BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio Gas Compa:y d/b/a Dominion East Ohio for : Case No. Authority to Increase Rates for : 07-829-GA-AIR its Gas Distribution Servi:e.

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio for

Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan for its Gas Distribut:on

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio Gas Compa:y d/b/a Dominion East Ohio for Approval to Change Accounting Methods.

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio Gas Compa:y d/b/a Dominion East Ohio f:r Approval of Tariffs to Recover Certain Costs Associated with a Pipeline Infrastructure

Replacement Program Through an Automatic Adjustment Claus:, and for Certain Accounting Treatment.

In the Matter of the Application

of The East Ohio Gas Compa:y d/b/a Dominion East Ohio for Approval of Tariffs to Recover Certain Costs Associated with Automated Meter Reading Deployment Through an Auto:atic Adjustment Clause, and for Certain Accounting Treatment.

: Case No.

07-830-GA-ALT

: Case No.

07-831-GA-AAM

TIME JIL 29 PH 5: 22 Case No. : 08-169-GA-

: Case No.

06-1453-GA-UNC

taken before me, Rosemary Foster Anderson, a Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, at the offices of Jones Day, North Point, 901 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, on Tuesday, July 22, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

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1	APPEARANCES:	:
2	Jones Day	l
3	By Mr. David Kutik North Point	
4	901 Lakeside Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44114	
5	On behalf of the Dominion East Ohio.	
6	Janine L. Migden-Ostrander, Ohio Consumers'	
7	Counsel By Mr. Joseph P. Serio	
8	Assistant Consumers' Counsel Ten West Broad Street, Suite 1800	
9	Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485	
	On behalf of the Office of Consumers'	
10	Counsel.	
11	ALSO PRESENT:	
12	Ms. Beth Hixon.	
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INDEX WITNESS PAGE Daniel M. Ives Examination by Mr. Serio DEPOSITION EXHIBITS IDENTIFIED 1 - Miscellaneous Deferred Debits, Acct 186 8

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DANIEL M. IVES

being by me first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified, deposes and says as follows:

EXAMINATION

By Mr. Serio:

- Q. Good morning, Mr. Ives.
- A. Good morning, Mr. Serio.
- Q. We have your name. Can you give me your business address and your title, please?
- A. My business address is 5319 A Feagan Street, F-E-A-G-A-N, Street, Houston, Texas 77707. My title is consultant.
- Q. And I understand you have been retained by Dominion East Ohio to act as an expert in this proceeding.
 - A. I was.
- Q. And can you briefly explain the purpose of your being hired by Dominion in the proceeding?
- A. I was retained by Dominion in this proceeding to address the regulatory treatment of its pension expense.
- Q. And when we say "this proceeding," we're talking about the rate case that Dominion filed in Ohio before the Public Utilities Commission, correct?

- A. Yes. It was a case that was filed in 2007.
- Q. And I don't want to go through all your educational background. I saw that you have your attachments there. Just some questions, have you ever participated as an expert testifying on pension matters for anybody other than a utility company?
 - A. No.

- Q. And specifically can you describe to me the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?
- A. My testimony describes Dominion East
 Ohio's pension expense, which was negative during the
 test period. I think it was 47.7 million negative,
 and my testimony addresses the reasons why the
 pension expense should be set to zero in this
 proceeding rather than being allowed to flow through
 the cost of service at a negative 47.7 million.
- Q. And in this proceeding you submitted one piece of testimony, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And that was the direct testimony of Daniel M. Ives on behalf of Dominion East Ohio, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.

Q. And when you submitted your testimony,

was your testimony specifically in response to

anything that was in the Staff Report?

A. No.

Q. But you are familiar with the Staff
Report that was filed by the staff of the Public
Utilities Commission?

A. I've seen the Staff Report, at least the portion of it that pertains to pension.

Q. So you are familiar with how the PUCO is recommending that the pension expense be treated in this case?

A. Yes, I am.

MR. SERIO: We can put on the record that we have not heard from staff of the Public Utilities Commission as to whether they wanted to participate in this deposition via phone. We did make a phone call to Anne Hammerstein, attorney for the Public Utilities Commission staff, and indicated that if she was interested in participating, she could contact us and we would make a phone bridge available. As yet, we have not heard from the staff.

Q. Do you have a copy of your testimony with you, Mr. Ives?

A. I do not.

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- Q. I will hand you a clean copy of your testimony. If you could look at it and make sure it is a copy of the testimony you filed in this proceeding.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. It is, okay. Could you turn to page 4 of your testimony, please.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Now, I think about line 10 of your testimony there's a table below that and you indicate that that's the DEO pension asset as of December 31, 2006, and I believe the amount is \$650 million. Do you see that?
 - A. Yes, 615 million, 6-1-5.
- Q. Can you tell me which FERC account on the company's book the pension asset is contained in?
- A. I believe it's account 129. I don't know Dominion East Ohio's book numbers.
 - Q. Okay.
- MR. SERIO: I'm going to ask you to mark this as Deposition Exhibit No. 1.
 - (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
 - Q. I'm handing you a one-page document from

East Ohio's tariffs -- are you familiar with the annual reports that Dominion submits to the PUCO?

- A. I'm aware they submit them, but I haven't looked at them.
- Q. Okay. If you want to accept that, subject to check, this is page 42 of Dominion's 2006 Annual Report to the Public Utilities Commission. I believe you see at the bottom of the page it's page 42.
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. The title is Miscellaneous Deferred Debits, Account 186.
 - A. I see that.
- Q. If you look at the Balance, Pension Asset under the description about the eighth line down, do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And if you go to the far right hand under Balance End of Year, you see the \$615,199,106.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Is that the same amount as what you have listed on your testimony on your table under Pension Asset as of 12/31/06?
 - A. I believe that is.

- Q. And on Deposition Exhibit 1 that indicates it's for the period ending 12/31/06, correct?
 - A. That is the balance as of 12/31/06. I'm looking at Deposition Exhibit No. 1. It's titled East Ohio Gas Company, The; Period Ending 12/31/2006. It's Account 186, Miscellaneous Deferred Debits. The line entitled Pension Asset, the Balance End of Year, Column E, is \$615,199,106.
 - Q. Okay. Now, the Dominion pension asset as of March 31, do you know what that amount was, 2007?
 - A. I do not.

- Q. I hand you a copy of the Staff Report by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio in the East Ohio rate in case Nos. 07-829-GA-AIR, et al. I did just hand you the Staff Report. That's the report you indicated previously you reviewed parts of.
 - A. Can you repeat the question, please.
- Q. I'm just trying to establish that is the Staff Report you did review as part of this rate proceeding, correct?
- A. I did not review this as part of preparing my testimony. I told you that I had seen pages from the Staff Report that dealt with pension

expense, but I have never seen this document before.

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- Q. Okay. So you saw pages from the Staff Report, but you never saw --
- A. I assume they were from this document, but I don't know that to be a fact.
- Q. Okay. Would you turn to Schedule B-6 in the Staff Report there. Are you familiar with that schedule at all? Is that one of the items you reviewed as part of your analysis?
- A. I did not review this page as part of my analysis, but I do see that it does have deferred income taxes and balances appear to be what I've seen before.
- Q. Specifically line 6, the pension, you see the total is approximately \$629 million.
- A. Line 6, the Adjusted Jurisdictional is \$629,243,511.
- Q. Now, did you review -- are you familiar with the company's application regarding the pension expense?
- A. I don't know what you mean by the company's application.
- Q. Are you familiar that the company filed an application to initiate the rate proceeding?

Α.

- Q. And in part of your review of the pension asset, were you involved in looking at any of the schedules that were in the pension, either before it was filed -- before it was filed?
 - A. No.

Yes.

Q. Did you review any of the application, any of the schedules after it was filed when you were retained to review the pension asset issue?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

You can answer the question.

- A. Mr. Serio, I thought I heard an objection.
 - MR. KUTIK: I did object.
- Q. Not a problem, I'll try to ask it again.

 After you were employed by Dominion, did you have an opportunity to review the application or any of the schedules from the application as part of your review of the pension asset issue?
- A. No. I was not furnished schedules to review. I was not asked to review the schedules in the application.
- Q. Okay. Now, you're generally familiar with the accumulated deferred income taxes.

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- Α. Yes.
- 2 3
- income taxes?

Ο.

- Α. Yes.

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Is it your understanding in this proceeding account 283 is the accumulated deferred

The account for accumulated deferred

income tax for Dominion?

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That's correct, 283 and there's a Α. subaccount which I, frankly, don't remember.

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- And you're familiar that the account 283, the deferred income taxes is approximately
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\$220 million in this proceeding.

Yes.

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- And that \$220 million would serve the Q. purpose of reducing Dominion's rate base in this
- 16 proceeding, correct?

Α.

- Well, that depends upon how the
- 18 Commission rules on the issue in this proceeding, but
 - the \$220 million of accumulated deferred income taxes
 - is an offset to rate base as currently filed, but
 - should the Commission accept, for example, our
 - proposal, the deferred income taxes would come out of
- rate base along with the pension asset, and the
- 24 expense would be set to zero.

- Now, generally speaking, I think you Q. indicated that account 283 under normal circumstances serves as an offset, a reduction to base rates, correct? It typically is offset -- it typically is 6 an offset to rate base. And are you familiar with why generally 8 the account 283, the accumulated deferred income 9 taxes, serves as an offset to rate base in a rate 10 proceeding? 11 Α. 12
 - Well, for ratemaking purposes the account 283 is typically a credit balance so it serves to reduce the rate base and other rate base items because it's netted against them in the calculation of rate base so it serves to reduce it. Then when you calculate a return on taxes on the rate base, it effectively serves to reduce the rate.
 - And when you're talking about ratemaking Q. and you say it generally serves as an offset, that would be similar as to how other deferred taxes serve as an offset to rate base also, correct?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

Α. Well, other deferred taxes can serve as an offset to rate base.

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1 And you're familiar with deferred taxes 0. 2 the concept of what deferred taxes are. 3 Α. Generally. And what is your understanding why 0. generally deferred taxes serve as an offset to rate 5 base? Well, deferred taxes serve as an offset Α. 8 to rate base in the regulatory realm based on regulatory convention in the applicable jurisdiction. 10 There's not an accounting -- there's not a FASB, 11 Financial Accounting Standards Board, convention that 12 mandates deduction from rate base. It doesn't speak 13 to that. 14 You've testified in Ohio and other 15 proceedings in regulatory matters? 16 In Ohio? Α. 17 Ο. Let me reask the question. 18 No, I have not testified in Ohio. Α. 19 In preparation for your testimony in this Ο. 20 proceeding, did you familiarize yourself, at least 21 generally, with the Ohio regulatory process and the 22 ratemaking process that the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio uses in rate cases?

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- that. I relied on the company to follow Ohio
 ratemaking convention or to deviate from Ohio
 ratemaking convention.
 - Q. So when you indicated there's no FASB requirements on the deferred taxes but it's generally the ratemaking -- I don't want to put the word in your mouth. I can't remember the word you used -- the process or convention you used.
 - A. I used the word "convention."

- Q. So that's based on your general understanding of how utility regulation operates, correct?
- A. Yes. I mean, FASB does speak to provision for deferred income taxes. FAS 87, I think it's paragraph 37, speaks to providing for deferred income taxes related to the pension asset to recognize timing differences and recognition, but FASB doesn't tell the state of Ohio that you have to follow FASB. That's the point I guess I'm trying to make.
- Q. Right. And you're not aware of anything in Ohio that would lead you to believe that Ohio isn't following the general understanding on deferred taxes or accumulated deferred income taxes, correct?

1 Objection. The witness MR. KUTIK: 2 hasn't talked -- there's nothing in this record to 3 indicate what the, quote, general understanding, end quote, is with respect to deferred income taxes. You used the word that Ohio uses. Α. 6 little -- I got a little lost in your question, sir. A couple of questions ago I think you Ο. 8 indicated it was your general understanding under the 9 regulatory convention that deferred taxes serve as an 10 offset to rate base. 11 Α. Yes. 12 And you have no reason to believe that Q. 13 Ohio operates contrary to that general understanding. 14 Α. I don't. 15 0. Okay. That's all I was trying to say. 16 Α. Okay. 17 Ο. You're familiar with noninvestor supplied 18 funds, correct? 19 Α. I am. 20 And what is your understanding of what 0. 21 noninvestor supplied funds are? 22 Well, my understanding of that as applied Α.

in this context is because of the timing differences

and payment of federal tax. We collect federal

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income taxes at the statutory rate in the case at 35 percent; however, the company's actual periodic tax expense may be less than 35 percent due to different timing differences for recognition of expenses. So the difference is essentially the amount of deferred income taxes, and they are referred to as noninvestor supplied funds that were provided -- that are provided to the company through the operation of deferred taxes.

- Q. Are you familiar with noninvestor supplied funds other than as related to just deferred taxes?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And your understanding of noninvestor supplied funds when it's not in the context of taxes is what?
- A. It could be several things. It could be, for example, contributions in aid of construction.

 It could be customer deposits and advances.
- Q. But, generally speaking, it is exactly what the name says. It's funds that this company has available that were not provided by investors but came from a different source, correct?
 - A. That's correct. They could have come

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- Q. How could a noninvestor supplied fund come from investors?
- A. To the extent if an investor is a customer and provides --
 - Q. Okay.
- A. -- funds for the company to extend a main out to their house or something.
- Q. Okay. That would be a very discrete type of funding that would come in only the form where an investor was also a customer of that same company.
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. You're not aware of any other situation where a noninvestor supplied fund would come from an investor, are you?
 - A. No.
- Q. And noninvestor supplied funds would also serve as an offset to reduce rate base, correct?
- A. Yes. I'm not sure of that in Ohio, but I'm familiar in many jurisdictions that's correct.
- Q. You indicated you're not aware of anything that would tell you that Ohio is different. You weren't made aware that Ohio operates different than other jurisdictions with regard to that, were

1 you?

please.

A. I was not; nor was I asked to opine on the treatment of noninvestor supplied funds.

Q. Is it your understanding in this proceeding that the company eliminated the pension-related accumulated deferred income taxes from other rate base items?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, can you explain to me the difference between Dominion's book accounting treatment and Dominion's tax treatment of the pension that resulted in the pension-related accumulated deferred income tax?

MR. KUTIK: Can I have the question read,

(Record read.)

A. Yes. Dominion's book pension expense is measured periodically, annually to determine the extent to which the pension funds exceed the projected benefit obligation, and the difference, the change in that Delta annually will drive whether the expense is debit or credit, a positive or negative expense, and in the test period the expense was a credit, a negative expense, if you will. But pension

income is not treated as income for federal income tax purposes, so deferred income taxes are provided such that if there's a turnaround in those expenses in future periods, all that gets run against the deferred tax account and not against the current income tax payable.

- Q. Now, in that setting what -- can you explain to me what the allowable tax expense is for the pension?
- A. Well, the allowable tax expense for IRS purposes is based on contributions, actual contributions actually made.
 - O. Would that be cash contributions?
 - A. Generally, yes.

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- Q. And when we say cash contributions, what do we mean by a cash contribution?
- A. Well, typically it's the company making direct contributions to the pension fund; however, there could be contributions from employees. I don't believe in Dominion's case there are any contributing employees.
- Q. So when we talk about the cash contribution, where does the company get the cash that they make this contribution with?

1 MR. KUTIK: When there are contributions. 2 When there are contributions, yes. Q. 3 Α. I don't know if they take it out of their 4 checking account, or borrow it from banks, or if they 5 sell stock to generate it, or if it's just simply 6 cash that's on hand. I don't know the source of the cash, but presumably it's from company accounts. 8 Okay. When the company gets revenues or 0. 9 gets cash, that can come from customers, correct? 10 Α. It can. 11 Q. The other source of revenues or cash can 12 come in the form of borrowing money, correct? 13 Α. Yes 14 And a third source would be shareholder ο. 15 contributions, correct? 16 That could be. Α. 17 ٥. Are there other sources that you're aware 18 of where the company can get revenues or cash 19 contributions to use in the course of providing 20 service? 21 I don't know. I haven't studied Dominion 22 East Ohio's accounts or their activities, but,

obviously, you could have other sources of cash that

are not related to the provision of utility service.

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You could have nonutility operations. You could have, for example, an unregulated marketing arm generates cash that gets rolled up to the parent. So there could be numerous sources. There could be rental income from rental of utility property that's no longer used or not currently needed to provide service. There could be a lot of sources of cash.

- Q. Okay. If the cash or the revenues are generated from customers, you would agree with me that's not an investor-provided source of cash unless the investor happens to be a customer, correct?
 - A. Yes, I would agree with that.
- Q. And when you identified those other types of services that could generate income, for example, nonjurisdictional businesses or the rental, unless a shareholder happened to be the person involved in that transaction, you would agree with me also there that any of those revenues or cash generated would not come from investors in that case, correct?
- A. If they were not involved in the transaction and they were not paying the rent on the property, for example, I would agree that the cash came from a third party that may or may not be a customer or an investor.

- 1 2

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

- Q. Okay. And I think the third general area that I identified for you was borrowing money, and an instance where the company borrowed money, unless they were borrowing from a shareholder, then you would agree with me that would also be a noninvestor source of money for the company, correct?
 - A. That could be.
- Q. You indicated it could be. Are there instances, unless the shareholder was actually making a loan to the company, where borrowing money would be considered an investor.
- A. We don't offset rate base for borrowed funds. We offset rate base for certain noninvestor supplied funds. I think we talked about those, including accumulated deferred income taxes, but we don't treat proceeds from borrowing as noninvestor supplied funds because the investors are at risk for payment of those funds, repayment of those funds.
- Q. When you indicate that in an instance where the company reimburses funds that the shareholders are at risk, that's generally reflected in the rate of return that a commission applies to a company in a rate proceeding, correct?

- A. Well, in developing an overall rate of return in a rate proceeding, the Commission generally looks at the rate of return as comprising two elements, a debt component and an equity component, and they typically recognize the borrowing cost associated with the debt component as part of the overall return. The other component to the overall return is the return on shareholder equity, and the Commission looks at many different factors in developing a return on equity for the company.
 - Q. And the ultimate rate of return that a Commission determines is appropriate would then be used in determining the revenue requirement that would be used to set rates that customers pay, correct?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

- A. That depends upon how the Commission develops its order in a case. If the case is settled, for example, it may be what's called, referred to generically as a black box settlement that simply develops an overall cost of service and you provide it by the billing determinates and you get a rate.
 - Q. Okay.

- A. So the Commission may or may not opine on the return on equity.
- Q. In an instance where it's not a black box type settlement but actually goes to order to the Commission, generally speaking, then your understanding is that the Commission will look at the rate of return, apply it to what they think is the appropriate rate base to determine a revenue requirement, and then that's used to determine the rates that customers should pay, correct?
- A. That's very generally a description of the process.
- Q. Going back to your testimony, on page 4, lines 15 and 16 you indicate that Dominion has accumulated deferred income taxes on its books related to its long history of pension expense credits. Do you see that?
 - A Yes
- Q. Are you saying that the accumulated deferred taxes was a result of the pension credits?
- A. The pension credits are really a result of the change in the pension asset itself over time, and the pension asset has grown, which caused the pension credits to be born, and the accumulated

deferred taxes are related to that pension asset. In
fact, if you look mathematically they're 35 percent
times \$615 million pension asset.

MR. SERIO: Off the record for a minute.

(Discussion off record.)

- Q. (By Mr. Serio) Again, on page 4 of your testimony in the table after line 12, you've indicated that on 12/31/06 the pension asset for the Dominion union plan was approximately \$420 million, correct?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And the 2006 pension expense of negative -- and that it had a 2006 pension expense of negative \$31.3 million, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Now, the calculation for both of those amounts are referenced in your attachments

 DMI-8.1 and DMI-8.2, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Now, you did not provide a calculation for the pension asset for the DEO management plan; is that correct?
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. And you did not provide the calculation

for the pension expense for the DEO management plan, correct?

A. That's correct.

- Q. Can you explain to me why you did not provide the calculation for the pension asset for the DEO management plan?
- A. The DEO management plan is a multi-company plan that covers more than just Dominion East Ohio and the 195 billion as an aggregate allocation of the management plan representing costs applicable or attributable to Dominion East Ohio, but I did not have -- the Watson Wyatt report is not broken down. It breaks down the single employer union plans for Dominion East Ohio River Gas, West Ohio, but it did not break out the Dominion corporate overall plan under which Dominion East Ohio's employees are covered.
- Q. If I were to ask you the same question as why you did not provide a calculation for the pension expense for the DEO management plan, is your answer going to be the same?
 - A. Essentially, yes.
- Q. So essentially instead of a calculation, those are just an allocated amount that the company

1 provided to you.

- A. Those were provided to me by the company.
- Q. Now, in your calculation of pension asset and pension expense that you did in your attachments, you list various subcomponents. Would those same subcomponents be a part of the pension asset and the pension expense for the DEO management plan?
- A. I will say generally yes. I'm not positive that each of the elements listed on DMI-8 for each of the union plans is, in fact, applicable to Dominion corporate. Generally it would be.
- Q. And no one has made you aware of any differences when you were provided the allocation, correct?
- A. No. I mean it is correct that nobody provided me the differences.
- Q. So you have no reason to believe that they are different; it's just possible that they could be.
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Now, on page 5 of your testimony you indicate that the pension has grown since Dominion's last case in 1994, and the 1994 case that you are referring to was the company's case actually filed in

| 1993, correct?

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- A. I'm accept that.
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O. 93-2006-GA-AIR.

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MR. KUTIK: It is whatever it is.

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A. I'm not familiar with the case number.

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Q. Okay. And you indicate in your testimony

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that the growth in the pension asset is a due to

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favorable performance of the pension plan's

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investments coupled with the company's ongoing labor

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management efforts. Do you see that?

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A. Yes.

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Q. Now, are you referring to growth of the DEO union plan and DEO management plan?

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A. Yes.

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Q. Do you know who manages the investments of the DEO union and DEO management plans?

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A. I believe Dominion corporation manages

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the plans. Now, I don't know who they use to

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Q. Do you know how long Dominion has used

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A. I do not.

actually manage the investments.

the managers that they use right now?

- Q. Do you know how that particular asset
- 24 | manager was selected by Dominion?

A. I do not.

- Q. Okay. Now, on footnote 3 on page 5, there you indicate that Attachment DMI-8.3 has the overall performance of Dominion's pension fund, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Now, on DMI-8.3 is the investment performance for both DEO union and DEO management plans included?
- A. That's my understanding, they're included in the \$5 billion total.
- Q. Now, can you explain what the annualized rates of return for one year represents.
- A. My understanding that's the annual rate of return on the investment over one year.
- Q. Is that the return that was actually generated by it, is that what it means?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. So then for three years the annualized rate of return indicates what actual return was achieved over the three-year period.
- A. That would be the average -- the annualized average over a three-year horizon.
 - Q. For the five and ten years would be the

1 same answer only for that five- and ten-year period, 2 correct? 3 Α. Yes. 4 So is that rate of return for the plan's 5 previous year? I quess if you -- for calendar 6 year --A. If you look --8 MR. KUTIK: Let him ask his question. 9 For the calendar year, is the rate of 10 return for that calendar year or the prior calendar 11 year? 12 Α. The rate of return for one year is for 13 year ended December 31, 2006. 14 Q. And then for the three years, is it the 15 three years prior and then ending 12/31/06? 16 My understanding it would be 2006, 2005, Α. 17 and 2004. 18 Ο. So for each of those periods it ends 19 12/31/06; it just goes back earlier in time indicated 20 by the three, five, or ten years. 21 That's my understanding. Α. 22 Ο. So the \$5.008 billion represents a 14.1 percent return on the pension fund for 2006,

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correct?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

- A. No. The \$5 billion is the market value of the fund. The one year ended December 31, 2006 had a 14 percent rate of return on the assets.
- Q. On page 5 again you indicated since the growth is not due to, I think you call it, ratepayer contributions but due to favorable performance of the pension plan investments, that, therefore, ratepayers shouldn't benefit from that favorable performance, correct?
- A. I think I point out in the testimony that ratepayers have benefited from the favorable performance of the plan because starting in 1994 there was a \$6.2 million pension expense credit that ultimately was, I'm told, included in the overall cost of service in the settlement, and ratepayers have been enjoying that \$6.2 million credit for some 12-1/2 years.
- Q. So you're not saying that ratepayers should not benefit from pension plan investment growth if it was a result of -- get the words right -- if it was a result of favorable performance of the pension plan investments?
 - A. I'm saying that ratepayers have benefited

and do benefit from favorable pension plan growth because the amount of pension expense that's flowed through to ratepayers is reflective of the performance of the plan and the company's management of labor costs.

Q. In the course of your experience, is it normal to see a pension plan achieve the kind of favorable performance that we have with Dominion's pension plan in this case?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

- A. I have not compared the performance of Dominion's plan to other companies, but a number of companies have developed pension assets as a result of favorable performance of pension plans, particularly during the late '90s, early 2000 era.
- Q. Would you say that it's generally the case with a utility that they would have an overfunded pension, or is it generally the case that utilities have to make regular cash contributions to pension funds?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

A. I haven't done that study, but based on the number of cases that I've looked at, I would say that the preponderance of utilities do not have as

favorable performance and do not have pension assets.

They have pension liabilities instead.

- Q. Now, under your understanding of the way the regulatory process works, if Dominion had not been able to achieve the favorable growth or the favorable performance in the pension plan investments and instead of an excess there was a deficiency, then in this case the company would be looking to make a contribution to the pension expense, correct?
- A. I don't know that. The determination of the cash contribution to pension fund is governed by various rules under ERISA that establish minimums for the funding of the plan so I don't know that Dominion would be funding under the hypothetical that you've described.
- Q. What you're describing that the pension plan could be underfunded, but if it was not underfunded by a large enough amount, there would not necessarily be a requirement that a contribution be made; is that correct?
 - A. Yes.

Q. Okay. So unless the deficiency is sufficiently large enough, a company doesn't necessarily have to make a cash contribution to an

underfunded pension asset.

- A. I would agree with that.
- Q. To the extent a pension asset were sufficiently underfunded that ERISA required the company to make a cash contribution and the company had to make that cash contribution, is it your understanding that that's the type of expense that the company would in a rate proceeding apply for flow-through or to be made part of the rate that would come out of a proceeding with the Public Utilities Commission?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

- A. Well, the measurement of the pension expense that would be reported on the company's books and presumably included in the base period would reflect not only any contributions that the company made into the plan, but it would reflect a number of other factors, the growth in the plan assets, because as you recall, the pension asset measures the difference between how funded the plan is versus its projected benefit obligation. So there's a number of components. It's not just a cash contribution that determines the level of the expense.
 - O. But to the extent a cash contribution was

necessary after all those other factors are looked at, there's still a requirement for cash. Are you following me so far?

- A. I'm not sure that's a question.
- Q. Okay. You indicated there are other things that would contribute to whether there was a need for a cash contribution. How the investment grew, other factors that you indicated.
 - A. Right.

- Q. If after looking at those factors there was still a deficiency, then it would be normal course of business for a utility to make a cash contribution in order to bring the pension asset up to the appropriate level required, correct?
- A. If it is not sufficiently funded to meet ERISA pension law requirements, the company would make a cash contribution.
- Q. To the extent the company made a cash contribution, is that cash contribution then reflected in rates that are charged to customers?

 MR. KUTIK: Objection.
- A. Not necessarily. It would be reflected in the measurements of the pension expense for the period, which could still be a negative expense.

1 So it just depends on how the level of Ο. 2 the negative expense is factored into the calculation 3 of determining a working capital need, correct? Objection. MR. KUTIK: 5 Α. The company's payment to the pension fund 6 would be a component of pension expense, a component 7 of the overall valuation of the pension asset and the 8 change in the pension asset and the resulting income 9 statement and expense, whether it is positive or 10 negative. 11 MR. SERIO: Can we take a five-minute 12 break. 13 (Recess taken.) 14 (By Mr. Serio) Mr. Ives, if Dominion's 15 pension plant investment had not grown or declined 16 sufficiently to require an increase due to ERISA 17 requirements, is it your belief that them ratepayers 18 should not have to pay higher rates due to 19 unfavorable performance of the pension plan 20 investments? 21 MR. KUTIK: Objection. 22 Α. No.

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Q.

ratepayers would be required to pay an increase as a

So it would be your position that

1 result of that unfavorable performance. 2 Α. I don't know 3 Back to page 5 of your testimony, at the Ο. 4 bottom of the page I think around line 18 you 5 indicate that Dominion has not made a cash 6 contribution to its pension plan since 1992; is that 7 correct? 8 Α. Yes. 9 Do you know what the amount of cash 10 contribution was made by DEO in 1992? 11 Α. I don't. 12 Q. Do you know in fact if Dominion made a 13 cash contribution to the pension plan in 1992?

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I do not.

- Q. So when you indicate that they've made no cash contributions since 1992, what was the basis for you picking 1992 there?
 - A. The company personnel told me that.
 - Q. Can you tell me who told you that?
 - A. It may have been Mr. Murphy.
- Q. Now, on page 5 of your testimony you also indicated that in addition to the investment performance, the results of the pension asset being overfunded was also as a result of the company's

1 ongoing labor management efforts; is that correct? 2 Their ongoing labor cost management 3 efforts. 4 Q. Cost, thank you. Can you explain to me 5 what you mean by the ongoing labor cost management 6 efforts? 7 Dominion informed me that they had been right-sizing their workforce; in other words, evaluating all the areas of the company and 10 determining correct labor staffing in an ongoing 11 process. Do you know chronologically when the 12 0. 13 company engaged in those right-sizing efforts? 14 I don't know the precise period. 15 Do you know if generally they occurred 0. 16 prior to the last rate case? 17 Α. I do not. 18 Do you know if they occurred after the Q. 19 last rate case? 20 Α. I don't know that. 21 So when you're talking about -- when you Ο. 22 reference the ongoing labor cost management efforts, 23 you're just talking about in general efforts that the

Α. The company told me that they had been engaged in right-sizing over a period of years, but they didn't specify the years. Q. And, again, was that Mr. Murphy that informed you of that? Α. Yes. Now, based on your review of the pension Ο. asset, when do you anticipate that Dominion would have to make a cash contribution to its pension plan? I don't know. Now, you indicated in your testimony you Ο. believe, that you didn't anticipate that there would be any cash contributions for the next five-year

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A. That's correct.

period, correct?

- Q. And is that projection based on any anticipated level of pension asset growth, or is that just based on the amount of overfunding that exists in the pension asset today?
- MR. KUTIK: Objection, assumes it couldn't be something else.
 - A. I don't know.
- Q. So then what was the basis of you indicating you didn't think the company would have to

- make a cash contribution for at least a five-year period?
 - A. Could you refer me to the part of the testimony?
 - Q. I think page 13 of your testimony, line 15 and 16, you indicate there there's no year among the company's most recent five-year forecast where cash payment to the pension trust would be necessary.
 - A. I see that. I was informed that that was the case by company personnel.
 - Q. So you didn't do any independent analysis to confirm that.
 - A. I did not.

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- Q. Was that again Mr. Murphy that informed you of that?
 - A. I believe it was.
- Q. Now, prior to 1992, what was the history of Dominion's contribution to its pension plan?
 - A. I don't know.
- Q. On page 6 of your testimony, I think right around line 8, you indicate that in theory customers have received a windfall of \$77.5 million over a 12-1/2 year period since Dominion's last rate

- case because in that case Dominion filed a pension expense credit of \$6.2 million. Correct?

 A. Well, that is what they did.

 Q. And it's your belief that as a result of the case of the
 - Q. And it's your belief that as a result of the company filing the credit of \$6.2 million in the last case, that's how customers have received what you termed as the windfall profit of \$77.5 million.
 - A. Yes.

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- MR. KUTIK: I object. He didn't testify about profit. He said windfall.
 - MR. SERIO: I'm sorry, windfall.
- Q. I believe you indicated previously you were somewhat familiar with the company's last rate case, the 1993 rate case.
- MR. KUTIK: Objection, I don't believe that's his testimony.
- Q. Are you familiar at all with the company's last rate case in 1993?
 - A. No.
- Q. Do you know if that case was determined by the Commission or if it was determined as a result of settlement?
- A. I was told that it was a settlement. I believe I testified to that on lines 3 and 4.

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1	Q. Was that Mr. Murphy that informed you of
2	that?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. You indicated previously this morning
5	that you're familiar with the term of "black box
6	settlement."
7	A. Generally, yes.
8	Q. Generally. Is it your understanding that
9	the 1993 case was settled in a black box settlement?
10	A. My understanding is outlined on lines
11	3 and 4.
12	Q. And that's line 3 and 4 on page 6.
13	A. Yes.
14	Q. The sentence where it says "company
15	personnel informed me"?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. So your only understanding is based on
18	Mr. Murphy informing you of that information.
19	A. I believe Mr. Murphy was the company
20	personnel that informed me, yes.
21	Q. Now, in your calculation you attribute to
22	customers a windfall for the amount by which the

annual negative \$6.2 million pension expense that

Dominion filed was less than the actual zero dollars

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1 DEO cash contribution made by the company over the 2 last 12-1/2 years, correct? 3 MR. KUTIK: May I have the question read please. (Record read.) 6 I testified that the \$7.5 million 7 windfall was the cumulative result of \$6.2 million 8 credit over 12-1/2 years. I made no attempt to 9 relate that to any pension contribution. 10 Is that simply a calculation of Q. 11 6.2 million times 12-1/2 years? 12 Α. Yes. 13 Q. Okay. I probably should have asked the 14 easy way. 15 In your calculation of a windfall to 16 customers, did you consider any other expense items 17 that Dominion filed in that rate case that were 18 greater than the actual cost to Dominion over those 19 12-1/2 years? 20 Α. No. 21 ٥. So, for example, if labor costs were 22 greater than the actual cost, that didn't factor into

your calculation at all.

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Q.

consider to be a windfall.

A. I simply -- my calculation simply points out that by receiving the \$6.2 million credit over

other expense items as part of your calculation?

Why did you not consider any of those

- 12-1/2 years, that customers essentially got what I
- Q. In your calculation of the windfall, did you consider any revenues that Dominion filed in the last rate case that were less than actual revenues that Dominion earned over the 12-1/2 year period?
 - A. I'm not aware of any.
- Q. And if I asked you why, your answer would be the same, that you simply did the calculation based on the 6.2 million?
- A. I simply did the \$77.5 million calculation based on the \$6.2 million credit for 12-1/2 years.
- Q. And, again, in your calculation of the windfall you did not consider the impact of the difference between the rate of return granted by the Commission in the last case compared to the actual rate of return earned by the company over the 12-1/2 year period.
 - A. No.

- 1 Q. And you did not look at the actual level 2 of other -- let me rephrase that. So you did not 3 look at the actual level of other expenses, revenues, or rate of return because you were just looking at 5 that one specific expense item, correct? 6 I simply looked at the \$6.2 million 7 pension credit. 8 Q. Now, on page 6, I think on footnote 4, you indicate that DEO's pension asset as of
 - A. That's what footnote 4 says.

December 31, 1993 was 24.9 million.

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- Q. And the December 31, 1993 date, the 24.9 million, was that before Dominion's last rate case was decided, if you know?
- A. Well, my understanding, as I set forth on lines 2 and 3, I believe their last rate case was in 1994.
- Q. Okay. So then the 24.9 million reflects the pension asset prior to the last rate case.
- MR. KUTIK: Objection, asked and answered.
- A. I don't know what the base period, when it ended in the last case.
 - Q. Do you know what the ratepayer

- Contribution to pension expense authorized in

 Dominion's rates was prior to the rates set in the

 case that was decided in 1994?
 - A. I do not.

- Q. Now, on page 5, lines 11 through 13 of your testimony, you indicate that in the prior case to the last rate case. So that I make sure I'm getting this chronologically correct, you're talking about the case that preceded the 1993 rate case that was determined in 1994, correct?
 - A. Could I hear that question again, please.
- Q. When you say the case prior to the last rate case, the last rate case you are referring to is the 1993 rate case, correct?
 - A. I don't know what line we're on.
- Q. On page 5 of your testimony, lines

 11 through 13, you indicate: "Costs were an expense rather than a credit prior to DEO's last rate case."

 Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. The last rate case you're referring to is the 1993 case, correct?
 - A. I think we called it the 1994 case.
 - Q. The 1994 case. So the case prior to

- expense rather than a credit prior to that? Is that what you're referring to?
 - A. I'm not referring to any prior case before the 1994 case.
 - Q. In cases prior to the last rate case, the rates paid by customers included positive test year expenses, correct?
 - A. I don't know.
 - Q. Now, do you know when Dominion began using FAS 87 for financial reporting purposes?
 - A. I do not, except to the extent there was an implementation date in FAS 87. I don't recall that date.
 - Q. Now, you're familiar with FAS 158 also, correct?
 - A. Generally.
 - Q. Is the Dominion union plan a single employer plan for purposes of FAS 158?
 - A. My understanding there are three Dominion union plans that are single employer plans.
 - Q. When say three, what are you referring to? Maybe I can help you. Would it be the fact there is Dominion East Ohio, West Ohio and River?
 - A. I was looking for the precise names, but

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1 yes, yes, East Ohio Gas, River Gas Division and West Ohio Gas Division of East Ohio.

- Now, under FAS 158 the pension asset for Dominion's union plan represents the fair value of plan assets in excess of the projected benefit obligation, correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- Now, on footnote 5 of your testimony, page 8, you indicate that FAS 158 does not apply to DEO's management plan, a multi-employer plan, and that you related the pension asset representing funding in excess of recognized expenses. Can you tell me what you mean by the term "funding"?
- That would be contributions in Α. Yeah. excess of recognized expenses.
- Q. What might that be? What would constitute contributions in excess of recognized expenses?
- Α. Well, to the extent the funding exceeds recognized expenses would generate an asset.
- So essentially by funding you mean the contribution.
 - Α. Yes.
 - Okay. Now, what do you mean by the term Q.

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1 "recognized expenses" in that footnote? 2 Α. Expenses that have been recorded. 3 0. Like the FAS '87 pension expense? Α. Yes. 5 Now, does the amount of the pension Ο. 6 expense recognized in rates by the Commission affect 7 Dominion's treatment of pension expenses for 8 financial reporting purposes? MR. KUTIK: Objection. 10 May I have the question read please. 11 (Record read.) 12 Α. No. 13 Can you explain to me why not? Ο. 14 Well, Dominion's pension expenses are 15 calculated in accordance with various financial 16 accounting standards, and the rate treatment of 17 Dominion's pension expenses does not drive the book 18 accounting for those expenses. 19 Ο. Do you know what the impact or effect 20 would be for financial reporting purposes if 21 Dominion's determination of pension expenses under

A. Could you repeat the question?

FAS 87 differed from that allowable for ratemaking

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purposes?

- Q. Do you know what the impact would be for financial reporting purposes of Dominion's determination of pension expense under FAS 87 differing from that for allowable ratemaking purposes?

 A. No.
 - Q. Now, if the Commission were to adopt the company's proposal for zero pension expense rather than the FAS 87 negative test year expense amount, what accounting entries would Dominion have to make as a result of that?
 - A. I don't know.
 - Q. On page 11 of your testimony, line 10, you indicate that it's appropriate to remove the pension asset from Dominion's rate base. Can you explain in what adjustment in the company's application Dominion removed the pension asset from rate base?
 - A. No.
 - Q. On line 8 of your testimony you indicate that your recommendation is --
 - MR. KUTIK: I'm sorry, what line?
 - MR. SERIO: Line 8.
 - MR. KUTIK: Of page 11?

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MR. SERIO: Page 11.

Q. You indicate that your recommendation is appropriate in order to preclude Dominion's collection of less than its full cash cost of service. Do you believe that a state regulatory commission should base rates on the cash cost of service for all elements of expense?

MR. KUTIK: Objection.

- A. I don't understand the question.
- Q. Okay. Let me break it down. You indicate on your testimony there that in order to preclude Dominion's collection of less than its full cash cost of service, then your recommendation is appropriate, correct?
- A. I recommend that's appropriate to adjust DEO's negative pension expense to zero for ratemaking purposes and remove the pension asset in this proceeding accumulated deferred income taxes from DEO's rate base.
- Q. Right. But in line 8, the beginning of your answer you say: "In order to preclude Dominion's collection of less than its full cash cost of service." My question to you is, do you believe that a state regulatory commission should base rates

1	on the cash cost of service for all elements of
2	expenses?
3	A. No.
4	Q. But you do think it's appropriate for a
5	regulatory commission to base rates on the cash cost
6	for the pension expense rather than accounting under
7	FAS 87, correct?
8	MR. KUTIK: Objection, misstates his
9	testimony.
10	A. I didn't state that in my testimony.
11	Q. I'm asking you that.
12	THE WITNESS: Could we have the question
13	repeated, please.
14	(Record read.)
15	A. That is an alternate treatment I offered
16	in my testimony.
17	Q. Are there any other expenses other than
18	the pension expense that you would recommend that a
19	state commission base on the cash cost of service
20	rather than the accounting under FAS 87?
21	A. Yeah.
22	MR. KUTIK: Off the record.
23	(Discussion off record.)
24	MR. SERIO: Please read the last question

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(Record read.)

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Α. Yes.

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answer?

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- And what would those expenses be?
- Well, I've recommended that -- I've stated in my testimony that the company has informed me that it's willing to adopt a cash basis for OPEBs, other post employment benefits, but they are not governed by FAS 87 as your question posited.
- I'm not sure that I got an answer Q. Okay. to my question. You indicate in your response that the company indicated they were willing to do that accounting for OPEBs, correct?
- The company, as I testified and outlined Α. in footnote 7 on page 14.
 - My question to you --Q.
 - MR. KUTIK: Have you finished your
- I simply cite my testimony on footnote 7 Α. on page 14.
- Q. My question to you had been, would you recommend to a state commission that any other expenses other than the pension expense be treated in the manner that you're recommending for the pension

1 asset in this proceeding?

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- A. I don't know. I don't know. Your hypothetical is too broad. I don't know.
 - Q. Have you ever made a recommendation that any other expense items, other than pension expense, be treated in that manner?
 - A. Other than as cited in my testimony on page 14 in the footnote, no.
 - Q. And you're not aware of any others other than what is cited in your testimony, instances where any other expense item would be treated that way.
 - A. No.
 - Q. Now, on page 13, line 9 of your testimony you indicate that: The pension credit will likely continue in part due to DEO's reduced service cost obligations. Do you see that?
 - A. What line are we on?
 - Q. Page 13, line 9.
- MR. KUTIK: The sentence begins on
- 20 | line 7.
 - Q. Do you see that?
- A. I see that.
- Q. Okay. What I'm asking for is how has
 Dominion reduced its service cost obligations?

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1	A. I believe I testified earlier that it's
2	been through their right-sizing efforts.
3	Q. Okay. A few more follow-up questions, if
4	you go back to page 5 of your testimony, please.
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Now, from line 6 to 9 there you talk
7	about the funding related to the 1994 case, and
8	you're not familiar with how the pension was funded
9	prior to the 1994 case; is that correct?
10	MR. KUTIK: I'll object to the
11	characterization of the testimony, but the witness
12	can answer the question.
13	A. No.
14	Q. So specifically you don't know if it was
15	ratepayer funded or shareholder funded.
16	A. No. That no was in response to prior to
17	1994.
18	Q. Right. On page 7 of your testimony, your
19	question 14 and answer, are there any FAS rules that
20	would prohibit reducing the cost of service revenue
21	requirement for the pension expense?
22	MR. KUTIK: Can I have the question read.
23	(Record read.)

I'm sorry, I'm a slow reader.

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A.

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    reading question 14 and answer 14.
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           Q.
                 Sure.
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                 I'm not aware of any FAS rules that
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    prohibit that.
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                 MR. SERIO: Mr. Ives, I think that's
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    everything I have. Thank you for your cooperation.
7
                              Thank you.
                 MR. KUTIK:
                 We will review and sign the deposition.
                 (The deposition concluded at 11:48 a.m.)
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1	State of Ohio : SS:	-
2	County of : SS:	
3	I, Daniel M. Ives, do hereby certify that I	
4	have read the foregoing transcript of my deposition given on Tuesday, July 22, 8; that together with the	
5	correction page attached hereto noting changes in form or substance, if any, it is true and correct.	
6		
7	Daniel M. Ives	
8	Daniei M. Ives	
9	I do hereby certify that the foregoing	
10	transcript of the deposition of Daniel M. Ives was submitted to the witness for reading and signing;	
11	that after he had stated to the undersigned Notary Public that he had read and examined his deposition,	
12	he signed the same in my presence on the day of, 2008.	•
13		
14	Notary Public	
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16	My commission expires	
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	State of Ohio : : SS:
3	County of Franklin :
4	I, Rosemary F. Anderson, Notary Public in and
5	for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, certify that the within named Daniel M.
6	Ives was by me duly sworn to testify to the whole truth in the cause aforesaid; that the testimony was
7	taken down by me in stenotypy in the presence of said witness, afterwards transcribed upon a computer; that
8	the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony given by said witness taken at the time and
9	place in the foregoing caption specified and completed without adjournment.
10	I certify that I am not a relative, employee, or attorney of any of the parties hereto, or of any
1 1 12	attorney or counsel employed by the parties, or financially interested in the action.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, on this 28th day of July, 8.
14	
15	Rosemary J. Anderson,
16	Professional Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the
17	State of Ohio.
18	My commission expires April 5, 2009.
19	(RFA-8175)
20	· -
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