1	Integrated System Rate Adjustment Public Forum
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3	Docket No. N/A
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5	
6	Moderated by Ashley Corker
7	Wednesday, December 18, 2024
8	9:01 a.m.
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11	Southwestern Power Administration Headquarters
12	One West Third Street, Suite 1500
13	Tulsa, OK 74103
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19	Reported by: Liam Muckala
20	JOB NO: 7066102
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1	APPEARANCES
2	List of Attendees:
3	Nicki Fuller, Executive Director of the Southwestern
4	Power Resources Association (SPRA)
5	Mark Barbee, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.,
6	SVP & COO
7	James Striedel, Senior Director GDS Associates
8	Darrell Calhoun, Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
9	Andrew Ferris, Chief Strategy Officer KPP Energy
10	David Yeager, Electric Utility Director City of
11	Duncan, Oklahoma
12	Alex Hodge, Public Utilities Specialist SWPA
13	Ashley Corker, Director Division of Resources Rates
14	Fritha Ohlson, Senior Vice President and COO SWPA
15	Tina Kirkpatrick, Public Utilities Specialist SWPA
16	Mike Wech, CEO SWPA
17	Jeff Little, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
18	James Peeler, Deputy General Counsel SWPA
19	Keeth Works, Vice President of Operations, SWPA
20	Dennis Constien, Division Director, Power Marketing
21	and Transmission Strategy SWPA
22	Brian Ackermann, Associated Electric Cooperative Inc.
23	VP Portfolio Management
24	Haley Merritt, DEMCO, Manager Quality & Compliance
25	

1	APPEARANCES (Cont'd)
2	Amanda Kenly, Associated Electric Cooperative,
3	Manager, Energy Contract Origination
4	Nathan Tackett, Public Utilities Specialist- Division
5	of Power Marketing and Transmission Strategy SWPA
6	William Hiller, Public Utilities Specialist - Division
7	of Power Marketing and Transmission Strategy SWPA
8	Michelle Bennett, OMPA Manager of Member Services
9	Brett Bradford, Paragould Municipal Utilities,
LO	Paragould, Arkansas
L1	Christina Telles, Associated Electric Cooperative,
L2	Energy Contract Origination
L3	Daryl Steck, Public Utility Specialist
L4	Danny Johnson, Program Manager SWPA
L5	Dax Sparks, Senior Hydropower Engineer SPRA
L6	Doug Colvin, Nixa, MO Utilities Director
L7	Elizabeth Nielsen, Public Utilities Specialist SWPA
L8	Jennifer Rogers, Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority,
L9	Assistant General Manager
20	John Stephens, City Utilities of Springfield, MO
21	Director of Power System Control and System Planning
22	Marcus Dowdy, Resource Manager for Paragould Municipal
23	Utilities in Paragould, AR
24	Marshall Boyken, Deputy Administrator SWPA
25	Mike Shook, Director of Energy Services for KPP Energy

1	APPEARANCES (Cont'd)
2	Preston Storm, Power Plant Manager for Carthage Water
3	and Electric Plant
4	Ryan Piersol, Senior Communications Specialist for the
5	Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority
6	Alexa Webb, Power Marketing Advisor SEPA
7	Jaime Gamez, Public Utility Specialist SEPA
8	Chris Schill, Public Utility Specialist SEPA
9	Greg Hall, Public Utility Specialist SEPA
10	Travis Cossey, Assistant Director for Nixa City
11	Utilities
12	Bill Bach, Poplar Bluff Municipal Utilities Poplar
13	Bluff, MO
14	Raymond Eaton, City Utilities, Springfield, MO
15	Barbara Smith, SWPA
16	Kerri Dalaviras, City Utilities, Springfield, MO
17	Trey Phillips, City of Purcell
18	Erin Miller
19	David Naylor
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	MS. CORKER: I'm Ashley Corker with
3	Southwestern Power Administration, the Director of our
4	Division of Resources and Rates. I have with me
5	Fritha Ohlson, our Senior Vice President and COO, as
6	well as Alex Hodge and Tina Kirkpatrick, who are both
7	Public Utility Specialists in the Division of
8	So and then I I'm just going to
9	go down the list of attendees that I have, if that's
10	okay, Liam, and you can add to your notes as needed?
11	THE REPORTER: Yes, thank you. And do
12	you mind going kind of slow for this part, just so I
13	can write everything down properly?
14	MS. CORKER: Yes, absolutely. So
15	that
16	THE REPORTER: Thank you.
17	MS. CORKER: The first number that I
18	show is a (405) number ending in 68.
19	MS. BENNETT: That would be me,
20	Michelle Bennett with OMPA, manager of member
21	services.
22	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you, Michelle.
23	MS. BENNETT: Yes.
24	MS. CORKER: And the next number I have
25	is a (417) number ending in 9000.

1	MR. STEPHENS: Ashley, this is John
2	Stephens. That's probably me. I've actually
3	connected to the Teams and used the phone as audio, so
4	I may show up twice.
5	MS. CORKER: Okay. Thank you, John.
6	THE REPORTER: Sorry, was that John
7	Stephens or Don with a D?
8	MS. CORKER: John
9	THE REPORTER: As in door?
10	MS. CORKER: With a J. Yeah.
11	THE REPORTER: John with a J. Thank
12	you.
13	MS. CORKER: Okay. And the next number
14	that I see is (417) ending in 2626. I believe that is
15	Mike Wech. He is also showing up on the list below.
16	MR. WECH: That's correct, Ashley.
17	MS. CORKER: Thank you. And then the
18	next number is a (615) area code ending in 35.
19	THE REPORTER: That is this is the
20	reporter. That is my phone.
21	MS. CORKER: Okay, great.
22	THE REPORTER: It's just an audio
23	device.
24	MS. CORKER: Okay. Okay, so starting
25	off with the list of names that I have, I would say if
	Danie C
	Page 6

1	you have anybody with you whose name is not going to
2	show up separately, please let us know.
3	The first name listed is Alex Hodge.
4	As I mentioned earlier, he is in the room with me.
5	The next I have Amanda Kenly. You could I guess if
6	everybody could briefly introduce yourselves, that
7	would be appreciated.
8	MS. KENLY: Good morning, Amanda Kenly.
9	I'm the Manager of Energy Contract Origination at
10	Associated Electric Cooperative.
11	MS. CORKER: Thank you. The next name
12	is Andrew Ferris.
13	Andrew, could you introduce yourself
14	briefly?
15	Okay. Well, we will maybe come back to
16	Andrew. Next name I have is Brett Bradford.
17	Okay. We can move on to Brian
18	Ackermann.
19	MR. ACKERMANN: Yes. I'm also with
20	Associated Electric Cooperative. My title is the Vice
21	President of Portfolio Management.
22	MS. CORKER: Okay. Thank you.
23	Next, I have Christina Telles or
24	Telles?
25	MS. TELLES: Telles. Thank you.

1	I'm I'm with Brian and Amanda. I'm an Energy
2	Contract Originator at Associated Electric
3	Cooperative.
4	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you.
5	The next is Darrell Calhoun.
6	MR. CALHOUN: Darrell Calhoun, Kansas
7	City Board of Public Utilities.
8	MS. CORKER: Okay. Next is Daryl
9	Steck.
10	MR. STECK: Good morning. I'm Daryl
11	Steck, Public Utility Specialist with Southwestern.
12	MS. CORKER: Okay. Next is David
13	Yeager.
14	MR. YEAGER: David Yeager, Electric
15	Utility Director for the City of Duncan, Oklahoma.
16	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. Next is
17	Dax Sparks.
18	MR. SPARKS: Good morning, Dax Sparks
19	with SPRA.
20	MS. CORKER: Dennis
21	THE REPORTER: The audio cut off for
22	me.
23	MS. CORKER: Oh, sorry. Could you
24	repeat your title again?
25	MR. SPARKS: Good morning. Dax Sparks,
	Page 8

1	senior hydropower engineer with SPRA. S-P-R-A.
2	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you.
3	Dennis Constien?
4	MR. CONSTIEN: Good morning. Dennis
5	Constien with Southwestern Power Administration,
6	Division Director of Power Marketing and Transmission
7	Strategy.
8	MS. CORKER: Okay. Doug Colvin?
9	MR. COLVIN: Yeah, good morning. Doug
10	Colvin. I'm the Nixa Utilities Director.
11	MS. CORKER: Okay. Elizabeth Nielsen?
12	MS. NIELSEN: Good morning. I'm
13	Elizabeth Nielsen. I'm a Public Utility Specialist
14	for Southwestern Power Administration in the Division
15	of Power Marketing and Transmission Strategy.
16	MS. CORKER: Okay. Haley Merritt?
17	MS. MERRITT: Good morning. My name
18	I'm I'm sorry. I'm with DEMCO, Manager of Quality
19	and Compliance.
20	THE REPORTER: Haley, could you spell
21	your name for me?
22	MS. MERRITT: Sure. H-A-L-E-Y,
23	Merritt, M-E-R-R-I-T-T.
24	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you.
25	Next we have J Peeler.

1	MR. PEELER: Good morning, I'm J
2	Peeler, Deputy General Counsel for Southwestern Power
3	Administration.
4	MS. CORKER: Okay. Next is James
5	Striedel.
6	MR. STRIEDEL: James Striedel,
7	S-T-R-I-E-D-E-L. I'm a consultant representing the
8	Texas customers of SWPA.
9	MS. CORKER: Okay. Next, Jennifer
10	Rogers.
11	MS. ROGERS: Good morning. Jennifer
12	Rogers. I'm the Assistant General Manager of the
13	Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority.
14	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. And then
15	next we have John Stephens. John, I apologize, I
16	forget if you noted which entity you are with. If you
17	could just go ahead and do that.
18	MR. STEPHENS: Yeah, that's fine,
19	Ashley. John Stephens, City Utilities of Springfield,
20	Missouri, and I'm Director of Power System Control and
21	System Planning.
22	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. Next is
23	Keeth Works.
24	MR. WORKS: Yes, good morning, I'm
25	Keeth Works. I am the Vice President of Operations

1	for Southwestern Power Administration.
2	MS. CORKER: Next is Jeff Little?
3	MR. LITTLE: Jeff Little, Operations
4	Analyst, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative
5	MS. CORKER: Next to Marcus Dowdy.
6	MR. DOWDY: Hi. Good morning. Marcus
7	Dowdy. I'm the Resource Manager for Paragould
8	Municipal Utilities in Paragould, Arkansas.
9	MS. CORKER: Okay. Next, Mark Barbee?
10	MR. BARBEE: Good morning, this is Mark
11	Barbee with the Kansas Electric Power Cooperative.
12	I'm the Senior Vice President and Chief Operating
13	Officer.
14	MS. CORKER: Thank you. Next, Marshall
15	Boyken?
16	MR. BOYKEN: Good morning, Marshall
17	Boyken, Southwestern Power Administration Deputy
18	Administrator.
19	MS. CORKER: Next is Mike Shook.
20	MR. SHOOK: Good morning. Mike Shook,
21	director of Energy Services for KPP Energy.
22	MS. CORKER: Next is Mike Wech?
23	MR. WECH: Good morning. Mike Wech.
24	The last name is spelled W-E-C-H. I'm the Chief
25	Executive Officer of Southwestern Power

1	Administration.
2	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you.
3	Next, Nathan Tackett.
4	MR. TACKETT: Good morning, Nathan
5	Tackett. I'm a Public Utility Specialist in the
6	Division of Power Marketing and Transmission Strategy
7	at Southwestern Power Administration.
8	MS. CORKER: Okay, next, Nicki Fuller?
9	MS. FULLER: Good morning, this is
10	Nicki Fuller. I'm the executive director of the
11	Southwestern Power Resources Association or SPRA.
12	MR. ACKERMANN: Okay.
13	MS. CORKER: Next is Preston Storm?
14	MR. STORM: Preston Storm, Power Plant
15	manager for Carthage Water & Electric Plant.
16	MS. CORKER: Okay. And the next on my
17	list is Liam, the reporter. So we'll skip to Ryan
18	Piersol.
19	MR. PIERSOL: Ryan Piersol. I'm the
20	Senior Communications Specialist for the Oklahoma
21	Municipal Power Authority.
22	MS. CORKER: Thank you. And then next
23	is SEPA, the Southeastern Power Administration. If
24	you could please let us know who you all have in the
25	room.

1	MS. WEBB: Hey, Ashley. This is Alexa
2	Webb. I'm the acting Power Marketing Advisor. I'm
3	sorry. And then in the room I have with me Jaime
4	Gamez, Chris Schill, and Greg Hall, and they're Public
5	Utility Specialist.
6	THE REPORTER: Could you say those
7	names one more time, please?
8	MS. WEBB: Jaime Gamez, Chris Schill,
9	and Greg Hall.
10	MS. CORKER: Thank you. Okay.
11	And then next on my list is Tina
12	Kirkpatrick. As I mentioned earlier, she is in the
13	room with me.
14	After that is Travis Cossey.
15	MR. COSSEY: Yes. Good morning.
16	Travis Cossey. I'm the Assistant Director for Nixa
17	City Utilities.
18	MS. CORKER: Thank you. And then next
19	is William Hiller.
20	MR. HILLER: Hi. I'm William Hiller.
21	I'm a Public Utility Specialist in the Division of
22	Power Marketing and Transmission Strategy at
23	Southwestern.
24	MS. CORKER: I'm scrolling back up at
25	the top of the list. I think we did have a couple

1	people that maybe didn't have audio figured out yet as
2	well as a new person. So I'm going to go back to
3	Andrew Ferris if you're able to introduce yourself.
4	MR. FERRIS: Yes. Andrew Ferris, KPP
5	Energy Chief Strategy Officer.
6	MS. CORKER: Thank you. And then Bill
7	Bach, if you could introduce yourself briefly.
8	MR. BACH: Good morning, Ashley. Bill
9	Bach, Poplar Bluff Municipal Utilities, Poplar Bluff,
10	Missouri.
11	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. And then
12	Brett Bradford. No, I didn't okay. Well, I think
13	that is everybody. We will monitor the list for
14	newcomers and try to capture those as well.
15	But in the meantime, we can move on
16	with the forum. I have just a brief introduction to
17	kick us off before we get started with our comment and
18	question-and-answer session, which hopefully we will
19	have plenty of time for it.
20	MR. BRADFORD: Hey Ashley, I I
21	apologize.
22	MS. CORKER: Hi Brett.
23	MR. BRADFORD: I'm having a problem
24	here. Technical difficulty. This is Brett Bradford,
25	Paragould Municipal Utilities, Paragould, Arkansas.

1	Did you hear me that time?
2	MS. CORKER: I did. Thank you.
3	MR. BRADFORD: Okay, I apologize for
4	the interruption.
5	MS. CORKER: That is just fine.
6	Okay, so again, just starting off with
7	a quick introduction of our power repayment study.
8	Department of Energy order number RA6120.2 requires
9	annual power repayment studies or PRSs for each rate
10	system. The PRSs compare the estimated annual
11	revenues and costs for each system over a 50-year
12	study period to ensure that sufficient revenue will be
13	collected during that time to meet all repayment
14	obligations.
15	I'll provide a brief overview of how
16	the major cost components are estimated and how those
17	costs have changed compared to the FY 2013 PRSs, which
18	the existing integrated system rates are based on.
19	Details on the methods and specific costs are provided
20	in the FY 2023 PRS posted to Southwestern's website.
21	So the first major cost category is the
22	Corps' operation and maintenance expenses or O&M
23	expenses. O&M expenses are calculated using the
24	expense the actual expenses reported on the Corps'
25	financial statements for the past 10 years.

1	First, we inflate prior years up to
2	current year dollars. Then we take the 10-year
3	average of the cost adjusted expense totals to to
4	have to arrive at the base O&M cost to be used in
5	the study.
6	Next, we add additional funding to
7	future years where there are non-routine expenses
8	occurring, and we adjust for changes in full-time
9	positions.
10	Finally, each year of cost of the
11	excuse me. Finally, we inflate each year of the cost
12	evaluation period using the values from the
13	presidential budget.
14	Overall, expenses increased in large
15	part due to inflationary pressures on labor costs as
16	well as increases to actual post-retirement benefits
17	and workers' compensation estimate.
18	The next category is SWPA expenses.
19	SWPA expenses are for operation, maintenance of the
20	transmission system, and marketing of the federal
21	hydropowered product. SWPA expenses are calculated
22	using current budget estimates for SWPA's labor, as
23	well as actual values for post-retirement benefits and
24	workers' compensation.
25	There is an overall increase in SWPA

1	expenses due to inflationary pressures on labor costs
2	as well as increases to actual post-retirement
3	benefits and workers' compensation estimates. There
4	is some downward pressure due to due to a decrease
5	in lease expenses for the Tulsa headquarters building.
6	The last major category is principle
7	and interest. The principle and interest includes
8	existing investments and future investments, and
9	future investments are comprised of ongoing
10	investments, additions, and replacements. These
11	investments are for the hydropower projects and
12	include joint-use items and the transmission system as
13	well as interests associated with all of those
14	investments.
15	So existing investments include capital
16	construction projects which are completed and
17	considered considered to be plant-in-service.
18	Southwestern uses plant-in-service data from the
19	Southwestern Federal Power System financial statements
20	for existing investment debt and interest
21	calculations.
22	Payments on existing investments are
23	made annually, first on the investments that are due
24	at the end of their service life, followed by the
25	investments bearing the highest interest rates.

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Amortization of existing investments
has decreased due to longer timelines to place new
equipment into service compared to expectations in the
2013 study. This has had the effect of reducing the
amount of outstanding investment debt to be serviced
and has subsequently applied a downward pressure to
the rate.

Future investment, specifically construction work-in-progress and additions, includes ongoing capital projects that have not been put into plant-in-service on the financial reports. The values for construction work-in-progress are taken from the Southwestern Federal Power System financial statements -- excuse me.

Additions are one-time capital construction projects that will not recur within the 50-year study time period either due to having service lives longer than the 50-year study period or to other special circumstances. Longer timelines regarding contracting and awarded projects has decreased the amount of funds held in construction work-in-progress and addition. And that has applied a downward pressure to the rates.

Future investment replacements represents current cost estimates for the replacement

of components related to hydropower, which occur at
periodic intervals throughout the study's 50-year
period. The frequency of replacement is based on the
Corps' and SWPA's guidelines regarding service life
for each piece of equipment.

2.4

While there was slight downward pressure on the rate due to replacements not occurring as early as previously estimated in 2013, increases in both the estimated present-day costs of future replacements as well as significant increases in the construction indexes used to estimate future cost replacements contributed to the increase -- an overall increase in replacement costs and subsequent upward pressure on the rates.

The last subcategory for principal and interest is interest. Each fiscal year investment which moves to plant-into-service, and therefore becomes existing investment, is assigned the PMA treasury rate applicable for that year. The existing investment will earn interest at that rate until it -- and -- and that investment will earn interest at that rate until it is paid off.

Future investments which include construction work-in-progress, additions, and replacements are also assumed to use the -- the PMA

1	treasury rate for the current fiscal year. The FY
2	2023 interest rate of 2.75 percent is the same as the
3	rate applicable during the FY 2013 study on which the
4	current effective rates are based. Having the same
5	interest rate in 2013 and 2023 combined with lower
6	interest rates in intervening years had a slight
7	downward pressure on the rate between 2013 and 2023.
8	So the next major major study that
9	we have available to discuss today is the rate design
10	study, and because the 2023 power payment studies
11	indicated an increase in revenue greater than our rate
12	adjustment threshold of 2.0 percent as required to
13	meet our repayment obligation, we were not able to
14	defer rate adjustment, and a rate design study was
15	developed.
16	The rate design study utilizes data
17	from the same sources of the power repayment studies
18	to allocate specific costs to the appropriate
19	individual rate components. Detailed descriptions of
20	the allocation of cost components are included in the
21	2023 rate design study posted to Southwestern's
22	website.
23	So that is the brief overview that I
24	have. We wanted to leave plenty of time for specific

questions and comments. So we will begin that session

25

1	now. Any questions that we are not able to answer
2	during the forum, we'll have the answers posted to
3	Southwestern website at least 15 days before the end
4	of the comment period on February 10, 2025, which
5	means the responses will have to be posted by January
6	26, 2025.
7	So the order in which we will accept
8	comments and questions, the same order in which we
9	received responses or affirmative RSVPs for the forum.
LO	So that would be actually, apologies. I'm going to
L1	pause really quick. So first we will start with Nicki
L2	Fuller from SPRA, then move to James Striedel, and
L3	then to individuals with Associated Electric
L4	Cooperative.
L5	And then the last person who RSVP'd
L6	directly was from the city of Purcell, Trey Phillips.
L7	I do not see him on the call this morning.
L8	And then if we have time, we will open
L9	it up for additional questions and comments from
20	others on the line.
21	So with that, Nicki, the floor is
22	yours.
23	MS. FULLER: Thank you, Ashley. I
24	appreciate it. Can you hear me?
25	MS. CORKER: Yes, I can.

1	MS. FULLER: Yes. Okay, perfect. I
2	I appreciate you holding this forum. Thank you very
3	much for that.
4	I would like to walk through
5	specifically the table the I'm sorry, the
6	schedule of significant changes that's on page A8, and
7	I'll just tell me when you're there. I'll give you
8	time to get there.
9	MS. CORKER: Yes, I am working on
10	sharing my screen so that we can all see.
11	MS. FULLER: Okay, perfect.
12	MS. CORKER: While we are waiting, I
13	will note I to the to the best of my ability, I
14	will try to use the same documents that were posted on
15	our website as far as having the first and second
16	half. We weren't able to keep the document in one
17	place, because it was a very large size after we
18	performed the 508 compliance, which is required by
19	law. So like I said, I will try to stay in line with
20	everybody else. Okay. Okay. And you said on page
21	A8?
22	MS. FULLER: Correct. Actually 8
23	let's go A7. I'm sorry, the actual table, not the
24	footnotes. And I am really old and blind. There you
25	go. Perfect. Thank you so much. My eyes just don't

1	work like they used to. Okay.
2	So I I'd like to to walk through
3	this, but but I have a or at least one holistic
4	question first to make sure that I am looking at this
5	correctly is that, you know, these are just the
6	differences that were identified between the 2022
7	power repayment study for the integrated system and
8	the 2023 power repayment study for the integrated
9	system; is that correct?
10	MS. CORKER: That is correct.
11	MS. FULLER: Okay, perfect. That's
12	what I thought. Okay.
13	I'd like to could you scroll down a
14	little bit? I'd like to talk about just the the
15	some of these differences between the two, of course
16	the ones that that stand out the most. So first
17	I'd like to talk about the increase in purchase power.
18	Can you speak to the drivers of the increase in the
19	cost and of the actual purchase? The increase in
20	purchase of power?
21	MS. CORKER: Yes. So when you say,
22	"The actual increase in purchase," do you mean the
23	increase from the 220.6 to the 225.9 gigawatt hours?
24	MS. FULLER: Yes.
25	MS. CORKER: So this would've been

1	
1	largely driven by the estimated outages in the study
2	period. So we we have an a period of
3	significant reinvestment going on right now in our
4	hydropower system, which means there are more outages
5	both and forced.
6	So what we do to estimate our purchase
7	power is we focus in on the purchases required to meet
8	our contractual demand during our peak periods,
9	specifically the summer. So if we have additional
10	units unavailable or estimated to be unavailable
11	during the summer, that will result in an increase in
12	purchase power needed in order to meet our contractual
13	obligations. So that is that is the main driver
14	behind the increase in the the volume of energy
15	purchased is the estimated outages for the period.
16	As far as the cost, we've looked at a
17	variety of ways to estimate the the cost. There is
18	a capacity and an energy portion to this. Although we
19	have seen capacity costs increasing in general, energy
20	costs have actually decreased a little bit from where
21	they've been in the last five to ten years. So we
22	were trying to estimate something reasonable across
23	the 50-year period.
24	So the energy cost, I think, is

relatively stagnant, which is maybe why there's not as

25

1	much of an overall increase in in the cost of power
2	despite the well, I'm sorry. I I'm going to
3	stop there, actually.
4	MS. FULLER: No, that's great. Thank
5	you, Ashley.
6	My question, and and you may not be
7	able to answer this, but as you look at the next power
8	repayment study, where do you forecast that this
9	amount of purchase power will be given that we got
10	we have a few plants back on and a few plants back
11	off offline?
12	MS. CORKER: Sorry, I'm we're
13	sidebarring very quickly, just so that
14	MS. FULLER: You're fine.
15	MS. CORKER: Reporter is aware.
16	Okay, so our sidebar is over, and I
17	think we are we need to stick to the FY 2023 power
18	repayment study and study for the content of this
19	forum. I think it sounded like your question was
20	about future cost estimation. So we'll we'll not
21	be able to discuss that today.
22	MS. FULLER: Sure. Okay, moving on,
23	I'd like to go on to number 12, the Corps project O&M.
24	The difference between 2022 and 2023 being about 7.2
25	million, I heard you say. And and in your report,

Τ	it says this is due to an increase in wages, workers'
2	compensation, and retirement benefits. This seems
3	like a very large jump in one year. Is there any way
4	to break down what caused such a significant jump
5	other you know, if it's in these three buckets, how
6	is it broken down in these buckets, and and why was
7	there such a large increase over one year?
8	MS. CORKER: So regarding the
9	year-to-year increase, that was actually due to a
10	change in the in the method which we estimated
11	Corps O&M costs. We actually discovered in 2023 that
12	using the numbers provided by the Corps had
13	historically underestimated their costs. So their
14	future costs were less than their past costs.
15	So we devised a new method that is, as
16	I mentioned at the beginning, is based on the last ten
17	years of actual cost as well as their estimate of
18	their future. So we believe that this better reflects
19	the actual costs that have occurred within the last
20	ten years, which would have been from 2013 to '23. So
21	the increase is not necessarily a jump in the actual
22	cost from one year to the next. It is just better
23	reflecting the the overall increase in costs from
24	2013 to 2023.
25	MS. FULLER: Thank you, I appreciate

1	that explanation.
2	I'd like to move on to number 13.
3	The can you tell me what makes up the or what
4	makes up the bucket of service charges, and what is
5	the driver of the \$8.3 million increase in that
6	component?
7	MS. CORKER: So and just really
8	quick, if somebody could point me to the page where
9	the service charges are laid out, which that so
10	the the main driver here of the \$8.3 million
11	increase is going to be, I believe, the MISO
12	transmission expense.
13	Sorry, we're going to sidebar again.
14	Sorry, I was incorrect. I apologize. This is why I
15	needed the sidebar. We're trying to find the page
16	number that we can flip to to show you the specific
17	MS. FULLER: Sure, that'd be great.
18	Thank you.
19	MS. CORKER: I I'll find it. Okay.
20	We're we are still looking for that. I believe the
21	information is in the study, and we are trying to
22	figure out which page it is on. So we have made a
23	note to circle back to that if that's okay, Nicki.
24	MS. FULLER: Yeah, absolutely. And
25	and I'm glad I'm not the only one that had a problem

1	finding it, so that makes me feel better. I will keep
2	going.
3	I I'd like to talk about the next
4	the next section, number 14, the total operating
5	expenses shows a \$15, or I'm sorry, \$15 million
6	increase from '22 to '23. Can you explain what the
7	driver of that increase is?
8	MS. CORKER: Yes, so this is the total
9	of the I believe, the purchase power cost, the
10	Southwestern marketing cost, the Corps O&M, and the
11	service charges. So the main drivers of the increase
12	in total operating expenses is going to be the about
13	\$7 million increase to the Corps O&M and the \$8
14	million increase to the service charge.
15	MS. FULLER: Okay, perfect. Thank you.
16	I I'm sure you can anticipate my next question.
17	Number 15, the total investments. And and again, I
18	think I I I'm pretty clear on this, but can you
19	just briefly explain what has caused the driver
20	between 2022 and 2023 in that large difference in
21	column 15 for total investments?
22	MS. CORKER: Yes, we are going to
23	sidebar on this as well, so I make sure to provide
24	accurate information.
25	Okay, thank you for a little bit of

patience. So that the increase in investment is
largely just driven by having ten years of additional
construction projects being completed and put in a
plant-in-service. A big example of this would be the
Ozark Turbine Rehabilitation. All of that investment
was placed in a plant-in-service during the time
between 2013 and 2023.
MS. FULLER: Ashley, again, this is
showing my ignorance here, but I thought this was the
difference between 2022 and 2023?
MS. CORKER: And I'm sorry, but you are
correct. I apologize. Ozark did, was put in
plant-in-service in 2023, and it was about, I think
\$96 million. So that would be a portion of it. We
can, again, we can try to prepare a more detailed
response to this. There is a significant amount of
information on the investments in the in the study,
but I we do not have it on hand right now to
discuss in detail.
MS. FULLER: That's okay. If you could
prepare one, that would be great.
And then, of course, just I'll move on
to column 16, which is my final question. The
difference between those two columns in one year seems
very significant. Just wondering what makes up that

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MS. CORKER: So this is a pretty significant increase that occurred from 2022 to 2023. It was largely driven by cost increases that have been realized since the 2020-2021 timeframe as far as, you know, the -- the cost of -- of doing electrical work or work that involves a lot -- lot of metal such as like turbine replacements or gate replacements, things like that. So we -- we actually increase the cost estimate for many of the major components on our replacements list.

But the other major driver is that there were significant increases to the construction indexes, which are used to inflate the cost into the future.

So -- and one -- one item of note here is that when we did the 2022 study, we had not received updated construction index information. So the '23 -- or sorry, the '22 study was still using construction indexes from 2021. So there were relatively significant increases from '21 to '22 and '22 to '23. However, the jump that we're seeing in the construction indexes from '22 to '23 is really from 2021 to 2023 because we didn't have the updated 2022 information. So that's exacerbating this jump a

1	little bit.
2	MS. FULLER: Thank you. And just so I
3	make sure I'm talking about the right thing, when
4	you're talking about this particular component, you're
5	talking about the estimated cost for all major
6	replacements, not just the ones that have been
7	completed, but but the ones that will be completed
8	in the future; is that correct?
9	MS. CORKER: That is correct. And it
LO	really the the replacements is actually only the
L1	ones that will be completed in the future. And that
L2	is one thing we will so that line 15, the total
L3	investment is really the existing investment. And
L 4	then line 16, the total major replacements is actually
L5	the construction work-in-progress, additions, and
L6	replacements. So we've changed our terminology since
L7	this draft document was prepared. So just to clarify
L8	that a little bit.
L9	MS. FULLER: That's very helpful, thank
20	you.
21	That concludes my questions as of now.
22	I I appreciate your time and and look forward to
23	the additional information that you guys will send
24	out. Thank you.
25	MS. CORKER: Okay. And we will we
	Page 31

1 will go back to your question on the service charges. 2. That is on page D7, which is page 30, I believe, of 3 the PDF. Sorry about that. Okay, page D7, on page 4 D7. Thirty -- it's like 35, 36, 5 MR. HODGE: 6 It's -- it's at there, multiple pages. 37. 7 Okay. Okay, so we'll go MS. CORKER: 8 with page 37, 38. I'm on page D8, however. 9 service charges are listed out here for FY 27, I believe -- and I apologize, I was correct. 10 I doubted myself a little bit there. The main driver of the 11 12 increase in service charges from '22 to '23 is the 13 transmission for -- to bring the generation from 14 Blakely Mountain and DeGray from MISO into 15 Southwestern's balancing area. 16 MS. FULLER: Perfect, thank you so much 17 for that. 18 MS. CORKER: Okay. And then I do have 19 one outstanding item regarding investments which we will likely address by posting a response to our 20 21 website by January 26th. 22 That sounds great, thank MS. FULLER: 23 you. 24 MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. Then 25 next on our list of speakers is James Striedel.

1	MR. STRIEDEL: Ashley, this is James.
2	Can you hear me?
3	MS. CORKER: I can. Thank you, James.
4	MR. STRIEDEL: Again, let me start off
5	by expressing appreciation for this forum as as
6	Nicki did and also for the fact that we've been 11
7	years without a rate increase in on these system
8	rates. I know that the SWPA staff has put in a lot of
9	effort in cost cutting to help us to get to this point
10	from their part of the cost, and it it is not
11	unnoticed, and it is very much appreciated.
12	If you could go to the RDS table one, I
13	believe it's page 170 of the second PDF.
14	MS. CORKER: Thank you, James. Very
15	helpful.
16	MR. STRIEDEL: If you could kind of
17	be well, we'll just leave it there. It's kind of
18	hard to see all of it probably, unless you've got a
19	really big screen here. But let me just ask a few
20	questions here that are high level and then get into
21	some of the pieces here that that we're looking at
22	here.
23	Again, these rates cover how many
24	generation project hydro generation projects?
25	MS. CORKER: They cover a total of 22

1	hydropower projects.
2	MR. STRIEDEL: Okay. And how many of
3	those projects are integrated together on the
4	the by the SWPA transmission system or by firm
5	transmission contract?
6	MS. CORKER: Nineteen of the twenty-two
7	projects.
8	MR. STRIEDEL: And how are the other
9	three different?
LO	MS. CORKER: The remaining projects,
L1	which are Denison and Narrows and Whitney are
L2	financially integrated with our interconnected
L3	system the 19 interconnected system projects in
L4	order to provide more stability for the rate. So they
L5	do share the totally financially integrated, they
L6	share costs and revenues.
L7	So the the main difference is that
L8	they are not connected to Southwestern's transmission
L9	system, and they are also not there is not a firm
20	amount of energy that those that the customers of
21	those three isolated projects receive each year. So
22	Southwestern doesn't purchase to make up any deficit
23	in the the energy output from the projects that
24	would be due to a low-water year. And accordingly,
25	those three projects do not pay the the purchase

1	power charges.
2	MR. STRIEDEL: Okay, thank you. And
3	within the new rate schedule, as we saw earlier some
4	of Nicki's questions, there's now a wheeling charge or
5	a firm transmission contract, and that's in that
6	now in that purchase power and wheeling charge that's
7	now being proposed; correct?
8	MS. CORKER: That is correct.
9	MR. STRIEDEL: All right. So these
10	projects don't have a 1200-hour guarantee based on
11	their contract capacity. They take whatever energy is
12	available from these specific plants, and they're not
13	interconnected as you've just stated. Looking at the
14	RDS page that we're looking at here on the screen,
15	these rates, particularly column well, you don't
16	have column numbers on them, but the hydropower
17	transmission service column, that is the transmission
18	cost for that integrated system that SWPA operates;
19	correct?
20	MS. CORKER: That is correct.
21	MR. STRIEDEL: Okay. I'm sorry, I
22	missed what you said.
23	MS. CORKER: I'm sorry. You're
24	correct.
25	MR. STRIEDEL: So that part of the rate

1	is for the transmission service to which these three
2	projects and contracts for these customers is not
3	connected. And again, the portion of the rate, just
4	looking at it and not getting into any of the detail
5	of that column of hydropower transmission service, it
6	totals \$1.15 per KW month; is that correct?
7	MS. CORKER: That is correct.
8	MR. STRIEDEL: And it's also
9	approximately 5.30 of the total I mean it's a \$1.15
10	of the total 5.30 charge for federal capacity?
11	MS. CORKER: That is correct.
12	MR. STRIEDEL: Okay, I I appreciate
13	that. Can you state whether or not these three
14	projects benefit from the integrated SWPA's
15	integrated transmission system and costs?
16	MS. CORKER: So Southwestern believes
17	that these projects do benefit from that, because it
18	is part of the bundled rate for capacity. As I
19	mentioned a few minutes ago, these projects are
20	financially integrated. That financial integration
21	does include the capital and expense costs associated
22	with transmission, which again are as part of the
23	bundled rate.
24	So by paying that bundled capacity rate
25	and being financially integrated with the 19 projects,

1	we believe that the three isolated projects do
2	ultimately benefit through paying this transmission
3	rate.
4	MR. STRIEDEL: All right. Let's look
5	at the column generation. That's a part of the
6	capacity charge to all of these customers; correct?
7	MS. CORKER: Correct.
8	MR. STRIEDEL: The 3.88?
9	MS. CORKER: Correct.
10	MR. STRIEDEL: Is there is there
11	reciprocal benefits for sure on the generation
12	directly? They all have capacity in generation, and
13	they share in the cost and the the reciprocal
14	benefits?
15	MS. OHLSON: Sharing the costs and
16	revenue? Yes.
17	MS. CORKER: Yes, they share in the
18	cost and in the revenue.
19	MR. STRIEDEL: Okay. As was stated
20	earlier, we saw that and if you go over to the
21	purchase power and wheeling charge over to the right,
22	it's also a generation function. The purchase power
23	and wheeling \$23 million, is that charged to the
24	isolated project contract?
25	MS. CORKER: No, it is not. It is

1	separate from the generation.
2	MR. STRIEDEL: So how is that different
3	than the transmission system that the isolated system
4	customers are not connected to?
5	MS. OHLSON: It it's different in
6	that both the 19 generation projects as well as
7	Southwestern's transmission system, the portion of
8	of which is attributed to federal power delivery,
9	because we do have, you know, a portion of those costs
10	that are carved out for non-federal customers. So the
11	portion the transmission, the portion associated
12	with federal power as well as the all 22 projects
13	are financially integrated.
14	And there's a benefit there in the
15	diversification of those financials, both from a
16	revenue and a cost standpoint. You know, as those
17	isolated projects have received you know, have
18	have had costs associated with them, with major
19	component replacements that in some cases have
20	resulted in capacity increases and, you know,
21	additional benefits to those customers, those costs
22	are being repaid by the entire integrated system of
23	rates.
24	So so those costs at the isolated
25	projects are being born by the entire set of

Τ	integrated system customers. So it's a financial
2	sharing of benefits and costs.
3	MR. STRIEDEL: Those items of increased
4	capacity that you just illustrated, those costs would
5	be under what column of this RPS? Generation or
6	hydropower transmission service?
7	MS. OHLSON: It it's potentially in
8	both, because there are components of the Corps of
9	the Corps generation projects that are carved out and
10	considered a transmission cost. And similarly, there
11	are some components of Southwestern's transmission
12	system that are carved out and are considered to be a
13	generation cost. That's, you know, provided in more
14	detail in in the rate design study.
15	You can see it at a high level, I
16	believe maybe not on this table. Yeah, you can see
17	where there's existing project investment existing
18	project investment that then is associated with
19	transmission and vice versa, transmission investment
20	and then transmission investment associate which
21	generation.
22	So it it's it's the fact of
23	those the transmission system, if if you think
24	of it as like a like a project, like a Corps
25	project, those are all financially integrated, the 22

1	projects and Southwestern's transmission system. So
2	there's there the diversification of costs and then
3	the revenues coming in.
4	MR. STRIEDEL: And those projects that
5	you're talking about, addition, are listed there in
6	the rows listed as project investment project
7	investments/project replacement?
8	MS. OHLSON: Yes.
9	MR. STRIEDEL: That's specifically what
LO	you're talking about?
L1	MS. OHLSON: Yeah, you can see where
L2	there's that split.
L3	MR. STRIEDEL: So there's, so you see
L4	some benefits there?
L5	MS. OHLSON: I see the benefit as the
L6	financial integration overall. Again, it's it's
L7	like a diversification of a portfolio. You know, if
L8	one of the isolated projects is in you know,
L9	there's a diversification here of of region and
20	and you know, hydrology.
21	So if one of the isolated projects is,
22	you know, having a low generation year and potentially
23	on its own could repay its own cost, because it's
24	financially integrated, revenues brought in by other
25	projects, including the fact that Southwestern

1	provides transmission services, those revenues are
2	applied to that isolated project. So there there's
3	complete financial integration with with the costs
4	and revenues.
5	MR. STRIEDEL: Do the isolated
6	facilities gain any portfolio benefit from the
7	hydropower-integrated facilities as far as energy is
8	concerned?
9	MS. OHLSON: I'm I I think I know
10	what you're what you're asking, James, and I I
11	think, you know, clearly there isn't energy delivered
12	from the interconnected system to an isolated project.
13	That's, you know, contractually how those isolated
14	how the isolated projects work.
15	You know, the the same is true in
16	reverse. The interconnected system customers do not
17	receive, you know, direct energy from an isolated
18	project. But again, the the characteristics of
19	energy delivery are not are are not relevant to
20	the financial integration of the 22 projects and
21	Southwestern's transmission system.
22	MR. STRIEDEL: In this rate design
23	study, is SWPA adhering to a cost causation rate
24	principle? The customer that caused the cost pay the
25	cost, and the customer that benefit from the cost

1	should pay for the cost?
2	MS. OHLSON: The concept of the
3	financially integrated rates, yes. I mean, again, an
4	isolated project customer benefits from the revenue
5	generation across these 22 projects and the
6	transmission system. There's there's no yeah,
7	differentiation in those those revenues when they
8	come in. They're applied to the project and and,
9	you know, component as as needed. So there
10	there's benefit there.
11	MR. STRIEDEL: Okay. Again, I'll leave
12	any other questions to the to the written comments.
13	A couple of couple of requests. One would be can
14	we please have electronic copies, Word and Excel of
15	the PRS and the RDS? Again, trying to pull some of
16	these numbers together and seeing exactly what the
17	formulas are, it's a little bit difficult from these
18	PDFs, and it'd be greatly appreciated. And again, I'm
19	sure there's other customers who would like to benefit
20	from that also.
21	MS. CORKER: Your comment has been
22	noted.
23	MR. STRIEDEL: All right. Again, I
24	appreciate the opportunity to make comments and
25	questions, and I'll turn it back over.

1	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. The
2	next we had several representatives from Associated
3	Electric Cooperative.
4	MS. KENLY: Good morning, Ashley. This
5	is Amanda Kenly. I have first I want to say thank
6	you, as as both James and Nicki did for providing
7	this forum and an opportunity for the customers to ask
8	questions of Southwestern. We really appreciate all
9	the information that you've assembled and dispersed
10	for our consumption. It is a lot to get our arms
11	around, so appreciate this forum to ask some questions
12	to help us navigate that.
13	So I I do have just a few questions
14	and then I'll I'll give the floor back to other
15	customers who who may want to interface with you.
16	I guess first of all, I appreciate you
17	walking through the schedule of significant changes
18	between the prior rate repayment study and this
19	current rate repayment study. Just a question on the
20	MISO transmission cost. Can you confirm that that
21	incremental annual cost is perpetuated throughout
22	the the 50-year study kind of on a go-forward
23	basis?
24	MS. CORKER: Yes, it is.
25	MS. KENLY: Okay, thank you. Also,

1	I I'd like to understand a little better how the
2	water assumptions are are handled. Does under
3	underpinning the rate repayment studies, could you
4	kind of speak to how that what what assumption
5	is used? Obviously, there are high-water years,
6	low-water years. If you could just provide some
7	clarity on what goes into the rate repayment study as
8	far as water, that would be helpful.
9	MS. CORKER: Yes, absolutely. So
10	essentially, we have a period of record of inflows
11	that we feed into our hydropower model or system
12	model. And that period of record used for the 2023

that we feed into our hydropower model or system model. And that period of record used for the 2023 study is 1928 through 2022. So in the early years, there are estimates about the -- the inflow that would've come into our projects based on the historical rainfall. And then, you know, as projects actually come on board, it's the actual inflow that

was recorded into those projects.

So we take that, you know, nearly 100 years of inflow and we run a period of record simulation and based on the, you know, our other base assumptions, which includes capacity availability, you know, versus outages. And so once we have a run for each of those nearly a hundred years, we take the average year as far as to inform our -- our rate, our

1	power repayment study, as well as our rate design
2	study. There is a table find it page 162.
3	So once we do design a rate based

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So once we do design a rate based on the average water conditions, we do have this little chart showing, you know, what our revenue would be based on the high-water conditions and the low-water conditions. So the minimum and the maximum just to show that we're still meeting our minimum net revenues, which is after we pay off all our expenses, that's the amount we need to pay investments. And so I know it's hard to see here, let me zoom in a little bit.

But the -- so the rate of \$5.30 per kilowatt month and 12.8 mils per kilowatt hour is here, and it does -- even in our lowest estimated water year, it does -- it is giving us the bare minimum net revenues required to pay off the investment. So we essentially design the rate to ensure that we -- we will be able to do that even if we do have a bad water year. But it is based on the average water year, which again is consistent across all of our various rate alternatives.

MS. KENLY: Okay, thank you for that.

As it relates to kind of the -- the forward outlook on capacity, you mentioned as you're looking at period of

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record, you know you're looking at capacity, availability, or outages. In the forward projection for both the rate repayment study as well as the rate design study, are you assuming any capacity uprates to projects or retirements or reductions in capacity of projects in those studies?

MS. CORKER: So I -- we would assume those if we believed them to be reasonable. I believe as far as uprates, that is something that we wouldn't necessarily assume until we saw it. But also same with the derates.

So essentially what we do for our resource analysis, which is the period of record model that I spoke to regarding inflows, we hone in on the first five years of our 50-year study period. So we do -- we have better assumptions that we can make for those first five years of the study as far as the anticipated outages.

We do not anticipate forced outages that have not yet occurred. We do anticipate planned outages, which we've seen recently. We've anticipated them in the resource analysis, and then they haven't actually happened as early as they thought or as early as we had estimated, but perhaps we had a, you know, a forced outage instead. So everything somewhat evens

1	out.
2	But we would consider within that
3	first five-year period, we would consider an uprate or
4	a derate or an outage if we knew for sure that it was
5	happening. So I would, I I would have to look in
6	our 2023 resource analysis to see if we did assume any
7	uprates. But that can be if you'd like, that can
8	be one of our our due-outs for the the responses
9	posted prior to January 26th.
10	MS. KENLY: Yes, that that would be
11	appreciated. Thank you.
12	I guess the the last thing I had a
13	question on was around the new rate structure. Would
14	you be able to walk us through at a high level how you
15	determine the rate structure, and in particular,
16	discuss any differences in the way this rate structure
17	is designed compared to current?
18	In particular, I was looking at the
19	the discussion that's in the second half packet that
20	starts on page L2 and L3, and there was a paragraph on
21	this on L3 that discussed including a separate
22	component that segregates purchase power revenues. I
23	just want to understand if that is if that is
24	somehow different than what is currently in place.

So -- and that's my last question.

25

1	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. Well,
2	answering that question on a high level, there are
3	no I I would say there are no substantial
4	differences in how we've designed the rate compared to
5	2013. We did have to make some adjustments due to
6	changes that had happened since 2013, just as an
7	example, the network integration service that many of
8	our customers now received through SPP rather than
9	from Southwestern. That was something we had to make
10	sure that we handled appropriately.
11	But in general, the overall rate design
12	is the same. Answering your specific question, the
13	carve-out of the the purchase power costs is the

But in general, the overall rate design is the same. Answering your specific question, the carve-out of the -- the purchase power costs is the same that we have currently in place based on our 2013 rate. We have added the -- the new MISO transmission costs to that component, the purchase power adder.

And we also will be ensuring that any revenue from Blakely Mountain/DeGray is also added to that component. So the purchase power adder has -- has changed somewhat. Again, more so due to just the changes that we've experienced in the last ten years rather than a specific change in design. I can certainly walk through our -- our method. Well, I -- I guess I would stop there and say did that help with your more specific question?

1	MS. KENLY: Yes, Ashley. Thank you.
2	And if you could walk through the method, that would
3	be great.
4	MS. CORKER: Yes. Okay. So I do think
5	that really begins on I'm going to say page the
6	very bottom of page L7, and actually, I'm going to
7	sidebar really quick just to kind of get a plan in
8	place for how to do this. It is there's a lot of
9	information, and I want to make sure I'm sharing it in
10	the best way possible.
11	Okay, thank you for your patience. So
12	again, very first step is to define the base year of
13	our rate design. We always use the the fifth year
14	of the study, which is because the power repayment
15	study, I mentioned briefly that we really hone in on
16	the first five years of costs. I think I mentioned
17	that as far as you know, outage assumptions and any
18	uprate or derate assumptions. But we do the same
19	thing for our cost estimates as well.
20	So we estimate the first five years of
21	expenses and we really hone in on the the first
22	five years of any future replacements, and then we
23	carry that fifth year out for the next 50 years. So
24	we're very intentional when we are making the
25	decisions about how the figures look because again,

1	that will impact our study significantly. It is 46
2	out of the 50 years of cost analysis. So we're, you
3	know, I guess very intentional with how we estimate
4	those costs to make sure that we're not
5	inappropriately over or underestimating costs
6	throughout the study period.
7	So the study period for the 2023 power
8	repayment study is 2023 through 2072. The fifth year
9	is 2027. So 2027 is our base cost year or base year.
10	Next, as noted with table two, all of our annual costs
11	are tabulated. This information is taken from our
12	power repayment study and serves as the base for our
13	rate design study.
14	Essentially we have we have our
15	revenue requirement from the power repayment study and
16	then we break them up into the various cost
17	components. And that is a big step for determining
18	how those various costs should be allocated to our
19	rate component.
20	And I'll just note here, the integrated
21	system total revenue requirement from our power
22	repayment study is about 238 million. So that is
23	that is our goal when assigning the rate is to reach
24	that on an average annual basis.
25	And then, so the next step is to look

1	at the existing investments and I'm sorry I know
2	this is really zoomed out for you all. I'll kind of
3	zoom in a little. So once we have all of our our
4	costs listed in table two, tables three and four take
5	all of our existing investments as well as the
6	additions and replacements and kind of get relative
7	requirements for repayment.

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So we're not actually -- we're not actually saying that this is how much we need to pay every year, but we're getting the relative investment for each of those categories and developing ratio So then those ratio factors are applied to the estimated average annual revenue that we have to pay off our existing and future replacements.

And so what tables three and four do, essentially one of them is for the project investment and the other is for the transmission investment. both of them carve out the portions of transmission investment for projects and project investment for transmission appropriately.

And then tables five and six again continue to get those ratio factors once we have the project investment and then the transmission investment associated with project and so on so that we can get an adjusted annual equivalent cost, which

1 is shown in table six.

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So then the next item -- so the next item is to essentially classify the cost into transmission and generation. So this is done in table seven -- excuse me. And then -- sorry it's hard, I'm so sorry. It's harder to do this without being able to look at the table at the same time which is normally how I explain this.

So -- and again, you take the cost, divide them into transmission and generation, which are the two high-level categories.

And then we look at the ancillary services in table eight. So those are based on -- one of them is based on an EPRI method. The other is based on, you know, kind of carving out the investment associated with each ancillary service and applying it to the customers who benefit from that specific ancillary service.

And then this next paragraph, most of it is just kind of the history of what we used to do. This was actually a change that we had based on -- or a change from our 2013 rate design study to the 2023 rate design study. Essentially the way we used to determine the generation cost breakdown between the capacity and the energy components we felt was no

1	longer applicable, because the the cost for a
2	hydropower project that goes with energy is a largely
3	fixed cost. That would be things like procuring the
4	land, building the dam, things like that.

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So it's really the -- the capacity costs are going to bear the -- the majority of the ongoing reinvestment. Things like the turbines, the generators, and the -- the ancillary equipment, you know, are largely due to just to have that capacity available. The energy, since it's just water, is a relatively fixed cost in the long run.

And so what we had seen is that as more and more investment was added, more and more of the costs were shifting towards energy based on the method that we had developed in the past. So after considering what other power marketing administrations do and looking more close -- shifting towards -- oh sorry, I -- I said the wrong thing. So the costs were shifting more and more towards capacity -- excuse me, I think I did kind of lead up to that appropriately at least.

So with cost shifting more towards capacity and away from energy, we looked at what other power marketing administrations do and also kind of honed in on our last several power repayments or rate

1	design studies prior to 2013. And we determined that
2	it would be appropriate to just use a set cost factor
3	for these things, kind of locking them in now to
4	prevent costs from skewing farther towards capacity in
5	the future.
6	So shown on the top of page L10 or 167
7	in the part two PDF can show the or this shows the
8	allocation factors for capacity and energy for the
9	existing investment, additions, and operation
10	maintenance as well as future replacements. And these
11	were based on an analysis of past power repayment
12	studies, and then it also and then we assign the
13	ancillary service cost to generation and depreciation,
14	which is capacity and assign our service charges again
15	to the the energy capacity, just kind of placing
16	each cost in its separate bucket.
17	We do something similar for the

We do something similar for the classification of transmission cost, taking a look at the total investment, the relative total investment between the transmission service and the transformation service and the -- and we determine the allocation factors again was based on that relative investment.

I mentioned the service charges earlier. We apply those to the specific bucket.

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Again, kind of trying to maintain the -- that the costs are assigned to the component that will recoup the revenue for it.

And then -- sorry, this is kind of on the very edge here. The final steps in -- in deriving the components of cost are -- are allocating to the capacity transmission energy costs for each category, again, kind of based on where those costs will be recouped via that specific rate requirement. Tables 11, 12, and 13 summarize this for the capacity side, the energy side, and the non-federal use of the transmission system.

And then table one summarizes everything, which we were looking at earlier is kind of which costs go to which -- which rate components.

And then finally the purchase power account is handled separately from the rest of that. It does include our estimated annual purchase power expense as well as the transmission expense from MISO to Southwestern system. And we also have the purchase power adder adjustment, which is set at the same -- or it's informed by the -- the purchase power adder itself. We have the ability to change that twice a year within the limit of 0.0087 kilowatt hour.

And so I'm sorry that was -- it's --

1	it's a lot of information, and I I hope that helped
2	a little bit. It's again, it's a lot to talk
3	just talk through without being able to show you data
4	at the same time. And I am happy to answer any other
5	specific questions.
6	MS. KENLY: Ashley, I appreciate that.
7	It it's it is, you know, the first time that,
8	that we've seen a rate structure be rolled out as a
9	change from from what was in place before. So
10	appreciate the high-level review of that. I may have
11	some additional questions, so I reserve the right to
12	ask questions later on this call, or we'll submit them
13	in writing. Thank you very much.
14	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. Is there
15	anybody else from Associated that would like to ask
16	questions or or share comments?
17	MS. KENLY: I don't believe we have
18	anyone else that will ask questions. Thank you.
19	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. And then
20	I can't see the list right now. Is Trey Phillips from
21	the city of Purcell on the line?
22	I'm hearing nobody, so, I guess, I will
23	open it up to additional questions from others that
24	have joined the forum. If folks are on Teams, I think
25	maybe using the raising hand technique would be

1	helpful.
2	I see Nicki has her hand raised.
3	MS. FULLER: Yes. Thank you, Ashley.
4	Just a question about procedure. You mentioned the
5	comment period closes February 10th. If folks have
6	additional questions after this meeting, should
7	they will there be another public forum, or should
8	those be submitted by email only?
9	MS. CORKER: We're going to sidebar
10	quickly in the room.
11	Okay. Thank you again for your
12	patience. You are correct. The next step would be
13	submitting any follow-up questions in writing. We can
14	provide the email addresses if needed in the chat that
15	those questions should be submitted to. I think it's
16	swparates@swpa.gov. You can also CC me and Alex on
17	that.
18	And so the the process is that any
19	written comments received will be addressed after the
20	end of the public comment period as part of our next
21	federal register notice. If we receive sufficient
22	comments that we believe a second forum would be
23	beneficial, we will plan for that as well, again, via
24	a federal register notice announcing the date and time
25	of such forum.

1	Again that is, if I believe it would
2	be Southwestern's administrator deems it necessary.
3	Otherwise, any outstanding questions from today will
4	be posted to our website by January 26th. And then
5	any written comments received after the forum will be
6	addressed in a future federal register notice after
7	the end of the the comment period on February 10th.
8	MS. FULLER: Thank you. What is your
9	anticipation for timing of implementation of this
LO	rate? Can you walk through the process after February
L1	10th? What are the next milestones up until
L2	implementation of the rate?
L3	MS. CORKER: Yes. So that does depend
L4	on the number of written comments that we receive, and
L5	when we receive them. We'll have to, you know,
L6	consider those comments and address each one. And
L7	then if if there is a comment that potentially
L8	results in, you know, some redesign of the rate, we
L9	would have to implement that and review it.
20	And once we have all of our comments
21	addressed, we do have to go through a DOE review, and
22	then we would post a federal register notice. Well,
23	we would we would sign a rate order after that and
24	post a federal register notice announcing that the
25	rates are in effect on an interim basis and then we

1	would submit all of our documentation to FERC so that
2	they can consider the rates for approval on a final
3	basis.
4	So again, I think it really depends on
5	the the number and nature of the the questions
6	or comments we receive through the written process.
7	But I think currently our our anticipation is that
8	the rates could be effective on May 1st of 2025, which
9	would mean we need to provide notice by April 1st of
10	2025 to provide for a 30-day advance notice.
11	MS. FULLER: Okay, great. Thank you so
12	much.
13	MS. CORKER: And apologies we are we
14	are sidebarring, and I think we have enough time left
15	in the forum that we can attempt to address the
16	investments question that we had outstanding from
17	earlier.
18	Okay. And we we are sidebarring in
19	the room. We will attempt to answer the the
20	investments question right now. We will also stay on
21	the line at least a couple representatives from
22	Southwestern will stay on the line through noon and
23	check in periodically to see if there anybody new
24	has joined, and if there are any other questions.
25	Again, we will be working on like, kind

1	of sidebarring on the investment question right now.
2	And I guess nobody wants to to wait around for
3	that. And we will go ahead and address it in our
4	follow-up prior to January 26th.
5	But again, since we did say this forum
6	would last through noon, we want to make sure that
7	anybody who could potentially join late has the
8	opportunities. So we'll stay online through that
9	time.
10	I will before before we kind of go
11	on mute and start working on this investment piece,
12	again, I would just ask if there are any other people
13	who have questions?
14	Okay. Hearing no questions, again, we
15	will work on this investments piece. At least, even
16	if we don't go over it now, because everybody else has
17	left, we will be better prepared for a written
18	response.
19	And with that, I think probably check
20	in maybe around 10:45 to see if anybody else is online
21	and then every 15 or 20 minutes after that through
22	noon.
23	MS. OHLSON: Two people joined.
24	MS. CORKER: And and I've been
25	notified, we did have a couple people join since the
- 1	

1	beginning of the meeting when we did the roll call.
2	So we had Barbara Smith, which it looks
3	like Barbara is already off for now. She is with
4	Southwestern.
5	I also see Raymond Eaton on the line.
6	Ray, are you willing to do a brief introduction of
7	yourself for our records?
8	MR. EATON: Can you hear me?
9	MS. CORKER: I can, yes. Thanks.
10	MR. EATON: Okay. Raymond Eaton, City
11	Utility, Springfield, Missouri.
12	MS. CORKER: Okay, thank you. And then
13	the last person last person that I see that has
14	joined is Kerri Dalaviras. Can you introduce
15	yourself?
16	MR. EATON: Ashley, Kerri's also with
17	City Utilities.
18	MS. CORKER: Okay, great. Thank you.
19	MR. EATON: You're welcome.
20	MS. CORKER: All right, and with that,
21	as noted, we will we will pause the more formal
22	proceeding and check in around 10:45 to see if there
23	are any questions that come up in the meantime.
24	MR. HODGE: Okay.
25	MS. CORKER: Okay. And if if we
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1 could go ahead and suspend the transcription while 2. we're pausing the meeting. That's appreciated. 3 (Off the record.) MS. CORKER: -- as well as address the 4 investments question that -- that Nicki had earlier 5 during the forum. 6 7 It's -- it's A7-8, page 10. MR. HODGE: 8 MS. CORKER: Apologies. I'm trying to 9 find the correct -- okay, so the question was regarding the total investment and the total major 10 replacements. And I apologize for not being readily 11 12 prepared given how easy this -- this question is. 13 But the total investment in fact does 14 include all of the future and existing investments. So it includes existing investment that is already 15 16 considered plant-in-service, construction work-in-progress, additions, and future replacements. 17 And then the total major replacements includes just 18 19 the future investments -- sorry, future investments, specifically the replacements. 20 So -- so the difference between the 21 2022 and 2023 for the total investment is really being 22 23 driven by the total major replacements. So these two 2.4 numbers here are a subset. So if you -- I mean, just looking at 2.3 million minus 2.2 million, the vast 25

1	majority of the total investment is being driven by
2	the future investment, the replacements. And then
3	same thing in 2023.
4	So really the answer is the same for
5	both of these as far as the cost increase, because
6	somewhat contradictory, this is the subtotal of this
7	total. Maybe explaining the
8	MS. FULLER: Are you sharing are you
9	trying to share your screen right now? 'Cause you're
10	referring to this and this, and I'm
11	MS. CORKER: I sure was. We thought we
12	were. Yep.
13	MS. FULLER: Oh, I'm sorry. No, we
14	don't we still see you and Fritha.
15	MS. CORKER: Okay. Sorry.
16	MS. FULLER: It's okay. Do you mind to
17	go through it one more time just to make sure I I
18	have it correct in my brain?
19	MS. CORKER: Yes. Maybe I'll do a
20	better job the second time. Okay. So as far as these
21	two numbers we were discussing earlier, the total
22	major replacements values list here are a subset of
23	the total investment. So the total investment is
24	really being driven by the future investment or the
25	replacements.

1	So the increase in the investment from
2	2022 to 2023 is being driven by the increase in
3	replacements, which as I had touched on earlier, is
4	largely driven by the actual cost increases that we
5	realize as well as the significant increases in the
6	construction index that we've experienced really from
7	2021 to 2023, 'cause we didn't have the 2022
8	construction index available at the time of the 2022
9	study.
10	MS. FULLER: Okay. I think I have it.
11	When when you do the the writeup audit, can
12	is there any way you can just in column row, I
13	guess, 15 and 16, just say what makes up those
14	particular items so that we can I might forget it.
15	Just make sure that we have that correctly in our
16	in my brain?
17	MS. CORKER: Yeah. And it actually, as
18	Fritha maybe started to point out, it it is
19	explained in these notes five and six and and
20	obviously, it's a lot to keep track of since I was not
21	tracking it myself. So the major replacements plus
22	additions and that the just the major replacements.
23	So so it is included in the existing writeup.
24	MS. FULLER: Okay. So the way I read
25	these footnotes is the difference between those two is

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MR. HODGE: You're looking at -- this is Alex Hodge. So when you're looking at -- let's -- footnote five, which is the total investment. That's all future major replacements plus the additions for the -- the additions for the Corps at Southwestern, which the additions are those capital costs that only occur once in the study, either due to length of service life or it's a -- it's a one-off purchase, you know, capital purchase that's being done that's not going to be repeated over and over through the 50-year evaluation period, unlike the replacements, which they repeat as their service lives come up within the 50-year evaluation period.

The total major replacements, that's just future replacements. That doesn't include additions at all. So that's where that a hundred million difference between those two numbers comes from.

MS. FULLER: Okay. So there's additions plus transmission, which is the -- the difference between the two, and the additions are the one-off expenses. Is there any way we could get a -- just some sort of accounting of what those additions are?

1	MS. CORKER: We're going to sidebar on
2	that. Just we can provide additional details in the
3	follow-up written response.
4	
	MS. FULLER: Yeah, that would be great.
5	I'm I'm certainly not expecting it now, but in the
6	follow-up will be great.
7	MS. CORKER: I guess to be clear, we
8	are not going to be providing a written follow-up of
9	all of the questions that have been addressed today,
10	only the outstanding questions. We do have a
11	transcript of this meeting, so there will be a written
12	documentation of of the questions being answered,
13	but we are only going to be separately addressing
14	outstanding questions from this forum.
15	MS. FULLER: Ashley, it looks like
16	there's a question in the chat.
17	THE REPORTER: I'm sorry, who was that
18	who just spoke saying there was a question in the
19	chat?
20	MS. FULLER: That was Nicki Fuller.
21	THE REPORTER: Okay, thank you.
22	MS. FULLER: Yes. Ashley, I believe
23	you're muted.
24	MS. CORKER: Yes, we were sidebarring.
25	So the question is do we have a list of the from

_	David leager, do we have a list of the replacements
2	included in the estimates? We do not have a list of
3	the specific replacements that are included. However,
4	there is a high-level list of the replacements
5	included in the power repayment study that is done by
6	project and service life, which we are working to find
7	the page of that in the repayment study now.
8	Okay. So starting on page K7, which is
9	page 133 of the of the section two of the RDS
LO	document, you break out the additions by project. So
L1	there's the Southwestern transmission I'll zoom in
L2	a little bit. Apologies. Southwestern transmission
L3	additions and replacements for FY 23 as well as just
L4	high level what we're estimating for each Corps
L5	project for 2023 as well. And it goes that goes
L6	through 2027.
L7	And then also for the future
L8	replacement, that's going to start on page J8, which
L9	is back to the section one. Oh. So starting on
20	page sorry, on page J8, we have, again, there's
21	just a even higher-level summary of the various
22	placements and then there's a lot of detail
23	throughout. It does get project-specific starting on
24	page
25	MR. HODGE: That goes by year, service

	lile.
2	MS. CORKER: Yeah, yeah. So starting
3	on page J25, there is a summary of replacement year
4	from 2023 to 2072 as well as the service life. So
5	that's for, you know, so in 2024 there was 88.2, or
6	sorry \$88,200 of investment for items that had a
7	service life of five years for the whole system.
8	And then we do get to the
9	project-specific items, which includes both the
LO	existing investment from whenever the project came
11	online until 2022. And then also the future
12	investments. So this is this is the detail that we
L3	have for that. It does not specify what the projects
L4	are. It just shows the the investment that is
15	being assumed in the rate, the past and future.
L6	Okay. So we will we will provide a
L7	writeup with some detail on the investments as a
18	whole, focusing on additions and replacements. And we
L9	also have an outstanding question on the resource
20	analysis assumptions on outages, uprates, derates.
21	And I will ask one more time for those
22	folks that are still with us if there are any
23	additional questions?
24	Okay. Not hearing any additional
25	questions. We're not seeing any in the chat. It is

1	11:00 a.m. We will come back at, say, 11:30 over Zoom
2	just to make sure there's not any additional
3	questions. And we will pause the transcription in the
4	meantime.
5	(Off the record.)
6	MS. CORKER: For our 11:30 check-in, I
7	do think we had one new person join that we noticed.
8	Danny Johnson, can you in introduce yourself for the
9	record, please?
LO	MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, I'm, yep I'm
L1	Danny Johnson. I am a Program Manager at Southwestern
L2	Power Administration.
L3	Thank you, Danny.
L4	Okay, so we in the SWPA room do not
L5	have any additional information at this time. We will
L6	be, as I noted previously, preparing written response
L7	to outstanding questions from this forum and posting
L8	to our website by January 26th.
L9	Are there any other questions from
20	those still on the line or comments?
21	I am still hearing no questions and
22	seeing no additional questions in the chat. So we
23	we will pause the transcription again until 11:45.
24	We'll check in again at 11:55 just to see if there's
25	any last-minute things. But again, we will be on mute

1	and pause this transcription starting now.
2	THE REPORTER: Transcription pause.
3	Thank you.
4	(Off the record.)
5	MS. CORKER: And I am checking to see
6	if there's any people online. Not seeing any new
7	attendees.
8	And I will open it up again for for
9	questions or comments.
10	Okay. Not hearing any questions or
11	seeing any questions, comments in the chat. So as
12	noted previously, we will break again until 11:55 and
13	then just check in one last time, make sure that
14	there's no other comments or questions before we end
15	the forum. So again, we will come back at 11:55 and
16	any time the transcription can be paused.
17	(Off the record.)
18	MS. CORKER: Okay, at 11:55 we can
19	resume the transcription. We have one last
20	opportunity for anybody on the on the meeting to
21	ask a question or make a comment. I'm not seeing
22	anybody new that has joined in the meantime. Again,
23	I'll I'll pause for about a minute, see if there's
24	any again, any last-minute questions or comments.
25	Okay. And we will leave the line open

1	until noon and if anybody has a question or comment,
2	please speak up.
3	Okay. It is 11:59. We are approaching
4	the end of our forum. Thanks to everybody who has
5	stayed with us for the the whole three hours. We
6	appreciate everybody's participation and input.
7	And I will just state again, we'll have
8	responses to our outstanding questions posted to the
9	Southwestern website no later than January 26, 2025.
10	So it is now noon. And this concludes
11	our public information and comment forum for the FY 23
12	Integrated System Rate Adjustment. Thank you.
13	(Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.)
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which this was taken; and, further, that I am not a

employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or

otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

relative or employee of any counsel or attorney

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