoxy, 308 ft . of $3^{\prime \prime}$ Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 825 ft . of 2" Mill Wrap IP. Install $3,223 \mathrm{ft}$. of $2^{\prime \prime}$ and $3,807 \mathrm{ft}$. of 6 " IP HDPE. 60 Services | 60 | 698,197 |  |  | \$36,747 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 184,110 |  |  | 9,690 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 22,800 | 9,060 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 61,763 | 2,704 |  | 2,892 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2637.Hill St | Replace 60 ft. of 2" Steel Unknown Coating, 6,753 ft. of 2" Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 150 ft . of 2" Bare Steel, 93 ft . of 2" Fusion Bonded Epoxy, 843 ft . of 2" Epoxy, 805 ft . of 2" PE, $34 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4 " Mill Wrap Bare Joint IP. Install 8,738 ft. of 2" IP HDPE. 188 Services | 188 | 621,401 |  |  | \$32,705 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 576,878 |  |  | 30,362 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 71,440 | 28,388 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 193,523 | 8,474 |  | 9,063 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2637.S 3rd St | Replace 53 ft . of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Epoxy, 6 ft of 6 " Bare, 709 ft . of 2" Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 734 ft of 2" Fusion $^{2}$ Bonded Epoxy, 1 ft. of 4" Epoxy, 4,042 ft. of 6" Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 3 ft of 6 " Epoxy, 666 ft . of 2" Mill Wrap IP. Install $2,174 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " and $4,039 \mathrm{ft}$. of $6^{\prime \prime}$ IP HDPE. 33 Services | 33 | 672,051 |  |  | \$35,371 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 101,261 |  |  | 5,330 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 12,540 | 4,983 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 33,969 | 1,487 |  | 1,591 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2734.4th St | Replace $430 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4" Bare Steel, 434 ft . of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Epoxy, 571 ft . of 4 " Epoxy, 7 ft . of 4" PE, 512 ft of 6 " Mill Wrap, $3,891 \mathrm{ft}$. of 6 " Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 427 ft . of 2" Epoxy and 379 ft . of 2" Bare Steel. Install 660 ft . of 2 " and $4,427 \mathrm{ft}$. of $6^{\prime \prime}$ IP HDPE. 18 Services. | 18 | 903,938 |  |  | \$47,576 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 55,233 |  |  | 2,907 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 6,840 | 2,718 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 18,529 | 811 |  | 868 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP. 2734.Brick St Franklin | Replace 204 ft . of 2 " Epoxy, 342 ft . of 2 " Bare Steel, 159 ft . of 4" Mill Wrap, 15 ft . of 3 " Fusion Bond Epoxy, 542 ft . of $\mathbf{2 " ~ M i l l ~ W r a p , ~} 78 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " Fusion $^{2}$ Bond Epoxy, 559 ft . of 2" Painted, 7 ft . of 4" PE, 2,894 ft. of 3" Bare Steel, 415 ft . of 2" PE, $1,223 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4 " Bare Steel, 326 ft . of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ PE. Install $4,935 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " and $1,844 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4 " IP HDPE. 80 Services | 80 | 607,457 |  |  | \$31,971 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 245,480 |  |  | 12,920 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 30,400 | 12,080 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 82,350 | 3,606 |  | 3,857 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2734.E 3rd Russellville | Replace 518 ft . of 1 " Bare Steel, 5 ft . of 2" HDPE, 7 ft. of 4" Epoxy, $1,801 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " Epoxy, 282 ft . of 2" PE, $4,265 \mathrm{ft}$. of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Steel. Install $6,879 \mathrm{ft}$. of $2^{\prime \prime}$ PE. 101 Services | 101 | 544,050 |  |  | \$28,634 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 309,919 |  |  | 16,312 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 38,380 | 15,251 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 103,967 | 4,552 |  | 4,869 |  |  |  |  |

atmos energy corporation
KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCharge calculation of Forcasted activity
2021 Project details

| Projects | Project Description | No. of services | Installation |  |  | Cost of Removal |  |  | Retirements |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Main | Services | Meters | Main | Services | Meters | Main | Services | Meters |
| PRP.2734.Gayle Way | Replace $1,447 \mathrm{ft}$. of 1.25 " Bare Steel, 28 ft . of $6 "$ PE, 372 ft of $3^{" \prime}$ Bare Steel, 367 ft of 2 " PE, 318 ft . of 1.25 Epoxy, $2,218 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " Bare Steel, 92 ft . of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Epoxy, 362 ft . of $6^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Steel. Install $1,627 \mathrm{ft}$. of $2^{2 \prime}$ and 400 ft . of 6 " IP HDPE. 56 Services | 56 | 207,763 |  |  | \$10,935 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 171,836 |  |  | 9,044 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 21,280 | 8,456 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 57,645 | 2,524 |  | 2,700 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2734.High St Alley | Replace 2,516 ft. of 6" Bare Stl, 328 ft . of 6" Epoxy and 17 ft . of 4 " Epoxy IP. Install $3,031 \mathrm{ft}$. of 6 " HDPE. 3 Services | 3 | 566,501 |  |  | \$29,816 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 9,206 |  |  | 485 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 1,140 | 453 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 3,088 | 135 |  | 145 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2734.LP W.KY Ave Frankin | Replace $2,758 \mathrm{ft}$. of $3^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Stl, 103 ft of $4^{\prime \prime}$ of 4" Fusion Bond Epoxy, 68 ft . of 2" Epoxy, ft. of 4 " Epoxy, 817 ft . of 3 " Epoxy, $1,517 \mathrm{ft}$. of 6 " Bare Steel, 633 ft . of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Steel, $2,506 \mathrm{ft}$. of $4^{\prime \prime}$ Bare steel, 508 ft . of 4 " PE, 183 ft . of $1.5^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Steel, 371 ft . of 4 " Mill Wrap, 222 ft . of $4^{\prime \prime}$ Steel Unknown Coating. Install 1,700 ft. of 6 " and 7,700 ft. of 2" IP HDPE. 137 Services | 137 | 862,370 |  |  | \$45,388 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 420,385 |  |  | 22,126 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 52,060 | 20,687 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 141,025 | 6,175 |  | 6,604 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP. 2734.Pearl - Boat Lndg | Replace $1,305 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" Bare Steel, 154 ft . of 2" PE and 187 ft . of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Steel. Install $1,434 \mathrm{ft}$. of $2^{\prime \prime}$ IP HDPE. 6 Services | 6 | 141,855 |  |  | \$7,466 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 18,411 |  |  | 969 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 2,280 | 906 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 6,176 | 270 |  | 289 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2734.Sycamore St | Replace $3,085 \mathrm{ft}$ of 4 " Bare Steel, 30 ft of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Millwrap Bare Joint, 496 ft of 2 " Unknown Coating, 218 ft of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Mill Wrap, 813 ft of 2" Painted, 265 ft of 2" Fusion Bonded Epoxy, 136 ft of 2" PE, 1,326 ft of 2" Bare Steel HP and IP. Install 1,650 ft of 2" and $3,164 \mathrm{ft}$ of $6^{\prime \prime}$ HDPE. Retire Purchase and TB Stations, install new TB Station. 34 Services | 34 | 853,452 |  |  | \$44,919 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 104,329 |  |  | 5,491 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 12,920 | 5,134 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 34,999 | 1,532 |  | 1,639 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2735.Grandview Ave | Replace $2,417 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" Bare Steel, 689 ft . of 2" Fusion Bonded Epoxy, 645 ft . of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Steel, 476 ft . of $3^{\prime \prime}$ Painted, 350 ft . of $3^{\prime \prime}$ Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 63 ft . of $1.25{ }^{\prime \prime}$ Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 508 ft . of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Unknown Coating, 452 ft . of 2" PE, 313 ft . of 2" Painted, 400 ft . of 2" Mill Wrap, 397 ft . of 2" Epoxy, 433 ft . of $3^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Steel, 6 ft . of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Hot Tar, 686 ft . of 2" Mill Wrap Bare Joint IP. Install 6,383 ft. of 2" and $1,637 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4 " IP HDPE. 104 Services | 104 | 700,151 |  |  | \$36,850 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 319,124 |  |  | 16,796 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 39,520 | 15,704 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 107,055 | 4,688 |  | 5,014 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2735.Hiseville | Replace 430 ft of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Mill Wrap, 375 ft of 2" PE, 308 ft . of 1.25 " Fusion Bonded Epoxy, 3,443 ft. of 2" Bare Steel, 207 ft . of 2" Fusion Bonded Epoxy, 181 ft. of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Bare, 146 ft . of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Unknown Coating, <br>  2" Unknown Coating, 201 ft . of 2 " PE, $993 \mathrm{ft}$. of 3 " Bare Steel. Install 7,237 ft. of 2" IP HDPE. 62 Services | 62 | 497,159 |  |  | \$26,166 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 190,247 |  |  | 10,013 |  |  |  |  |

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY
2021 Project details

| Projects | Project Description | No. of services | Installation |  |  | Cost of Removal |  |  | Retirements |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Main | Services | Meters | Main | Services | Meters | Main | Services | Meters |
|  | Material |  |  | 23,560 | 9,362 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 63,821 | 2,795 |  | 2,989 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2735.Oakland | Replace $19 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" PE, $638 \mathrm{ft}$. of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Bare Steel, 2,515 ft. of 2" Bare Steel, 1,038 ft. of 2" Epoxy, 143 ft. of 2" Hot Tar, 25 ft . of 2 " Mill Wrap, 210 ft . of 1.25 " Epoxy, 54 ft . of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Hot Tar. Install $1,300 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " and $2,700 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4" IP HDPE. Replace TBS. 27 Services | 27 | 462,822 |  |  | \$24,359 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 82,850 |  |  | 4,361 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 10,260 | 4,077 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 27,793 | 1,217 |  | 1,302 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2735.Rowletts | Replace $3,060 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" Bare Steel, 372 ft . of 2" Hot Tar, 987 ft . of 2" Mill Wrap, 105 ft . of 2" PE, 837 ft . of 2" Epoxy IP. Install 5,360 ft. of 2" IP HDPE. 42 Services | 42 | 436,494 |  |  | \$22,973 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 128,877 |  |  | 6,783 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 15,960 | 6,342 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 43,234 | 1,893 |  | 2,025 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2737.Danville Ave | Replace 394 ft . of 2" PE, 487 ft . of 4" Steel Unknown Coating, $7,188 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" Mill Wrap Bare joint, 261 ft . of 2" Epoxy, 1,046 ft. of 2" Fusion Bond Epoxy, and 99 ft . of 2" Mill Wrap IP. Install 3,468 ft. of 2 " and $5,266 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4 " IP HDPE. 102 Services | 102 | 900,123 |  |  | \$47,375 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 312,987 |  |  | 16,473 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 38,760 | 15,402 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 104,996 | 4,597 |  | 4,917 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP. 2737. Hill Ct Lancaster | Replace $1,566 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 9 ft . of 2" HDPE, and 541 ft . of 4 " Mill Wrap Bare Joint. Install $2,117 \mathrm{ft}$. of $2^{\prime \prime}$ IP HDPE. 43 services | 43 | 248,881 |  |  | \$13,099 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 131,946 |  |  | 6,945 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 16,340 | 6,493 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 44,263 | 1,938 |  | 2,073 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP. 2737.Ledford Ln Lancaster | Replace 310 ft . of $2^{\prime \prime}$ unknown coating, 49 ft of $2^{\text {" }}$ Mill Wrap, 158 ft of 2" Bare Stl., 40 ft of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ PE, 246 ft . of Epoxy, $3,433 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " Painted and 302 ft . of 1.25 " Epoxy IP. Install $1,038 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" and 3,348 ft. of 4" IP HDPE. 48 services | 48 | 488,042 |  |  | \$25,686 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 147,288 |  |  | 7,752 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 18,240 | 7,248 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 49,410 | 2,164 |  | 2,314 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP.2737.W Broadway | Replace 261 ft . of 4" bare Stl., 105 ft . of 2" Hot Tar, 835 ft . of 2" Epoxy, 260 ft . of Mill Wrap Bare Joint, 209 ft . of 4" Epoxy, 217 ft . of 2" Bare Stl., 545 ft . of Mill Wrap Bare Joint IP. Install $2,340 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2" IP HDPE. 30 Services | 30 | 420,092 |  |  | \$22,110 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 92,055 |  |  | 4,845 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 11,400 | 4,530 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 30,881 | 1,352 |  | 1,446 |  |  |  |  |
| PRP. 2738.Perryville Rd | Replace 695 ft of $1.25^{\prime \prime}$ Epoxy, $5,829 \mathrm{ft}$ of 2 " Painted Steel, 441 ft of 3 " painted, $1,516 \mathrm{ft}$. of $2^{\prime \prime}$ Mill Wrap, 527 ft . of 2" Epoxy, 420 ft . of 3" Epoxy, $1,539 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4" Painted, 75 ft . of 2" Hot Tar, 417 ft . of 1.25" Hot Tar IP. Install $6,677 \mathrm{ft}$. of 2 " and $5,029 \mathrm{ft}$. of 4" IP HDPE. 211 Services | 211 | 1,126,874 |  |  | \$59,309 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Contractor |  |  | 647,454 |  |  | 34,077 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Material |  |  | 80,180 | 31,861 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Overhead |  |  | 217,199 | 9,511 |  | 10,172 |  |  |  |  |
| Total specific budgeted projects \& bare steel functional |  |  | 16,583,188 | 9,354,286 | 409,598 | 872,799 | 438,079 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Non specfic bare stel functional |  |  | 329,948 | 14,447 |  | 15,452 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Total budgeted 2021 projects |  | 16,583,188 | 9,684,233 | 424,045 | 872,799 | 453,532 |  | \$4,105,719 | 2,352,236 | 152,091 |

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KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCHARGE CALCULATION OF FORCASTED ACTIVITY
2022 Project details

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KENTUCKY PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
SURCharge calculation of Forcasted activity
2022 PRoject details

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SURCharge calculation of Forcasted activity
2022 PRoject details



[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ (1) Calculating the PRP rate base in a forecasted period in a manner consistent with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 16(6)(c) and reflect an overall rate of return established in the annual PRP rate application.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ See Case No. 2021-00214, Direct Testimony of T. Ryan Austin, at 23-33.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ Case No. 2020-00229, Electronic Application of Atmos Energy Corporation for PRP Rider Rates (Ky. PSC September 30, 2020), Order at 8.

[^3]:    ${ }^{4}$ See Direct Testimony of T. Ryan Austin in Case No. 2021-00214, p. 12, lines 10-20 ("In December of 2011, in connection with the introduction of a White Paper on State Pipeline Infrastructure Replacement Programs sponsored by the PHMSA, the PHMSA Administrator promoted the public's interest in infrastructure replacement programs in a letter to the President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("NARUC"), stating: '[Pipeline infrastructure replacement] programs play a vital role in protecting the public by ensuring the prompt rehabilitation, repair, or replacement of high-risk gas distribution infrastructure."').
    ${ }^{5}$ See Direct Testimony of T. Ryan Austin in Case No. 2021-00214, p. 12-13 ("On page 1 of its Policy Statement, FERC stated that its intent is to 'provide greater certainty regarding the ability of interstate natural gas pipelines to recover the costs of modernizing their facilities and infrastructure to enhance the efficient and safe operations of their systems.'").
    ${ }^{6}$ See Direct Testimony of T. Ryan Austin in Case No. 2021-00214, p. 14, lines 1-6 (In response to PHMSA's letter, NARUC issued a resolution on July 24, 2013 encouraging state commissions to 'consider adopting

[^4]:    alternative rate recovery mechanisms as necessary to accelerate the modernization, replacement and expansion of the nation's natural gas pipeline systems.'").

[^5]:    ${ }^{1}$ Only two of the 23 proxy group operating companies do not have a capital recovery mechanism.

[^6]:    ${ }^{2}$ Richard A. Michelfelder, Pauline M. Ahern, Dylan W. D’Ascendis, The Impact of Decoupling on The Cost of Capital of Public Utilities, Energy Policy 130 (2019), at 311-319.
    ${ }^{3}$ The Brattle Group, The Impact of Revenue Decoupling on the Cost of Capital for Electric Utilities: An Empirical Investigation, Prepared for the Energy Foundation, March 20, 2014.
    ${ }^{4}$ Michael J. Vilbert, Joseph B. Wharton, Shirley Zhang and James Hall, Effect on the Cost of Capital of Innovative Ratemaking that Relaxes the Linkage between Revenue and kWh Sales - An Updated Empirical Investigation, November 2016.

[^7]:    ${ }^{5}$ Ibid.

[^8]:    4 Hope, 320 U.S. 591 (1944), at 603.

[^9]:    9 The development of the Non-Price Regulated Proxy Group is explained in more detail in Section V.

[^10]:    44 Duff \& Phelps Valuation Handbook - U.S. Guide to Cost of Capital, Wiley 2020, at 4-1.
    45 Eugene F. Fama and Kenneth R. French, "The Capital Asset Pricing Model: Theory and Evidence," Journal of Economic Perspectives, Volume 18, Number 3, Summer 2004, at 25-43.
    Brealey, Richard A. and Myers, Stewart C., Principles of Corporate Finance (McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1996), at 204-205, 229.
    47 Brigham, Eugene F., Fundamentals of Financial Management, Fifth Edition (The Dryden Press, 1989), at 623.

[^11]:    53 Eugene F. Brigham and Phillip R. Daves, Intermediate Financial Management, 9th Edition, Thomson/Southwestern, at p. 342.
    Morin, at pp. 327-30.

