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November 9, 2020

**VIA THE PSC ALTERNATIVE  
FILING SYSTEM**

Mr. Reece McAlister  
Executive Secretary  
Georgia Public Service Commission  
244 Washington Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, GA 30334-5701

Re: Generic Proceeding to Implement House Bill 244  
Docket No. 43453

Dear Mr. McAlister:

Enclosed for filing is Rebuttal Testimony of Daniel P. Rhinehart in the above captioned docket.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick W. Turner".

Patrick W. Turner

PWT/sh  
Enclosure

cc: Certificate of Service Attached

1 AT&T GEORGIA

2 REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF DANIEL P. RHINEHART  
3 BEFORE THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

4 DOCKET NO. 43453

5 NOVEMBER 9, 2020

**INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

6 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

7  
8 A. My name is Daniel P. Rhinehart. My business address is 9505 Arboretum Blvd,  
9 Room 9S12, Austin, Texas, 78759.

10  
11 **Q. ARE YOU THE SAME DANIEL RHINEHART WHO SUBMITTED DIRECT**  
12 **TESTIMONY PREVIOUSLY IN THIS DOCKET?**

13  
14 A. Yes.

15  
16 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

17  
18 A. I rebut erroneous statements and assumptions in testimony submitted by  
19 witnesses on behalf of the Georgia Electric Membership Corporation (“GEMC”)  
20 regarding the so called “Georgia Formula” (which I will refer to as the “EMC’s  
21 proposed formula”). I show that the EMC’s proposed formula will not produce just,

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1 reasonable, nondiscriminatory, and commercially reasonable pole attachment  
2 rates for EMCs in Georgia.

3  
4 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY.**

5  
6 A. I briefly discuss the applicability of the FCC's Cable Formula versus the FCC's  
7 New Telecom Formula. Then I address several aspects of the EMCs' proposed  
8 formula. Specifically, the EMC's proposed formula (a variant of the FCC's New  
9 Telecom Formula) is based on several faulty premises that inappropriately  
10 overstate pole attachment costs. The inclusion of grounding in the investment  
11 base inflates costs and runs counter to considered and reconsidered opinions of  
12 the FCC. Modifications to the space factor radically overstate costs attributable to  
13 cable and telecom attachments. The EMC's proposed formula significantly  
14 overstates cost by failing to recognize the FCC's clear intent to enhance the  
15 deployment of broadband services (which is consistent with the State of Georgia's  
16 intent to enhance the deployment of broadband services) through the use of a "cost  
17 allocator" designed to harmonize the rate levels derived from the Telecom Formula  
18 with the rates derivable from the Cable Formula. I also address various  
19 miscellaneous problems with the EMCs' proposed formula, such as rate of return  
20 and the appurtenance factor.

21 I further demonstrate that the \$37.95 statewide average EMC attachment  
22 rate developed in GEMC Exhibit 21 is based on a faulty averaging method that  
23 overstates a statewide average by nearly 20%.

1  
2 **Q. DO YOU WISH TO CHANGE ANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS YOU MADE**  
3 **IN YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

4  
5 A. No. I continue to recommend that the Commission adopt pole attachment rates  
6 for individual EMCs based on individual EMC costs, determined by following FCC  
7 regulations in 47 C.F.R. §§1.1401-1.1415, using the New Telecom Formula as  
8 promulgated in FCC regulations at 47 C.F.R. 1.1406(d)(2) with a maximum rate of  
9 return of 8.00%. The New Telecom Formula is in use today in Georgia both by  
10 investor-owned electric utilities and AT&T, and its correct use across Georgia  
11 EMCs members will produce just, reasonable, nondiscriminatory, and  
12 commercially reasonable pole attachment rates.

13  
14 **Q. HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO THE SUGGESTIONS BY THE GEORGIA**  
15 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION AND THE GEORGIA CABLE**  
16 **ASSOCIATION THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD USE THE FCC'S CABLE**  
17 **RATE FORMULA TO SET EMC POLE ATTACHMENT RATES?**

18  
19 A. Under standard assumptions of an average 37.5-foot pole, 24 feet of unusable  
20 space, 1 foot of occupancy, and an 15% appurtenance investment adjustment, the  
21 rates should be practically the same under the Cable Formula recommended by  
22 GTA and GCA and the New Telecom Formula I recommend. There will be

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1 differences when more than one foot of space is occupied or when non-standard  
2 assumptions are used.

3  
4 Typical applications of the Cable Formula are on a per foot of occupancy basis.  
5 Typical applications of the New Telecom Formula are on a per pole basis, but the  
6 per pole price will differ based on the number of feet occupied because the space  
7 factor is computed differently under the two formulas.

8  
9 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE THAT DEMONSTRATES THE DIFFERENCE**  
10 **YOU ARE DISCUSSING.**

11  
12 A. The following table is based on a hypothetical rate of \$10.00 per attachment under  
13 standard assumptions for occupancy of one foot under the Cable Formula. It also  
14 shows the rates that would be applicable under the New Telecom Formula for the  
15 standard one foot of occupancy and for two feet of occupancy.

Line	Description	Cable – 1 ft	Cable 2 ft	New Tel. 1 ft	New Tel. 2 ft
1	Pole Annual Cost	\$135.00		\$135.00	\$135.00
2	Space Factor	0.0741		0.1120	0.1387
3	Cost Allocator	N/A		0.66	0.66
4 [2x3]	Cost Assignment	0.0741		0.0739	.0915
5 [1x4]	Attachment Rate	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$9.98	\$12.36

16  
17 **Q. WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF USING THE NEW TELECOM FORMULA OVER**  
18 **THE CABLE FORMULA?**

19  
20 A. First, I must emphasize that the entire New Telecom Formula must necessarily be  
21 used with the FCC standard inputs or with legitimately rebutted alternatives. That

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1       said, the principal benefit would be that EMCs would pay prices for attachments  
2       on non-EMC poles on a first and incremental foot basis. From the hypothetical  
3       example above, supposing that an EMC has contractual access to 10 feet of space  
4       on an AT&T pole, the price paid under the Cable Formula would be 10 x \$10.00 or  
5       \$100 per year. Under the New Telecom formula, the price paid would be \$9.98  
6       plus 9 x \$2.38 (the difference between the one-foot price and the two-foot price),  
7       or a total of \$31.40. This approach would benefit EMC ratepayers and enhance  
8       EMC or EMC affiliate deployment of broadband facilities because of lower  
9       attachment rates paid to other pole owners.

10  
11   **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE EMC'S PROPOSED FORMULA AS YOU**  
12   **UNDERSTAND IT.**

13  
14   **A.** The EMC's proposed formula is a flawed variant of the FCC's Telecom Formula.  
15   While it has the principle components of total annual pole costs times a space  
16   factor that the FCC New Telecom Formula uses, it inappropriately: adds  
17   investments disallowed by the FCC (grounding); determines an inflated space  
18   factor that ignores clearly established FCC precedent; relies on faulty analysis in  
19   a failed attempt to rebut FCC inputs; and completely omits the FCC's number of  
20   attachers cost allocator.

21  
22   **Q. WHY IS THE INCLUSION OF GROUNDING INVESTMENT AN ERROR IN THE**  
23   **EMCS' PROPOSED FORMULA?**

1  
2 A. The FCC has expressly considered and rejected electric utilities' requests to  
3 include grounding costs as a component of the net cost of a bare pole.

4 We affirm our conclusion that lightning protectors and grounding  
5 installations recorded in accounts other than Account 364 should not  
6 be included in the calculation of the net cost of a bare pole factor.  
7 Attaching entities are required to provide separate grounding for their  
8 own attachments. Lightning protectors and grounding installed on  
9 poles by utilities are equipment specific to the electric utility's core  
10 business services and not related to the general cost of the pole  
11 plant. Portions of Accounts 365 and 369 are already included in the  
12 maintenance element of the relevant Cable Formula.<sup>1</sup>  
13

14 The FCC's conclusion is reinforced by the very definition of the account in which  
15 ground wire is included under Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC")  
16 accounting guidelines: Account 365, "Overhead conductors and devices" "shall  
17 include the cost installed of overhead conductors and devices used for distribution  
18 purposes." The list of pertinent items includes ground wires. Notably, ground  
19 wires are not accounted for as pole investment. Further, based on my knowledge  
20 of AT&T's accounting systems, ground wires are not included with AT&T's pole  
21 investments but are instead properly associated with AT&T's aerial cable account  
22 and are therefore excluded from AT&T's computed pole attachment rates pursuant  
23 to FCC instructions.

24

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<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of Amendment of Rules and Policies Governing Pole Attachments, CS Docket No. 97-98, Report and Order FCC 00-116, Adopted: March 29, 2000. Released: April 3, 2000. Paragraph 38. Notes omitted. Emphasis added.

1 **Q. HOW MUCH OF AN OVERSTATEMENT TO THE POLE ATTACHMENT RATE**  
2 **GENERATED BY THE EMCS' PROPOSED FORMULA IS ATTRIBUTED TO**  
3 **THE INCORRECT INCLUSION OF GROUNDING INVESTMENT?**

4  
5 A. Based on the publicly released rate computation for Southern Rivers EMC (a  
6 claimed attachment rate of \$38.85), removal of grounds investment reduces the  
7 Southern Rivers rate by \$3.27 to \$35.58.

8  
9 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE EMCS' PROPOSED FORMULA IMPROPERLY**  
10 **ADJUSTS THE SPACE FACTOR.**

11  
12 A. The EMCs' proposed formula makes three faulty adjustments to the space factor  
13 by: shifting the 3.33 feet of safety space to support space; including 100 percent  
14 of support space in the space factor instead of only two-thirds; and increasing the  
15 amount of normal support space from 24 to 26 feet.

16  
17

1 Q. HOW DOES THE FCC TREAT SAFETY SPACE IN THE NEW TELECOM  
2 FORMULA?

3  
4 A. The FCC treats safety space as used and useful space not attributable to cable  
5 and telecommunications attachers. The following quote from the FCC is  
6 pertinent:<sup>2</sup>

7 20. A 40-inch safety space was created to minimize the likelihood  
8 of physical contact between employees working on cable television  
9 or telephone lines and the potentially lethal voltage carried by the  
10 electric lines, as well as to prevent electrical contact between such  
11 cables. In the Second Report and Order, and the Third Order, the  
12 Commission rejected the arguments of electric companies that the  
13 entire 40 inches of safety space should be attributable to cable  
14 television operators. In the Notice, we sought comment on the  
15 continued validity of the allocation of the 40-inch safety space to  
16 usable space. After consideration of the evidence in this proceeding,  
17 we decline to decrease the amount of usable space from 13.5 feet to  
18 11 feet by reallocating the 40-inch safety space as unusable space.  
19 Removing the 40-inch safety space from usable space, under  
20 Section 224(d), would have the effect of spreading the costs of the  
21 safety space among the utility pole owner and the attaching entity.

22 21. Some electric utilities request that we remove the 40-inch  
23 safety space from the presumptive 13.5 feet of usable space  
24 because the safety space exists to protect attaching entities' workers  
25 when installing and maintaining their pole attachments. Attaching  
26 entities assert that any cable operator or telecommunications carrier  
27 seeking to install a pole attachment is already required to incur "make  
28 ready" expenses to ensure the existence of the 40-inch safety space,  
29 and that electric utilities benefit from the safety space by attaching  
30 their own facilities such as communications equipment, street lights,  
31 transformers, and grounded, shielded power conductors in the safety  
32 space.

33 22. It is the presence of the potentially hazardous electric lines  
34 that makes the safety space necessary and but for the presence of  
35 those lines, the space could be used by cable and  
36 telecommunications attachers. The space is usable and is used by

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<sup>2</sup> Id. Paragraphs 20 to 22. Notes omitted. Emphasis added.

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1           the electric utilities. A bare pole, when erected has portions to which  
2           attachments cannot be made at any time—the ground clearance and  
3           the part of the pole below ground. The rest is available for  
4           attachments; it is usable space. A communications attachment,  
5           even though it may be a fiber optic cable with a diameter of only one  
6           inch, is presumed to occupy one foot of the attachable space  
7           because of separation requirements. In a like manner, the electric  
8           supply cable on the pole, because of its unique spacing requirements  
9           must be 40 inches away from communications attachments. No one  
10          questions that the eleven inches of space not physically occupied by  
11          a fiber optic cable, but attributed to it, is usable space. Because the  
12          electric supply cable precludes other attachments from occupying  
13          the safety space, which would otherwise be usable space, the safety  
14          space is effectively usable space occupied by the supply cable. So  
15          long as their crews make the installation, the electric utilities are not  
16          limited by the NESC in what equipment or cables they may attach in  
17          the safety space. Accordingly, we reject the electric utilities'  
18          arguments to reduce the presumptive usable space of 13.5 feet by  
19          40 inches.

20                 These statements by the FCC in 2000 were reaffirmed in 2001 (FCC 01-  
21                 170, paragraph 48. “No persuasive evidence or arguments have been presented  
22                 which challenge our long-standing presumptions ...”) and in 2011 (FCC 11-50  
23                 paragraph 180. “The Commission has given extensive consideration to these  
24                 issues in prior decisions, and we find no basis for revisiting them.”) Treating safety  
25                 space as unusable and allocable across all attachers overstates attachment costs.

26  
27                 The evidence in this proceeding shows that the EMCs, sometimes extensively,  
28                 utilize safety space for their own purposes. In response to Staff discovery question  
29                 1-16, twenty five of thirty-eight EMCs acknowledge using safety space for their  
30                 own purposes – most often for streetlights but occasionally also for fiber facilities.  
31                 The space is used and useful to the EMCs and therefore should be included in the  
32                 rate development as usable space.

1  
2 **Q. PLEASE DISCUSS WHAT “SUPPORT SPACE” IS IN THE EMCS’ PROPOSED**  
3 **FORMULA, HOW IT IS TREATED, AND HOW “SUPPORT SPACE” IS**  
4 **TREATED IN THE FCC NEW TELECOM FORMULA.**

5  
6 A. Support space in the EMCs’ proposed formula is equivalent to “unusable space”  
7 in the FCC’s New Telecom Formula. The EMC’s proposed formula treats support  
8 space as 100% attributable to all attaching entities. In contrast, the FCC New  
9 Telecom Formula, as required under federal law (47 U.S. Code §224(e)(2)),  
10 attributes only two-thirds of this space to attaching entities. As a matter of policy,  
11 I take this to mean that the other one-third of support space is necessarily assumed  
12 to be the full responsibility of the pole owner. Accordingly, attributing one hundred  
13 percent of support space to all attachers (which is what the EMCs’ proposed  
14 formula does), improperly overstates pole attachment rates.

15  
16 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE JUSTIFICATION USED BY THE EMCS TO**  
17 **INCREASE SUPPORT SPACE FROM 24 FEET TO 26 FEET.**

18  
19 A. The FCC unusable space rebuttable presumption is 24 feet, made up of 6 feet of  
20 pole height buried and 18 feet of pole height above ground to the presumed first  
21 point of attachment (“minimum ground clearance”). GEMC witness Mr. Arnett  
22 suggests that the Commission should increase the 18-foot component of unusable  
23 support space to 20 feet. He lays out a theoretical construct that asserts that the

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1 FCC's 1978 presumption is tied to outdated National Electric Safety Code  
2 ("NESC") guidelines and that newer guidelines are based on the amounts of mid-  
3 span cable sag. (Arnett Direct at p. 32). He goes on to assert that EMC average  
4 spans are such that the minimum ground clearance for telecommunications cables  
5 on EMC poles should be 20 feet or more.

6  
7 **Q. HAS THE FCC COMMENTED ON THE CONCEPT OF MINIMUM GROUND**  
8 **CLEARANCE SINCE THE DATE OF THE SHIFT IN NESC GUIDANCE?**

9  
10 A. Yes. In its April 2000 order, the FCC states:<sup>3</sup>

11 23. In the Second Report and Order, the Commission established  
12 that a presumptive average 18 feet of the pole space is reserved for  
13 ground clearance. The 18 foot presumption is not dictated by the  
14 National Electric Safety Code ("NESC") but is an average to be used  
15 in the estimation of total usable space. In the Usable Space Order,  
16 we determined that the selection of the 18 foot figure reflected  
17 various elements such as differing pole heights, as well as NESC  
18 standards that vary depending on the physical environment of the  
19 pole. Factors used to determine the NESC standard of minimum  
20 ground clearance, include whether the wires or cables cross over  
21 railroad tracks, roads, or driveways and the amount of voltage  
22 transferred through the cables. In response to the Notice, some  
23 electric utilities suggest that the lowest attachment on a pole must be  
24 at least 19'8" from the ground in order to accommodate  
25 communications cable sag. The electric utilities provide us with  
26 "average" sag for a "typical" communications cable, but do not  
27 indicate how either was determined. In the Usable Space Order, we  
28 carefully considered numerous studies submitted to us before  
29 concluding that the 18 foot figure was an appropriate tool to estimate  
30 usable space. The data provided by the utilities regarding sag does  
31 not demonstrate the same rigor as the studies on which our Usable  
32 Space Order was based.

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<sup>3</sup> Id. Paragraphs 22-23. Notes omitted.

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1           24.    The rebuttable nature of the usable space presumption allows  
2           for the use of a different minimum ground clearance when necessary  
3           to improve the accuracy of the calculations.   Presumptions were  
4           adopted to encourage expeditious response to complaint information  
5           requests.   We have not been persuaded that a departure from our  
6           well established presumption of an average minimum ground  
7           clearance of 18 feet is warranted.

8  
9   **Q.    ARE MR. ARNETT’S ASSUMPTIONS WELL FOUNDED?**

10  
11   **A.**    No. Mr. Arnett’s assumptions are theoretical, based on “primary distribution” spans  
12           from only six EMCs (See Arnett, p. 28 and GEMC Exhibit 37 (WA-20)), and not  
13           based on any sort of a survey of actual required NESC-compliant attachment  
14           heights on all or even a statistically valid sample of EMC poles with third-party  
15           attachers. Mr. Arnett, therefore, has not rebutted the FCC’s standard assumption.

16  
17   **Q.    DO YOU ACCEPT THE EMCS’ USE OF A VALUE OF 2.72 ATTACHING**  
18           **ENTITIES IN ITS SPACE FACTOR DEVELOPMENT?**

19  
20   **A.**    No. I do not accept that value because, to my knowledge, the EMCs have not  
21           produced full support for the average number of attaching entities. That said, for  
22           purposes of my analysis, I will use the 2.72 value offered by GEMC and will discuss  
23           its impact further below.

1 **Q. WHAT IS THE SPACE FACTOR USED BY GEMC AND WHAT IS THE SPACE**  
2 **FACTOR YOU DERIVE INCORPORATING ONLY THE THREE CORRECTIONS**  
3 **YOU DISCUSSED ABOVE?**

4  
5 A. EMC Exhibit 47 (WA-30) identifies the proposed standard space allocation for  
6 EMC attachment rates as 31.42%. The space factor that I derive with the three  
7 corrections discussed above is only 18.35%.

8  
9 **Q. HOW MUCH OF AN OVERSTATEMENT TO THE GEMC POLE ATTACHMENT**  
10 **RATE CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE INCORRECT SPACE FACTOR?**

11  
12 A. Continuing with my analysis based on the information from Southern Rivers EMC,  
13 the adjusted rate after elimination of grounds was \$35.58. With the revised space  
14 factor, I have discussed here, that rate drops by an additional \$14.80 to \$20.78.

15  
16 **Q. WHAT ADDITIONAL COMPONENT IS THE EMCS' PROPOSED FORMULA**  
17 **MISSING AS COMPARED TO THE FCC'S NEW TELECOM FORMULA?**

18  
19 A. The EMCs' proposed formula is missing the "Number of Attachers Cost Allocator."  
20 As described in my Direct Testimony and in the Direct Testimony of GCA witness  
21 Kravtin at pp. 72-73, this is an element adopted by the FCC in 2011, and modified  
22 in 2015, that brings the results of the unmodified Telecom Formula into alignment  
23 with the FCC's Cable Formula under standard assumptions. The value of this cost

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1 allocator is dependent on the number of attaching entities. I also note that in its  
2 2015 order, the FCC set up a sliding scale such that regardless of the number of  
3 attaching entities, the number of attaching entities cost allocator would adjust in  
4 such a way that, absent deviations from the FCC's standard rebuttable  
5 assumptions, the rate result will be substantially the same as produced under the  
6 Cable Formula. As such, the GEMC 2.72 estimate of the average number of  
7 attaching entities should have little or no effect on the appropriate rate produced  
8 under the New Telecom Formula.

9  
10 **Q. WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON RATES OF EXCLUDING THE NUMBER OF**  
11 **ATTACHERS COST ALLOCATOR FROM THE GEORGIA FORMULA?**

12  
13 **A.** Continuing with my analysis based on the information from Southern Rivers EMC,  
14 the adjusted rate after elimination of grounds and correction of the space factor  
15 was \$20.78. With the addition of the correct number of attachers cost allocator,  
16 tied to the GEMC claimed average number of attaching entities of 2.72, that rate  
17 drops by an additional \$12.39 to \$8.39.

18  
19 **Q. HAVE YOU SUMMARIZED THESE CHANGES INTO AN EXHIBIT THAT**  
20 **COMPARES THE ERRONEOUS APPLICATION OF THE EMCS' PROPOSED**  
21 **FORMULA TO THE CORRECT APPLICATION OF THE FCC'S NEW TELECOM**  
22 **FORMULA?**

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1 A. Yes. Exhibit DPR-3, based on the format I presented in my Direct Testimony  
2 Exhibit DPR-2, shows the step-by-step transition in rate development for the one  
3 publicly released rate development for Southern Rivers EMC. The profound  
4 difference in pole attachment rates between the EMCs' proposed formula cost for  
5 Southern Rivers pole attachments (\$38.85) and New Telecom Formula (\$8.39)  
6 demonstrates that the EMCs' proposed formula produces attachment rates that  
7 are unjust and unreasonable.

8  
9 **Q. ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL ISSUES THAT SHOULD HAVE BEARING ON**  
10 **THE FINAL RATE OR RATES ADOPTED FOR THE EMCS IN THIS CASE?**

11  
12 A. Yes. First, in my Direct Testimony, I recommended that, consistent with recent  
13 precedent, the Commission adopt an authorized return on equity of 9.60% and an  
14 overall rate of return of 8.00% in determining pole attachment rates EMCs may  
15 charge communications service providers. This value is below the GEMC and  
16 GCA proposed rate of return proposals of 8.50% and 9.75%, respectively.

17 Second, one of the FCC's rebuttable presumptions is that power company  
18 pole investments should be reduced by 15% to account for appurtenances (e.g.,  
19 cross arms, etc.) that are not used and useful in providing attachment space for  
20 third party attachers. If any EMC proposes to use a value different from the 15%  
21 presumptive number, the Commission should require that EMC to provide  
22 substantial evidence to rebut the FCC standard value.

23

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1 **Q. BEYOND THE PROBLEMS WITH THE EMCS' PROPOSED FORMULA YOU**  
2 **HAVE DISCUSSED ABOVE, DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER CONCERNS OF**  
3 **WHICH THE COMMISSION SHOULD BE AWARE?**

4  
5 A. Yes. GEMC Exhibit 21 derives a supposed statewide average EMC pole  
6 attachment rate of \$37.95. This average is derived based on a weighting  
7 developed from the identified number of cable pole attachments in service. This  
8 approach is wrong as it fails to reflect the average availability of pole attachments  
9 across EMC territories. The better weighting mechanism, if one is used, would be  
10 based on the number of distribution poles owned by each EMC. Based on GEMC  
11 proposed, but wholly wrong, individual company cost rates, Exhibit DPR-4  
12 compares the EMC proposed rate of \$37.95 to a weighted rate using the total  
13 number of distribution poles reported by the EMCs that produces a weighted rate  
14 of only \$32.11. The erroneous weighting methodology yields the EMCs an 18%  
15 premium in the average rate and should be rejected by the Commission.

16  
17 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?**

18  
19 A. Yes, it does.

**Exhibit DPR-3 (Page 1 of 2)**  
 Southern Rivers EMC Pole Rate Using the EMC Proposed Formula and Corrections

I. Summary - Rate Development							
Line #	Description	Proposed Formula	Exclude Grounds	Space Factor	Allocator	Source	Notes
1	Space Factor	31.42%	31.42%	18.35%	18.35%	[13]	
2	Net Cost Per Bare Pole	\$ 352.70	\$ 322.88	\$ 322.88	\$ 322.88	[20]	
3	Carrying Charge Rate	35.07%	35.07%	35.07%	35.07%	[21]	
4	Cost Allocator	1	1	1	0.4036	EMC proposed formula / FCC Default	See 47 CFR § 1.1406(d)(2)(i)
5	New Telecom Rate	\$ 38.87	\$ 35.58	\$ 20.78	\$ 8.39	[1] * [2] * [3] * [4]	See 47 CFR § 1.1406(d)(2)(i)
II. Space Factor							
Line #	Description	Proposed Formula	Exclude Grounds	Space Factor	Allocator	Source	Notes
6	Space Occupied	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	FCC Default	See 47 CFR § 1.14010
7	Two Thirds	1.000	1.000	0.667	0.667	EMC proposed formula / FCC Default	See 47 CFR § 1.1406(d)(2)(i)
8	Pole Height	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50	FCC Default	See 47 CFR § 1.14010
9	Usable Space	8.17	8.17	8.17	8.17	[8] - [10]	See 47 CFR § 1.14010
10	Unusable Space	29.33	29.33	24.00	24.00	(6'+20'+3.33') / (6'+18'+0')	See 47 CFR § 1.14010
11	Number of Attaching Entities	2.72	2.72	2.72	2.72	EMC proposed formula	See 47 CFR § 1.1409(c) and (d)
12	Space Factor	31.42%	31.42%	18.35%	18.35%	{ [6] + ([7] * [10] / [11]) } / [8]	See 47 CFR § 1.1406(d)(2)
III. Net Cost Per Bare Pole							
Line #	Description	Proposed Formula	Exclude Grounds	Space Factor	Allocator	Source	Notes
13	Gross Pole Investment	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	[C1]	
14	Pole Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 5,956,440	\$ 5,956,440	\$ 5,956,440	\$ 5,956,440	[13] * [A3]	
15	Pole Accumulated Deferred Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	[13] * [D7]	
16	Net Pole Investment	\$ 15,774,461	\$ 15,774,461	\$ 15,774,461	\$ 15,774,461	[13] - [14] - [15]	
16a	Account 365 Grounds	\$ 1,852,266	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	EMC proposed formula	
16b	Grounds Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 507,706	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	[16a] * [A3]	
17	Number of Poles	45,098	45,098	45,098	45,098	Southern Rivers Data	
18	Appurtenance Factor	0.9231	0.9231	0.9231	0.9231	Southern Rivers Data	2 FCC Rcd 4387 ¶ 19 (1987)
19	Net Cost Per Bare Pole	\$ 352.70	\$ 322.88	\$ 322.88	\$ 322.88	[16] / [17] * [18] + ([16a] - [16b]) / [17]	
IV. Carrying Charge Rate							
Line #	Description	Proposed Formula	Exclude Grounds	Space Factor	Allocator	Source	Notes
20	Total Carrying Charge Rate	35.07%	35.07%	35.07%	35.07%	[23] + [26] + [30] + [33] + [34]	
21	General and Administrative Expense	\$ 4,700,545	\$ 4,700,545	\$ 4,700,545	\$ 4,700,545	Southern Rivers Data	
22	Net Utility Investment	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	[B4]	
23	General And Administrative Rate	7.13%	7.13%	7.13%	7.13%	[21] / [22]	
24	Maintenance Expense	\$ 4,021,667	\$ 4,021,667	\$ 4,021,667	\$ 4,021,667	Southern Rivers Data	
25	Net Investment Acct 364, 365, 369	\$ 31,017,282	\$ 31,017,282	\$ 31,017,282	\$ 31,017,282	[C7]	
26	Maintenance Rate	12.97%	12.97%	12.97%	12.97%	[24] / [25]	
27	Distribution Plant Depreciation Rate	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	Southern Rivers Data	
28	Gross Pole Investment	\$ 23,583,167	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	[13] + [16a]	
29	Net Pole Investment	\$ 17,119,021	\$ 15,774,461	\$ 15,774,461	\$ 15,774,461	[16] + [16a] - [16b]	
30	Distribution Depreciation Rate	5.51%	5.51%	5.51%	5.51%	[27] * [28] / [29]	
31	Operating Taxes	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	[E7]	
32	Net Utility Investment	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	[B4]	
33	Tax Rate	0.96%	0.96%	0.96%	0.96%	[31] / [32]	
34	Rate of Return	8.50%	8.50%	8.50%	8.50%	EMC proposed formula	

**Exhibit DPR-3 (Page 2 of 2)**

Southern Rivers EMC Pole Rate Using the EMC Proposed Formula and Corrections

Line #	Description	Intermediate Calculations				Source	Notes
		Proposed Formula	Exclude Grounds	Space Factor	Allocator		
<i>Distribution Plant Reserve Ratio</i>							
A1	Distribution Plant	\$ 82,428,751	\$ 82,428,751	\$ 82,428,751	\$ 82,428,751	Southern Rivers Data	Actual accumulated depreciation for Accounts 364, 365 and 369 should be used when available. Modify sections "A" and "C" as appropriate.
A2	Accumulated Depreciation - Distribution	\$ 22,592,043	\$ 22,592,043	\$ 22,592,043	\$ 22,592,043	Southern Rivers Data	
A3	Distribution Plant Reserve Ratio	0.2741	0.2741	0.2741	0.2741	[A2] / [A1]	
<i>Net Utility Investment</i>							
B1	Total Utility Plant	\$ 95,577,234	\$ 95,577,234	\$ 95,577,234	\$ 95,577,234	Southern Rivers Data	
B2	Total Plant Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 29,665,576	\$ 29,665,576	\$ 29,665,576	\$ 29,665,576	Southern Rivers Data	
B3	Total Plant Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	[D5]	
B4	Net Utility Investment	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	\$ 65,911,658	[B1] - [B2] - [B3]	
<i>Net Investment Acct 364, 365, 369</i>							
C1	Acct 364 Poles, Towers and Fixtures	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	\$ 21,730,901	Southern Rivers Data	
C2	Acct 365 Overhead Conductors and Devices	\$ 18,824,293	\$ 18,824,293	\$ 18,824,293	\$ 18,824,293	Southern Rivers Data	
C3	Acct 369 Services	\$ 2,174,220	\$ 2,174,220	\$ 2,174,220	\$ 2,174,220	Southern Rivers Data	
C4	Total Acct 364, 365, 369	\$ 42,729,414	\$ 42,729,414	\$ 42,729,414	\$ 42,729,414	[C1] + [C2] + [C3]	
C5	Accumulated Depreciation Acct 364, 365, 369	\$ 11,712,132	\$ 11,712,132	\$ 11,712,132	\$ 11,712,132	[C4] * [A3]	
C6	Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes Acct 364, 365, 369	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	[C4] * [D7]	
C7	Net Investment Acct 364, 365, 369	\$ 31,017,282	\$ 31,017,282	\$ 31,017,282	\$ 31,017,282	[C4] - [C5] - [C6]	
<i>Deferred Income Taxes</i>							
D1	Acct 190 (dr)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	It is expected that the deferred tax entries will have values of zero because of the non-profit character of EMCs.
D2	Acct 281 (cr)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
D3	Acct 282 (cr)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
D4	Acct 283 (cr)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
D5	Total (-190+(281 to 283))	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	- [D1] + [D2] + [D3] + [D4]	
D6	Total Utility Plant	\$ 95,577,234	\$ 95,577,234	\$ 95,577,234	\$ 95,577,234	[B1]	
D7	Accumulated Deferred Tax Ratio	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	[D5] / [D6]	
<i>Operating Taxes</i>							
E1	Acct 408.1 Taxes Other Than Income Taxes	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	Southern Rivers Data	Several tax entries are expected to have values of zero because of the non-profit character of EMCs.
E2	Acct 409.1 Income Taxes - Federal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
E3	Acct 409.1 Income Taxes - Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
E4	Acct 410.1 Provision for Deferred Income Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
E5	Acct 411.4 Investment Tax Credit Adj	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
E6	Less Acct 411.1 Prov for Def Income Taxes-Cr	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A	
E7	Operating Taxes	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	\$ 633,807	[E1] + [E2] + [E3] + [E4] + [E5] - [E6]	

**Exhibit DPR-4**

**Weighted Average Attachment Rate -- Cable Attachments vs Distribution Poles Owned**

**EMC Exhibit 21 (WA-4) Basis**

**Exhibit E (Discovery) Basis**

EMC	Cable Attachments	EMC Claimed Rate	Weighted Average	2019 Poles Owned	EMC Claimed Rate	Weighted Average
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>
Altamaha	4,133	\$25.14	\$0.18	58,946	\$25.14	\$0.64
Amicalola	5,248	\$31.97	\$0.29	74,750	\$31.97	\$1.03
Canoochee	9,519	\$27.21	\$0.44	45,171	\$27.21	\$0.53
Carroll	22,735	\$33.85	\$1.31	93,370	\$33.85	\$1.36
Central Georgia	17,836	\$25.20	\$0.76	77,327	\$25.20	\$0.84
Coastal	7,882	\$38.92	\$0.52	22,029	\$38.92	\$0.37
Cobb	49,970	\$53.19	\$4.52	71,404	\$53.19	\$1.64
Colquitt	23,726	\$19.83	\$0.80	148,474	\$19.83	\$1.27
Coweta-Fayette	38,179	\$36.47	\$2.37	59,494	\$36.47	\$0.93
Diverse Power	20,380	\$33.08	\$1.15	75,748	\$33.08	\$1.08
Excelsior	1,931	\$25.16	\$0.08	53,909	\$25.16	\$0.58
Flint	23,252	\$36.30	\$1.44	80,214	\$36.30	\$1.25
Grady	6,169	\$25.16	\$0.26	59,662	\$25.16	\$0.65
GreyStone	40,329	\$48.32	\$3.32	72,177	\$48.32	\$1.50
Habersham	16,546	\$38.09	\$1.07	47,514	\$38.09	\$0.78
Hart	26,626	\$25.87	\$1.17	80,475	\$25.87	\$0.90
Irwin	1,286	\$20.41	\$0.04	39,838	\$20.41	\$0.35
Jackson	53,443	\$48.28	\$4.39	134,497	\$48.28	\$2.80
Jefferson Energy	21,077	\$23.25	\$0.83	68,132	\$23.25	\$0.68
Little Ocmulgee	2,479	\$24.55	\$0.10	38,787	\$24.55	\$0.41
Middle Georgia	1,821	\$25.98	\$0.08	25,079	\$25.98	\$0.28
Mitchell	7,549	\$31.47	\$0.40	67,986	\$31.47	\$0.92
Ocmulgee	3,131	\$25.53	\$0.14	30,821	\$25.53	\$0.34
Oconee	4,252	\$26.85	\$0.19	35,108	\$26.85	\$0.41
Okefenoke	9,579	\$31.47	\$0.51	58,785	\$31.47	\$0.80
Planters	5,080	\$19.51	\$0.17	47,659	\$19.51	\$0.40
Rayle	1,365	\$24.12	\$0.06	55,787	\$24.12	\$0.58
Satilla	17,397	\$25.03	\$0.74	125,902	\$25.03	\$1.36
Sawnee	34,814	\$72.51	\$4.30	60,308	\$72.51	\$1.88
Slash Pine	1,644	\$21.57	\$0.06	25,394	\$21.57	\$0.24
Snapping Shoals	36,497	\$38.12	\$2.37	53,595	\$38.12	\$0.88
Southern Rivers	5,530	\$38.85	\$0.37	45,098	\$38.85	\$0.75
Sumter	3,187	\$31.35	\$0.17	49,330	\$31.35	\$0.67
Three Notch	585	\$28.72	\$0.03	41,078	\$28.72	\$0.51
Tri-County	11,569	\$30.23	\$0.60	43,847	\$30.23	\$0.57
Upson	4,487	\$18.83	\$0.14	20,708	\$18.83	\$0.17
Walton	42,087	\$33.42	\$2.39	82,962	\$33.42	\$1.19
Washington	4,285	\$26.43	\$0.19	50,187	\$26.43	\$0.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>587,605</b>			<b>2,321,552</b>		

**Weighted Average Attachment Rate**

**\$ 37.95**

**\$ 32.11**

Cable Attachments Avg exceeds Owned Poles Avg >>

**18.19%**

Formulas:  $D = (B \text{ EMC} / B \text{ Total}) \times C$

$G = (E \text{ EMC} / E \text{ Total}) \times F$

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In Re:	)	
Generic Proceeding to Implement	)	Docket No. 43453
House Bill 244	)	
	)	

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that on this 9th day of November, 2020, I served a copy of the foregoing, upon known parties of record, via electronic mail as follows:

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