

1           **BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
 2                           **DIRECT TESTIMONY**  
 3                           **OF JAMES A. WILLIAMS**  
 4                           **ON BEHALF OF THE FLORIDA DIVISION**  
 5                           **OF CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION**  
 6                           **DOCKET NO. 000108-GU**

7   **Q.   PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION, AND**  
 8           **BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

9   A.   My name is James A. Williams, and I am the Finance  
 10           Manager for the Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities  
 11           Corporation (the Company). My business address is 1015  
 12           Sixth Street, Winter Haven, Florida 33882-0960.

13   **Q.   WHAT ARE YOUR CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES AS**  
 14           **FINANCE MANAGER?**

15   A.   As Finance Manager, I am responsible for the accounting  
 16           and record keeping for all regulated and unregulated  
 17           activities of the Company. I supervise the accounting staff  
 18           and provide reports on the financial activities for the  
 19           Company. I also prepare or supervise the preparation of  
 20           reports to the Florida Public Service Commission (FPSC)  
 21           and other agencies.

22   **Q.   PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL**  
 23           **AND RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND.**

1 A. I have a Bachelors Degree from West Virginia University in  
2 Parks and Recreation with additional hours in Accounting,  
3 Business Law, and Management. I received my CPA  
4 certificate in West Virginia in 1982, though it is not currently  
5 active. I have been employed by the Company since April  
6 1999. Prior to joining the Company I was employed for  
7 nearly two years by CC Pace Resources, an energy  
8 consulting firm based in Fairfax, Virginia, as Director of  
9 Energy Services. I was employed with the City of Leesburg  
10 as Finance Director for nine years, from 1987 through 1996,  
11 working on both natural gas and electric utility financial  
12 matters.

13 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE**  
14 **FPSC?**

15 A. No.

16 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY.**

17 A. I will sponsor certain schedules of historical and projected  
18 data presented in the MFRs, as listed on the attached  
19 Exhibit JAW-1. These schedules were all prepared under  
20 my direction, supervision, and control.

21 **Q. HOW DID YOU DERIVE THE HISTORICAL DATA?**

22 A. All data related to the historical base year are taken from  
23 the books and records of the Company, located in Winter

1 Haven, Florida, except that data relating to settlements of  
2 corporate costs and cost of capital were provided by the  
3 Dover, Delaware offices of Chesapeake Utilities  
4 Corporation. These records are kept according to the  
5 recognized accounting practices and provisions of the  
6 Uniform System of Accounts as prescribed by the FPSC.

7 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE HISTORIC YEAR RATE**  
8 **BASE WAS CALCULATED.**

9 A. For the historic base year, a 13 month average rate base  
10 was calculated for the period ended December 31, 1999.  
11 The historic base year also corresponds to the Company's  
12 fiscal year. MFR Schedule B-2 shows the calculation  
13 of historic base year rate base. Net plant is defined as the  
14 sum of 1) plant in service, less common plant allocated, 2)  
15 acquisition adjustments; and, 3) construction work in  
16 progress (CWIP), less accumulated depreciation, and  
17 amortization. Net plant during the historic year was  
18 \$17,782,347. An allowance for working capital, after  
19 adjustments, in the amount of \$498,227, was then added to  
20 net plant to calculate total rate base. As shown on MFR  
21 Schedule B-2, the total 13 month average rate base for the  
22 Company, after adjustments, was \$18,280,574.

1 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE ADJUSTMENTS TO RATE  
2 BASE.

3 A. The adjustments to rate base can be separated into two  
4 types: (1) adjustments required by the FPSC in the  
5 Company's most recent rate case in 1989 and (2) additional  
6 adjustments made by the Company. Adjustments required  
7 by the FPSC in the 1989 rate case (Order No. 23166)  
8 include eliminating 1) an acquisition adjustment in the  
9 amount of \$546,776 from plant , and the related \$461,266  
10 of accumulated depreciation, 2) an adjustment in the  
11 amount of \$23,702 for the second story of an existing office  
12 building from plant and the related \$7,407 from  
13 accumulated depreciation, and 3) an adjustment of \$5,143  
14 from accumulated depreciation for Franchise and Consent.  
15 In addition, the Company has made an adjustment  
16 removing common plant allocated to unregulated activities  
17 for \$87,326 and the related accumulated depreciation in the  
18 amount of \$38,988, as shown in Schedules B-5 and B-11.

19 Q. WHAT ARE THE APPROPRIATE DEPRECIATION  
20 RATES FOR THE HISTORIC BASE YEAR AND THE  
21 PROJECTED TEST YEAR?

22 A. In Docket No. 970428-GU, by Order No. PSC-98-0379-  
23 FOF-GU, issued March 9, 1998, the Company's present

1 depreciation rates were approved by the FPSC. These  
2 approved rates have been implemented and are the rates  
3 used for both the Historic Base Year and the Projected  
4 Test Year.

5 **Q. WHAT WAS THE METHODOLOGY USED TO**  
6 **DETERMINE COMMON PLANT ALLOCATED TO**  
7 **UNREGULATED ACTIVITIES?**

8 A. Common Plant allocations were based on the ratio of  
9 unregulated activities payroll, \$133,777, to total payroll of  
10 \$1,845,720 during the historic base year. This ratio was  
11 used because it accurately represents the proportion of time  
12 the Company's furniture, vehicles, and equipment were  
13 used for unregulated purposes. This percentage was then  
14 applied to Plant accounts 391-Office Furniture & Equipment,  
15 392 - Autos and Trucks, and 397- Computer Equipment, as  
16 well as the related accumulated depreciation accounts. For  
17 additional discussion on the allocation of Common Plant,  
18 please refer to the direct testimony of Mr. Geoffroy.

19 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE ADJUSTMENTS TO WORKING**  
20 **CAPITAL.**

21 A. Three types of adjustments were made to working capital,  
22 consistent with those required by the FPSC in the  
23 Company's last rate case. These are 1) cost of capital

1 adjustments, 2) non-utility adjustments, and 3) other  
2 adjustments.

3 Cost of capital adjustments include eliminating a)  
4 Receivables From Associated Companies in the amount of  
5 \$5,052,965, b) Customer Deposits in the amount of  
6 \$627,767, c) Refunds of Customer Deposits in the amount  
7 of \$1,231, d) Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes in the  
8 amount of \$1,370,750, and e) Deferred Investment Tax  
9 Credits in the amount of \$346,024.

10 The non-utility adjustment eliminates Accounts Receivable-  
11 Service in the amount of \$93,388.

12 Other adjustments include eliminating a) Accounts  
13 Receivable-Area Expansion Program in the amount of  
14 \$470,142, b) Miscellaneous Deferred Debits in the amount  
15 of \$120,404, c) Conservation in the amount of \$83,886, d)  
16 Miscellaneous Current Liabilities in the amount of  
17 \$478,598, and e) Customer Advances For Construction in  
18 the amount of \$196,399.

19 Unrecovered Gas Costs in the amount of \$10,549,  
20 Accrued Interest in the amount of \$99,611, Health  
21 Insurance Reserve in the amount of \$44,290, and Self  
22 Insurance Reserve in the amount of \$130,205 were  
23 adjustments increasing Working Capital. The amounts of

1 Health Insurance Reserve and Self-Insurance Reserve  
2 were determined using CUC's year-end balance at  
3 December 31, 1999, multiplied by the Company's  
4 percentage of net plant to the total net plant of CUC. The  
5 balances for Health Insurance Reserve and Self-Insurance  
6 Reserve are only recorded at year-end to reflect the Florida  
7 Division's share of total company Reserves.

8 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE ADJUSTMENTS TO NET**  
9 **OPERATING INCOME AS IDENTIFIED ON MFR**  
10 **SCHEDULE C-2.**

11 A. There are two types of adjustments to Net Operating  
12 Income: adjustments consistent with the Company's last  
13 rate case and other adjustments made by the Company.  
14 Adjustments consistent with the last rate case include  
15 eliminating customer installation revenues in the amount of  
16 \$430,745, and unregulated housepiping revenues in the  
17 amount of \$307,265. Expenses related to customer  
18 installations and housepiping, including payroll and  
19 materials in the amount of \$361,270, were also eliminated.  
20 Civic and charitable expenses in the amount of \$25,877,  
21 memberships and dues in the amount of \$2,304, and  
22 advertising in the amount of \$18,330 were eliminated as  
23 determined in the last rate case. FNGA-PAC expenses

1 for lobbying in the amount of \$2,000 were also  
2 eliminated. Non-recurring consulting fees of \$73,559 for  
3 market research and an ad valorem tax review were  
4 eliminated. Other depreciation expense eliminated was  
5 based on the previously mentioned adjustment to  
6 acquisition adjustments in the amount of \$33,961, the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7 story of the Company's office building in the amount of  
8 \$593, and amortization of organization costs \$424, as  
9 determined in the last rate case. Adjustments to income  
10 taxes in the amount of \$104,028 were calculated based on  
11 the adjustments to operating revenues and expenses noted  
12 above. Other adjustments include eliminating depreciation  
13 expense for Common Plant allocated to non-regulated  
14 activities in the amount of \$3,737, per Schedule C-19, and  
15 out-of-period adjustments as noted on Schedule C-15 in  
16 the amount of \$11,558. For additional discussion on the  
17 allocation of common plant, please refer to the prefiled  
18 direct testimony of Mr. Geoffroy.

19 **Q. HAS THE COMPANY PROPERLY IDENTIFIED AND**  
20 **EXCLUDED FROM O & M THOSE COSTS OF ITS**  
21 **UNREGULATED OPERATIONS?**

22 **A.** Yes. Revenues and expenses associated with the  
23 Peninsula Energy Services Company (PESCO), an

1 unregulated marketing affiliate, as well as housekeeping and  
2 service functions, have been excluded from the projections  
3 for the Historic Base Year and Projected Test Year.

4 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE OUT-OF-PERIOD**  
5 **ADJUSTMENTS MADE IN THIS CASE.**

6 A. Net out-of-period Adjustments increase expenses by  
7 \$11,558. Adjustments increasing expenses include  
8 \$16,070 to reverse bonus accruals for 1998, \$1,155 to  
9 reverse an Accounts Payable accrual for consulting fees,  
10 and a \$136 expense for an electric bill.

11 Adjustments decreasing expenses include a \$474  
12 elimination to meter repairs and a \$5,329 decrease for  
13 bonus checks from 1998.

14 **Q. WHAT IS THE PROJECTED RATE CASE EXPENSE FOR**  
15 **THIS CASE AS SHOWN IN MFR SCHEDULE C-13?**

16 A. Total rate case expenses are projected to be \$243,500. The  
17 Company requests a four year amortization which will result  
18 in a projected test year rate case expense of \$60,875.  
19 Additional information regarding rate case expenses can be  
20 found in the prefiled direct testimony of Mr. Geoffroy.

21 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE SOURCE OF DATA FOR THE**  
22 **O & M COMPOUND MULTIPLIER CALCULATION ON**  
23 **MFR SCHEDULE C-37.**

1 A. The Company's FERC Form 2's were used to determine the  
2 number of customers at year end. From June 30, 1989  
3 through December 31, 1999, customers increased by  
4 2,530, or 36%. The CPI data was obtained from the  
5 Annual and Monthly Report from the US Bureau of Labor  
6 Statistics. The CPI increased from 124.1 on June 30, 1989  
7 to 168.3 on December 31, 1999, for an increase of 36%.

8 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE TRENDING FACTORS ON MFR**  
9 **SCHEDULE G-2, page 10.**

10 A. A payroll trend rate of 4% was used for both the Historic  
11 Base Year + 1 and the projected test year. This payroll  
12 trend rate was based on the Company's estimated payroll  
13 growth. Customer growth was estimated for expense  
14 projection purposes at 5% for both the Historic Base Year +  
15 1, and the Projected Test Year. Inflation was estimated at  
16 2.5% for both the Historic Base Year + 1, and the projected  
17 test year.

18 The overall trend for the future will reflect outside  
19 influences, including inflation, the Company's growth rate,  
20 the marketplace for qualified personnel, and the Company's  
21 efforts to meet the challenge of the unbundled competitive  
22 market.

1 As a consequence of applying the trend rates that reflect  
2 our estimates of costs, coupled with recognizing the specific  
3 changes in staffing levels, the Company's projected O & M  
4 reflects an 8% increase in payroll costs from the historic  
5 base year to the projected test year. Other trended O & M  
6 costs reflect a 9% increase from the historic base year to  
7 the projected test year.

8 **Q. PLEASE DISCUSS THE BENCHMARK VARIANCES FOR**  
9 **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE EXPENSE AS**  
10 **SHOWN ON MFR SCHEDULE C-34.**

11 A. Although certain individual operating and maintenance  
12 accounts have grown at a rate faster than the benchmark  
13 would predict, overall costs are about 22% below the  
14 benchmark projections from the last rate case to the  
15 present. The two areas, Sales Expense and Distribution  
16 Operations, that have grown faster than what the  
17 benchmark would suggest are directly related to the  
18 Company's accelerated growth. The total variance for O &  
19 M Expenses is a favorable variance of \$1,098,578. This  
20 total favorable variance includes individual favorable  
21 variances for Maintenance Expenses, Customer Accounts,  
22 Customer Service and Information, and Administration &  
23 General of \$7,883, \$81,984, \$11,647, and \$1,414,857,

1           respectively, and unfavorable variances of \$251,888 for  
2           Distribution Expenses and \$165,905 for Sales Expenses.

3   **Q.   PLEASE EXPLAIN THE UNFAVORABLE VARIANCE**  
4   **FOR DISTRIBUTION OPERATIONS.**

5   A.   The reasons that expenses for the Distribution Operations  
6           area are above the benchmark are directly related to the  
7           growth of the system and the increase in regulatory  
8           requirements brought on by the regulatory restructuring of  
9           interstate pipelines. The Company currently has sixteen city  
10          gate stations that require necessary operations and  
11          maintenance expenses to comply with FPSC rules. The  
12          open access rules implemented by the Federal Energy  
13          Regulatory Commission (FERC) have created many  
14          opportunities in the marketplace. These rules have also  
15          placed an additional burden on the Company. The  
16          Company now purchases gas from the wellhead, either  
17          directly from the producer or from a marketer, and manages  
18          significant capacity holdings on the interstate pipeline  
19          system. The Company must also perform many new  
20          functions related to scheduling, delivery and accounting for  
21          gas supply and interstate pipeline capacity. These costs  
22          were non-existent in the last case, but are reflected  
23          appropriately within this case.

1           Distribution Expenses have an unfavorable variance of  
2           \$251,888. This unfavorable variance includes individual  
3           account variances for Accounts 870 to 881. For Account  
4           871, Distribution and Load Dispatch, the variance is  
5           \$83,407. Account 871 expenses were increased beyond the  
6           benchmark due to higher payroll and communications costs.  
7           This is to be expected, because after the start-up of Open  
8           Access in the early 1990's on the FGT Pipeline, the Florida  
9           Division must nominate and manage supply on a daily  
10          basis, while in the last rate case these were all pipeline  
11          functions.

12          In Account 874, Mains and Services, the variance is  
13          \$54,661. The benchmark is exceeded due to increases in  
14          corrosion control costs. The Company's corrosion control  
15          efforts were minimal prior to the last rate case. Since the  
16          last rate case, the Company has devoted more resources to  
17          corrosion control. However, as you can see from MFR  
18          Schedule I-2, the Company has been cited for deficiencies  
19          related to corrosion protection of its steel distribution  
20          facilities. The expenses incurred during the historic test year  
21          reflect the Company's commitment to providing adequate  
22          levels of protection for its distribution system. Increased  
23          focus by the Company on corrosion control work has

1 demanded an increase in labor costs as well as costs  
2 associated with the maintenance of the corrosion control  
3 system as it was put into place. An increase in the use of  
4 rectifiers, well drilling costs and the addition of corrosion  
5 control personnel have all contributed to the cost increases  
6 above the benchmark. In addition, the costs associated with  
7 the Sunshine One-Call System, which was established in  
8 1993 by Florida Statute, are for line locations of buried  
9 facilities. The One-Call System's requirements were not in  
10 force at the time of the last rate case.

11 In Account 877, Meters & Regulators-City Gate, the  
12 variance is \$21,682. Odorization costs account for the  
13 increase. These odorization costs are another new cost  
14 resulting from FGT's Open Access Tariff. FGT provided the  
15 odorization of natural gas at the time of the last case. The  
16 Company must now inject odorant into the natural gas at  
17 every interconnection with the interstate pipeline.

18 In Account 878, Meter & House Regulator Expense is  
19 \$132,373 over the benchmark. This unfavorable  
20 benchmark variance for Account 878 (36%), is attributable  
21 to an increase in the number of customers which has  
22 driven the employee-related costs up as more employees'  
23 time is needed to service those customers. In addition the

1 company now directly assigns depreciation expense and  
2 other vehicle expenses directly to the department to which  
3 the driver is assigned. In the prior rate case, the vehicle  
4 expenses were carried in a plant account for depreciation or  
5 a vehicle cost accumulation account. In Account 880, Other  
6 Expenses, the variance is \$38,394 over the benchmark.  
7 In Account 880, costs relating to obtaining building permits,  
8 rights-of-way, and other City, County, and State permits,  
9 including employee-related expenses, have increased  
10 substantially as the Company has added new customers.  
11 Account 881, Rents, has increased due to renting space for  
12 operations and customer service in a new territory, Citrus  
13 County, and increased rents paid to railroads. Rents for  
14 railroad rights-of-way are increasing with no ability on the  
15 Company's part to mitigate these costs. The charges for  
16 railroad rights-of-way is a statewide issue for all utilities that  
17 utilize these corridors and crossings.  
18 All other accounts in Distribution have a favorable variance  
19 of \$98,420. Distribution Maintenance Accounts, consisting  
20 of Accounts 885 through 894, have a favorable variance of  
21 \$7,883. Customer Accounts, consisting of Accounts 901  
22 through 905, have a favorable variance of \$81,984.

1 Customer Service & Information, consisting of Accounts  
2 908 and 909, have a favorable variance of \$11,647.

3 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE UNFAVORABLE VARIANCE**  
4 **FOR SALES EXPENSE.**

5 A. Sales Expense has an unfavorable variance of \$165,905.  
6 This total variance consists of individual account  
7 variances in Accounts 912, 913 and 916. Demonstration  
8 and Sales Expense, Account 912, has an unfavorable  
9 variance of \$185,309. Changes in expenses appear to be  
10 more than that attributable to growth and inflation because  
11 of our effort to increase and diversify our customer base. In  
12 1989 our Sales Department consisted of only two people.  
13 The annual customer growth increases from 1989 through  
14 1995 averaged only 2.09% per year. As the region began to  
15 grow rapidly, additional staffing and related expenses were  
16 needed to keep pace. Furthermore, today the Company  
17 has operations in several new areas around the State,  
18 including Citrus, Gadsden, and other counties. Since the  
19 last rate case, the Company has developed a sales staff  
20 that extends to each level of our customer base. Staffing  
21 now includes three Sales Representatives, a Commercial  
22 Specialist, a Business Development Manager, assigned the  
23 task of pursuing new industrial and start-up natural gas

1 systems around the State, a Marketing Manager, a Director  
2 of Marketing and Sales and support personnel. The results  
3 of the current staffing level are as follows. The customer  
4 base has expanded at a rate of over 4% per year from 1996  
5 through 1999 (compared with the national average for  
6 natural gas companies of about 2% per year). Customer  
7 growth is projected to be about 10% per year through the  
8 projected test year. Since 1996, the Company has  
9 established or is in the process of establishing natural gas  
10 operations in 7 additional counties in Florida. Further  
11 explanation of the growth and sales strategy for the  
12 Company may be found in the pre-filed direct testimony of  
13 Mr. Geoffroy.

14 Finally, Account 913, Advertising, and Account 916,  
15 Miscellaneous Sales Expense, have favorable variances of  
16 \$18,660 and \$743, respectively.

17 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE ACCOUNTING OF COSTS**  
18 **BETWEEN CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION**  
19 **(CUC) AND THE COMPANY.**

20 **A.** Expenses are settled to the Company from CUC based on  
21 various methodologies, depending on the expense. The  
22 settlements are designed to flow costs to those departments  
23 receiving the benefits of the services and products provided.

1 Expenses are generally settled by one of these methods: 1)  
2 direct payroll, 2) adjusted net plant, and/or 3) number of  
3 customers. The settlement methods should reflect the  
4 relative size of the individual division that benefits from the  
5 service, since most corporate services, which are provided  
6 on a centralized basis, do not vary with the volume of  
7 business.

8 For example, indirect corporate expenses and interest  
9 expense from CUC are settled based on the ratio of the  
10 Florida Division's adjusted net plant at the end of the prior  
11 year to CUC's net plant. The total CUC net plant for 1998  
12 was \$97,757,392. The Florida Division's adjusted net plant  
13 for 1998 was \$17,406,191, or 18% of CUC's total. The  
14 percentage of these expenses allocated to the Florida  
15 Division for 1999 was therefore 18%.

16 Examples of how direct corporate expenses are settled are  
17 as follows. Human Resource and Safety costs are allocated  
18 based on the total number of employees in the Florida  
19 Division vs. the total number of employees with CUC. Costs  
20 are allocated for information services based on the systems  
21 and equipment they support. Internal audit costs are  
22 allocated based on the audit plan for each business unit.  
23 The costs associated with conducting the audit for each

1 business unit are charged to that business unit. Additional  
2 comments on the benefits that the Company and its  
3 customers receive due to the affiliation with CUC are given  
4 in the prefiled direct testimony of Mr. Geoffroy.

5 **Q. HOW WAS INCOME TAX EXPENSE DETERMINED?**

6 A. Total income tax expense consists of income taxes  
7 currently payable and deferred income taxes. The current  
8 portion of income tax expense, as shown on MFR Schedule  
9 G-2, page 30, for the projected test year, was calculated by  
10 simply multiplying the currently effective Federal income tax  
11 rate by the income that is currently taxable. Currently  
12 taxable income was calculated by deducting from the  
13 projected test year net operating income before taxes, the  
14 interest expense inherent in the cost of capital and adjusting  
15 for other permanent and timing differences. Deferred  
16 income tax expense was then calculated separately for  
17 timing differences that are originating and for differences  
18 that are reversing. Deferred taxes were calculated for timing  
19 differences as shown on MFR Schedule G-2, page 31.

20 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE ADJUSTMENTS TO HISTORIC**  
21 **BASE YEAR CAPITAL PER MFR SCHEDULE D-1.**

22 A. There are two types of adjustments made to the capital  
23 accounts. First, flex rate liability in the amount of \$46,880,

1 customer deposits in the amount of \$627,767, and deferred  
2 income taxes in the amount of \$119,250, were adjusted out  
3 of working capital to properly reflect these costs in the  
4 capital structure of the Company. Next, common equity in  
5 the amount of \$2,766,674, long term debt in the amount of  
6 \$5,432,674, and short term debt in the amount of  
7 \$1,805,478 were adjusted to reflect the same ratio to total  
8 capital of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation as a whole.

9 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY FLEX RATE LIABILITY IS**  
10 **INCLUDED IN CAPITAL.**

11 A. The flex rate liability is a liability created when the Company  
12 adjusts its flexible rates above the base non-fuel  
13 interruptible rates. The Company's tariff, First Revised  
14 Sheet No. 59, allows the Company to charge above the  
15 base rate when the comparable alternative fuel is priced  
16 above the cost of natural gas. Similarly, the Company may  
17 reduce the rate in order to compete with a lower-priced  
18 alternate fuel. Our existing tariff requires that we refund  
19 50% of all surplus revenues over the base price.  
20 Conversely, the Company may collect 50% of any shortfall  
21 from firm gas ratepayers. These over/under recoveries  
22 are booked into the flex rate liability account and a refund  
23 per therm is calculated annually and applied to the base

1 rate for the next twelve-month period. The flex rate liability  
2 account holds customer funds similar to customer deposits  
3 and is therefore considered capital.

4 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW COMMON EQUITY, LONG**  
5 **TERM DEBT AND SHORT TERM DEBT ARE**  
6 **ALLOCATED TO THE COMPANY.**

7 A. The 13-month average total capital as determined from the  
8 trial balance for Chesapeake Utilities Corporation at  
9 December 31, 1999, was \$104,741,463. This consisted of  
10 \$35,553,982 or 33.94% long term debt, \$11,816,252 or  
11 11.28% short term debt, and \$57,371,230 or 54.77% in  
12 common equity. Applying these same ratios to the Florida  
13 Division's rate base of \$18,476,909, less the customer  
14 deposits of \$627,767, deferred income tax of \$1,370,750,  
15 deferred ITC of \$346,024, and flex rate liability of  
16 \$46,880 leaves a total of \$15,966,238 against which the  
17 ratios are applied to calculate common equity and debt  
18 for the Florida Division.

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE PROJECTED TEST YEAR FOR THIS**  
20 **RATE CASE?**

21 A. The projected test year is the calendar year ending  
22 December 31, 2001. The adjusted projected test year data  
23 presented in this case is representative of the conditions

1 expected during the period in which the proposed rates will  
2 be in effect, and results in matching revenues and related  
3 expenses for that period. Additional information on how test  
4 year revenues and expenses were calculated is presented  
5 in the prefiled direct testimony of Mr. Householder.

6 **Q. WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE ADJUSTED RATE BASE**  
7 **FOR THE PROJECTED TEST YEAR?**

8 A. The appropriate adjusted rate base for the projected test  
9 year is \$21,321,700, reflecting utility plant after the  
10 deduction of depreciation and amortization reserves and  
11 customer advances for construction plus the working capital  
12 allowance. This amount is shown on Schedule G-1, page  
13 1. Additional information on capital additions for rate base  
14 for the projected test year is provided in the prefiled direct  
15 testimony of Mr. Geoffroy.

16 **Q. WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF OPERATING**  
17 **REVENUES FOR THE PROJECTED TEST YEAR?**

18 A. The appropriate amount of operating revenue for the  
19 projected test year is \$13,481,994, reflecting the gas  
20 demand forecast and the application of the projected rates  
21 as sponsored by Mr. Householder in his prefiled direct  
22 testimony and the related MFR Schedules. The calculation

1 of the appropriate amount of operating revenue is included  
2 on MFR Schedules G-2, pages 9-11.

3 **Q. HAVE YOU PREPARED AN EXHIBIT SHOWING THE**  
4 **COMPANY'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE FOR THE**  
5 **PROJECTED TEST YEAR?**

6 A. Yes, The information appears on Schedule G-3, page 2.

7 **Q. HAVE YOU PREPARED THE COMPANY'S CAPITAL**  
8 **STRUCTURE FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES**  
9 **CONSISTENT WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH IT WAS**  
10 **APPROVED IN THE LAST RATE CASE?**

11 A. Yes. The components that are included in capital are  
12 consistent with the components of capital in the last rate  
13 case. Total capital for the projected test year is  
14 \$21,321,700. The adjustments made to reconcile capital to  
15 rate base are also consistent with the adjustments made in  
16 the last rate case. The adjustments for common equity, long  
17 term debt, and short term debt are calculated as described  
18 earlier in this testimony regarding adjustments to historic  
19 base year capital. Additional testimony regarding cost of  
20 equity for the projected test year is in the prefiled direct  
21 testimony of Mr. Paul Moul.

1 **Q. WHAT DEBT TO EQUITY RATIO DID YOU EMPLOY?**

2 A. The calculation of capital structure reflects investor sources  
3 of capital as follows: equity, 54.8%; long term debt, 33.9%;  
4 and short term debt, 11.3%. Chesapeake Utilities  
5 Corporation has an established goal of maintaining a 60%  
6 equity to 40% debt ratio.

7 **Q. DESCRIBE THE CAPITAL STRUCTURE FOR THE**  
8 **PROJECTED TEST YEAR AS SHOWN ON MFR**  
9 **SCHEDULE G-3, PAGE 2.**

10 A. The capital structure for the projected test year consists of  
11 common equity in the amount of \$10,289,296, or 48.26%,  
12 with a cost rate of 12%; long term debt of \$6,377,973, or  
13 29.91%, with a cost rate of 7.52%; short term debt in the  
14 amount of \$2,119,103, or 9.94%, with a cost rate of 6.03%;  
15 customer deposits in the amount of \$789,257, or 3.70%,  
16 with a cost rate of 6.44%; flex rate liability in the amount of  
17 \$46,880, or .22%, with a cost rate of 6.30%; and  
18 accumulated deferred taxes and ITC tax credits in the  
19 amount of \$1,392,213 and \$306,978, at 6.53% and 1.44%,  
20 respectively, with a cost rate of zero for both.

21 **Q. WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE COST OF CAPITAL?**

1 A. The appropriate Cost of Capital for the projected test year is  
2 12% for equity and 8.89% for the overall weighted Cost of  
3 Capital.

4 **Q. WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE REVENUE EXPANSION**  
5 **FACTOR FOR THE PROJECTED TEST YEAR?**

6 A. The appropriate revenue expansion factor is 1.6784 as  
7 calculated on MFR Schedule G-4.

8 **Q. WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE REVENUE DEFICIENCY**  
9 **FOR THE PROJECTED TEST YEAR?**

10 A. The appropriate Revenue Deficiency for the projected test  
11 year is calculated on Schedule G-5 of the MFRs. The  
12 amount is \$1,826,569.

13 **Q. PLEASE DISCUSS HOW INTERIM RATES WERE**  
14 **DERIVED.**

15 A. Rate base, net operating income and cost of capital were  
16 derived by using the December 31, 1999 year end  
17 balances, or 13 -month average balances where applicable.  
18 All adjustments to rate base and NOI were consistent with  
19 interim adjustments required in the last rate case. Certain  
20 adjustments to NOI for non-regulated activities were also  
21 made as indicated on MFR Schedule F-5. The minimum of  
22 the range of the last authorized rate of return on equity of  
23 10%, as required by Florida Statutes Sec. 366.071 (5)(b)3,

1 was used in calculating the weighted cost of capital of  
2 7.86% (MFR Schedule F-8). A revenue deficiency of  
3 \$830,330 was calculated on MFR Schedule F-7, using the  
4 adjusted rate base of \$18,514,618, the weighted cost of  
5 capital of 7.86% and an adjusted NOI of \$960,540. The  
6 revenue deficiency of \$830,330 was then divided by the  
7 total revenues, as calculated on MFR Schedule F-10, to  
8 determine the interim rate increase percentage of 13.01%.  
9 The total revenues of each applicable rate class was then  
10 multiplied by 13.01% to determine the revenue dollar  
11 increase per customer class. The revenue dollar increase  
12 was then divided by the therm sales by customer class to  
13 determine the revenue increase per therm. The Special  
14 Contract Customers and Large Volume Contract Customers  
15 were not included in this calculation because their rates are  
16 determined by contract rather than rate schedule, subject  
17 to approval by the FPSC on a case-by-case basis.

18 **Q. DOES THAT COMPLETE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

19 **A. Yes.**

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LIST OF MFR SCHEDULES SPONSORED BY JAMES A. WILLIAMS

<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Title</u>
A-1	P. 1	SUMMARY
A-2	P. 1	SUMMARY
A-3	P. 1	SUMMARY-RATE BASE
A-4	P. 1	SUMMARY-NET OPERATING INCOME
A-5	P. 1	SUMMARY
A-6	P. 1	SUMMARY
B-1	PP. 1-2	RATE BASE-HISTORIC BALANCE SHEET
B-2	P. 1	RATE BASE-RATE BASE
B-3	P. 1	RATE BASE-ADJUSTMENTS
B-4	P. 1	RATE BASE-PLANT BALANCES-TEST YEAR
B-5	PP. 1-3	RATE BASE-ALLOCATION OF COMMON PLANT
B-6	P. 1	RATE BASE-ACQUISITION ADJUSTMENT
B-7	PP 1-2	RATE BASE-PROPERTY HELD FOR FUTURE USE
B-8	P. 1	RATE BASE-CONSTRUCTION WORK IN PROGRESS
B-9	P. 1	RATE BASE-HISTORIC DEPRECIATION RESERVE BALANCES
B-10	P. 1	RATE BASE-AMORTIZATION/RECOVERY RESERVE BALANCES
B-11	P. 1	RATE BASE-DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION RESERVE-COMMON PLANT
B-12	P. 1	RATE BASE-CUSTOMER ADVANCES FOR CONSTRUCTION
B-13	PP. 1-2	RATE BASE-WORKING CAPITAL
B-14	P. 1	RATE BASE-MISCELLANEOUS DEBITS
B-15	P. 1	RATE BASE-DEFERRED CREDITS
B-16	P. 1	RATE BASE-ADDITIONAL RATE BASE COMPONENTS
B-17	PP. 1-4	RATE BASE-INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS

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<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Title</u>
B-18	PP. 1-3	RATE BASE-ACCUMULATED DEFERRED INCOME TAXES
C-1	P. 1	NET INCOME
C-2	PP. 1-2	NET INCOME-ADJUSTMENTS
C-3	P. 1	OPERATING REVENUES
C-4	P. 1	UNBILLED REVENUES
C-5	PP. 1-2	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES
C-6	P. 1	ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES
C-7	P. 1	CONSERVATION REVENUES AND EXPENSES
C-8	PP. 1-2	UNCOLLECTIBLE ACCOUNTS
C-9	PP. 1-2	ADVERTISING EXPENSES
C-10	P. 1	CIVIC AND CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS
C-11	P. 1	INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION DUES
C-12	P. 1	LOBBYING AND OTHER POLITICAL EXPENSES
C-13	P. 1	TOTAL RATE CASE EXPENSE AND COMPARISONS
C-14	P. 1	MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL EXPENSE
C-15	P. 1	OUT OF PERIOD ADJ TO REVENUES AND EXPENSES
C-16	P. 1	GAIN AND LOSSES ON DISPOSITION OF PLANT OR PROPERTY
C-17	P. 1	MONTHLY DEPRECIATION EXPENSE-HISTORIC BASE YEAR
C-18	P. 1	AMORTIZATION/RECOVERY-HISTORIC BASE YEAR
C-19	P. 1	ALLOCATION OF DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION-COMMON PLANT
C-20	P. 1	RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL INCOME TAX PROVISION
C-21	P. 1	STATE AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX CALCULATION-HISTORIC YEAR
C-22	P. 1	INTEREST IN TAX EXPENSE

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<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Title</u>
C-23	P. 1	BOOK/TAX DIFFERENCES-PERMANENT
C-24	P. 1	DEFERRED INCOME TAX EXPENSE
C-25	PP. 1-2	DEFERRED TAX ADJUSTMENT
C-26	P. 1	PARENT DEBT INFORMATION
C-27	P. 1	INCOME TAX RETURNS
C-28	P. 1	MISCELLANEOUS TAX INFORMATION
C-29	P. 1	CONSOLIDATED RETURN
C-30	PP. 1-2	OTHER TAXES
C-31	P. 1	OUTSIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
C-32	P. 1	TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATED COMPANIES
C-33	P. 1	WAGE AND SALARY INCREASES
C-34	P. 1	O & M BENCHMARK COMPARISON
C-35	P. 1	O & M ADJUSTMENTS BY FUNCTION
C-36	P. 1	BASE YEAR RECOVERABLE O & M EXPENSES
C-37	P. 1	O & M COMPOUND MULTIPLIER CALCULATION
C-38	PP. 1-3	O & M BENCHMARK VARIANCE BY FUNCTION
D-1	PP. 1-2	COST OF CAPITAL
D-2	PP. 1-2	LONG-TERM DEBT OUTSTANDING
D-3	P. 1	SHORT TERM DEBT
D-4	P. 1	PREFERRED STOCK
D-5	P. 1	COMMON STOCK
D-6	P. 1	CUSTOMER DEPOSITS
D-7	P. 1	SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

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<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Title</u>
D-8	P. 1	ISSUANCE OF SECURITIES
D-9	P. 1	SUBSIDIARY INVESTMENTS
D-10	P. 1	RECONCILIATION OF AVG CAPITAL STRUCTURE TO AVG JURISDICTIONAL RATE BASE
D-11	PP. 1-3	FINANCIAL INDICATORS
D-12	P. 1	APPLICANT'S MARKET DATA
F-1	P. 1	INTERIM RATE RELIEF
F-2	PP. 1-2	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-WORKING CAPITAL
F-3	PP. 1-3	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-ADJ TO RATE BASE
F-4	P. 1	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-NET OPERATING INCOME
F-5	PP. 1-2	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-NET OPERATING INCOME ADJUSTMENTS
F-6	P. 1	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-REVENUE EXPANSION FACTOR
F-7	P. 1	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-REVENUE DEFICIENCY
F-8	P. 1	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-COST OF CAPITAL
F-9	P. 1	RECONCILIATION OF AVG CAP. STRUCTURE TO AVG. JURISDICTIONAL RATE BASE
F-10	P. 1	INTERIM RATE RELIEF-DEFICIENCY ALLOCATION
G-1	P. 1	CALCULATION OF PROJECTED TEST YEAR RATE BASE
G-1	PP. 2-3	CALCULATION OF PROJECTED TEST YEAR RATE BASE-WORKING CAPITAL
G-1	P. 4	RATE BASE ADJUSTMENTS
G-1	PP. 5-6	HISTORIC BASE YEAR + 1-BALANCE SHEET
G-1	PP. 7-8	PROJECTED TEST YEAR-BALANCE SHEET
G-1	PP. 9-10	CALCULATION OF THE PROJECTED TEST YEAR RATE BASE
G-1	PP. 11-12	DEPRECIATION RESERVE BALANCES
G-1	PP. 13-14	AMORTIZATION/RECOVERY RESERVE BALANCES

LIST OF MFR SCHEDULES SPONSORED BY JAMES A. WILLIAMS

<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Title</u>
G-1	P. 15	ALLOCATION OF COMMON PLANT-HISTORIC BASE YEAR + 1
G-1	PP. 16-17	DETAIL OF COMMON PLANT-HISTORIC BASE YEAR + 1
G-1	P. 18	ALLOCATION OF COMMON PLANT-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-1	PP. 19-20	DETAIL OF COMMON PLANT-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-1	P. 21	ALLOCATION OF DEPR./AMORT. RESERVE-COMMON PLANT-BASE YEAR + 1
G-1	P. 22	ALLOCATION OF DEPR./AMORT. RESERVE-COMMON PLANT-PROJECTED TEST YR.
G-2	P. 1	PROJECTED TEST YEAR NOI-SUMMARY
G-2	PP. 2-3	PROJECTED TEST YEAR-NOI ADJUSTMENTS
G-2	P. 4	NOI-HISTORIC BASE YEAR + 1
G-2	P. 5	NOI-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-2	PP. 6-7	REVENUES AND COST OF GAS-HISTORIC BASE YEAR + 1
G-2	PP. 8-9	REVENUES AND COST OF GAS-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-2	PP. 10-19	O & M HISTORIC BASE YEAR +1 AND PROJECTED
G-2	P. 20	PROJECTED TEST YEAR-DEPR. AND AMORT.
G-2	P. 21	AMORTIZATION/RECOVERY-HISTORIC BASE YEAR +1
G-2	P. 22	ALLOCATION OF DEPR./AMORT. EXPENSE-COMMON PLANT-BASE YEAR +1
G-2	P. 23	DEPR AND AMORT-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-2	P. 24	AMORTIZATION/RECOVERY-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-2	P. 25	ALLOCATION OF DEPR./AMORT. EXPENSE-COMMON PLANT-PROJ. TEST YEAR
G-2	P. 26	RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL INCOME TAX PROVISION-HISTORIC BASE YR + 1
G-2	P. 27	STATE AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX CALCULATION-CURRENT-HISTORIC BASE YR + 1
G-2	P. 28	DEFERRED INCOME TAX EXPENSE-HISTORIC BASE YR + 1
G-2	P. 29	RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL INCOME TAX PROVISION-PROJECTED TEST YEAR

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LIST OF MFR SCHEDULES SPONSORED BY JAMES A. WILLIAMS

<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Title</u>
G-2	P. 30	STATE AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX CALCULATION-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-2	P. 31	DEFERRED INCOME TAX EXPENSE-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-3	P. 1	COST OF CAPITAL-HISTORIC BASE YEAR + 1
G-3	P. 2	COST OF CAPITAL-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-3	P. 3	LONG-TERM DEBT OUTSTANDING
G-3	P. 4	SHORT TERM DEBT
G-3	P. 5	PREFERRED STOCK
G-3	P. 6	COMMON STOCK ISSUES-ANNUAL DATA
G-3	P. 7	CUSTOMER DEPOSITS
G-3	P. 8	FINANCING PLANS-STOCK AND BOND ISSUES
G-3	PP. 9-11	FINANCIAL INDICATORS
G-4	P. 1	REVENUE EXPANSION FACTOR-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-5	P. 1	REVENUE DEFICIENCY-PROJECTED TEST YEAR
G-6	P. 1-3	MAJOR ASSUMPTIONS-PROJECTED TEST YEAR