# Financing Sustainable Water: Effective Rate Modeling in an Uncertain World



# AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model



#### Why a New Rate Model?

Typical water rate models assume that future sales are known with certainty, and do not respond to price, weather, the economy, or supply shortages—that is to say, not the world we live in.

- ► The AWE Sales Forecasting and Rate Model addresses this deficiency:
  - Customer Consumption Variability—weather, drought/shortage, or external shock
  - Demand Response—Predicting future block sales (volume and revenue) with empirical price elasticity's
  - Drought Pricing—Contingency planning for revenue neutrality
  - Probability Management—Risk theoretic simulation of revenue risks
  - Fiscal Sustainability—Sales forecasting over a 5 Year
     Time Horizon
  - Affordability—Can customers afford water service?



#### Sales Forecasting and Rate Model

version 1.0

#### Overview

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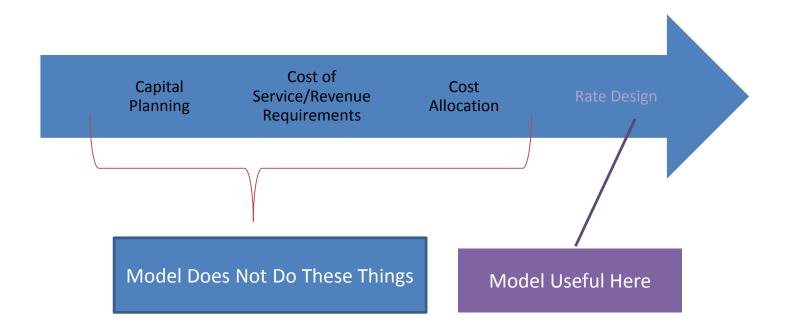
#### Model Modules

The model is divided into two modules: the Rate Design Module and the Revenue Simulation Module. With the Rate Design volumetric rates or proposed new volumetric rates. This module can help you answer questions such as: What effect would in cause averall water use to increase or decrease? What block rate design could allow us to preserve our corrent level of revenue management objectives during water shortages? What proportion of customer bills will increase just decrease) under our proportion of customer bills will increase just decrease) under our proportion of the development of effective water rates, and the Rate Design Module is designed to help you answer them. There are other Module is not able to answer. These include questions like: What is the Shelibood we will meet our ann-year, three-year, five-ture out more than 15% below our current projections. What level of confidence can we have that our sales will exceed our mit world are unknown. For near-term water sales furecasting the key uncertainties are weather, growth of accounts, and possible Revenue Simulation Module is designed to help answer sales revenue planning questions addressing risk and uncertainty. It is about future account growth and risk of water use curraliment to simulate your water demands and sales revenues over a five conditions. Using the Revenue Simulation Module you can assess how well or poorly your current or proposed rates are likely

#### What Data is Required to Use the Model

To use the Rate Design Module you need to provide hill tabulations for each of your customer classes. A bill tabulation shows your maturest hill statulations from the billing recently of ways utility. To use the Revenue Simulation Module, in addition to the Module of the Statulation of the Statul

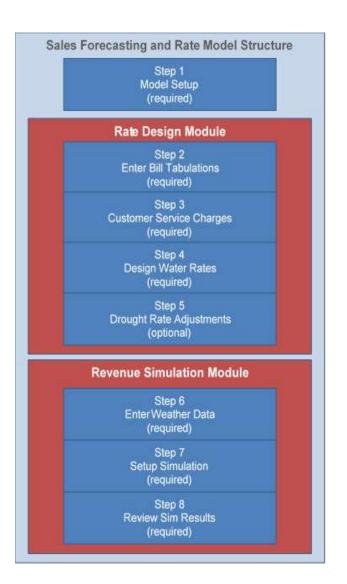
#### WHERE MODEL FITS INTO RATE SETTING PROCESS





# **Modular Design**

- ► Rate Design Module
- Revenue Simulation Module





# **Model Setup**

#### Step 1: Model Setup

On this worksheet you specify the test year, the units volumes, precipitation, and temperature, seasons, customer classes, and ratio of max. The model requires these parameters in order to function properly. Therefore this should be the first thing you do if you are using the model on this worksheet. Be sure all sections are completed correctly before moving on to the Rate Design Module.

#### 1. Bill Tabulation Year

The model calculates water sales and sales revenue using the distributions of customer water consumption you enter in Step 2 (Bill Tabulation Step 2) consumption data for a recent year. This is called the Bill Tabulation Year. Use the drop-down list below to specify the year for which you Note: The Bill Tabulation Year must be within the last 10 years, and should be a year for which you provide weather data in Step 4, though

Bill Tabulation Year: 2013

#### 2. Model Units

The model needs to know what billing units you use with your water rates. In the U.S., municipal and industrial water use is typically price (Thou. Gal.). In countries on the metric system, it is typically priced per kilo liter (kL). Use the drop-down list to select the billing units you In Step 6 you will enter historical precipitation and temperature data. Use the drop-down lists to specify units these data are in.

Billing Units: Thou. Gal. Precipitation Units: in Temperature Units: F

#### 3. Seasons

The model divides annual water use between Off Peak and Peak seasons. This allows the model to differentiate the change in water use given the Peak season is more responsive to rate adjustments than demand in the Off Peak season). It also allows you to specify different water Use the drop-down lists to specify the first and last months for the Off Peak season. The model will then determine the months that are in Note: you do not need to specify the months for the Peak season. The model determines this from your specification of the Off Peak season.

| Season    | From | Thru | No. Months | Season | From | Thru | No. Months |
|-----------|------|------|------------|--------|------|------|------------|
| Off Peak: | Oct  | Apr  | 7          | Peak:  | May  | Sep  | 5          |



# **Model Setup**

| 4. Maximum to Minimum Month Produc   | SANCE WITH THE PARTY CO.   |  |  |
|--|----------------------------|--|--|
| responsive than indoor use to deviations   | from normal we             | anothly system production to infer the relative importance of outdoor water use in ather patterns, this is important. Enter the maximum to minimum monthly production in the contract of the c | And the state of t |
| Note: It is best to calculate this ratio for   | everai recent ye           | ars and then enter the average of your results.  |  |
| Max to Min Monthly Production Ratio:   | 3.25                       |  |  |
| 5. Customer Classes  |                            |  |  |
| The model can calculate water use and so<br>want to model. Enter names for each cla  |                            | up to six different customer classes. Use the Number of Customer Classes drop-dov<br>ames table below the drop-down list.  | vn list to specify the nur   |
| Number of Customer Classes:  | 4                          | Class Names Table  |  |
|  |                            | Class 1 Single Family  |  |
|  |                            | Class 2 Multi Family   |  |
|  |                            | Class 3 CII  |  |
|  |                            | Class 4 Landscape  |  |
|  |                            | Class 5 Not in use   |  |
|  |                            | Class 6 Not in use   |  |
| 6. Median Household Income   |                            |  |  |
| historia resultati de la constitución de la constit | dability between           | your Current and Proposed rates based on the ratio of water cost to median house   | hold income. Enter me  |
|  |                            | you set to your primary residential customer class (e.g. single family customers).   |  |
| Median household income:   | \$55,000                   | Select the class number you set to your primary residential customer class:  | Class 1  |
|  |                            | If you have completed this worksheet, go to the Rate Design Module work  | isheet.  |
| THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE | y and the same of the same |  | 83%  |
| Go back to Model Overview and Instructi  | ons Worksheet              |  | Go   |
|  |                            |  |  |



# Rate Design Module



#### **Questions the Rate Design Module Can Address**

- ► What effect would increasing the rate in our top tier by 15% have on water demand?
- ► Will shifting to seasonal rates cause overall water use to increase or decrease?
- What block rate design could allow us to preserve our current level of revenue while reducing overall demand?
- What proportion of customer bills will increase (or decrease) under our proposed rates when compared to our current rates?
- How should we adjust our rates to support our water demand management objectives during water shortages?



# What Rate Designs Can Be Modeled?

- ► Rate Designs
  - Uniform
  - Seasonal
  - Block
  - Seasonal Block
- ▶ Up to 5 blocks
- Can vary rates and blocks by customer class
- ▶ Up to six customer classes



## What Data is Needed to Use It?

- ► Bill Tabulations from Billing System Data
  - By Class
  - By Season (Off-Peak, Peak)
- ► Follows AWWA M1 Bill Tabulation Methodology
- ► Allocating Bills to Seasons
  - Easy when bills are rendered monthly
  - Bit harder when bills are rendered bi-monthly or quarterly



## **Bill Tabulation Screenshot**

#### Step 2: Enter Customer Class Bill Tabulations

On this worksheet, you enter bill tabulations for your Bill Tabulation Year for the customer classes you set up in Step 1. A bill tabulation shows the number of bills may not fall neatly into the seasons you defined in Step 1, creating a seasonal bill tabulation is more challenging than creating an annual bill tabulation. It which this read date corresponds). It will always be the case that consumption will span the two seasons for some bills. In these cases, you will need to have are in the first season, then assign it to the first season). The User Guide provides additional guidance and examples for preparing your bill tabulations. In add using your meter read data.

Go back to Rate Design Module Worksheet

|      |          |   | C        | ustomer Class         | s: Single Famil | У                     |
|------|----------|---|----------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
|      |          |   | Off Peak | Season                | Peak S          | eason                 |
|      |          |   | Oct -    | - Apr                 | May             | - Sep                 |
| Head | ge Bin   |   |          | Total<br>Use of Bills |                 | Total<br>Use of Bills |
|      | ı. Gal.) |   | Bills in | in Bin                | Bills in        | in Bin                |
| From |          |   | Bin      |                       | Bin             |                       |
|      | То       | 1 |          | (Thou. Gal.)          |                 | (Thou. Gal.)          |
| 0    | 0        |   | 1,854    | 0                     | 700             | 0                     |
| 1    | 1        |   | 1,781    | 1,781                 | 601             | 601                   |
| 2    | 2        |   | 2,073    | 4,146                 | 631             | 1,262                 |
| 3    | 3        |   | 3,122    | 9,366                 | 787             | 2,361                 |
| 4    | 4        |   | 4,084    | 16,336                | 917             | 3,668                 |
| 5    | 5        |   | 4,974    | 24,870                | 1,122           | 5,610                 |
| 6    | 6        |   | 5,751    | 34,506                | 1,150           | 6,900                 |
| 7    | 7        |   | 6,548    | 45,836                | 1,322           | 9,254                 |
| 8    | 8        |   | 7,080    | 56,640                | 1,354           | 10,832                |
| 9    | 9        |   | 7,883    | 70,947                | 1,385           | 12,465                |
| 10   | 10       |   | 8,173    | 81,730                | 1,531           | 15,310                |
| 11   | 11       |   | 8,333    | 91,663                | 1,554           | 17,094                |
| 12   | 12       |   | 8,439    | 101,268               | 1,588           | 19,056                |
| 13   | 13       |   | 8,309    | 108,017               | 1,565           | 20,345                |
| 14   | 14       | 1 | 8,377    | 117,278               | 1,552           | 21,728                |
| 15   | 15       |   | 8,082    | 121,230               | 1,611           | 24,165                |

| (        | Customer Clas | s: Multi Famil | у            |
|----------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Off Peal | ( Season      | Peak S         | eason        |
| Oct      | - Apr         | May            | - Sep        |
|          |               |                |              |
|          | Total         |                | Total        |
|          | Use of Bills  |                | Use of Bills |
| Bills in | in Bin        | Bills in       | in Bin       |
| Bin      | (Thou. Gal.)  | Bin            | (Thou. Gal.) |
| 36       | 0             | 17             | 0            |
| 11       | 11            | 4              | 4            |
| 12       | 24            | 3              | 6            |
| 8        | 24            | 5              | 15           |
| 22       | 88            | 4              | 16           |
| 22       | 110           | 9              | 45           |
| 20       | 120           | 7              | 42           |
| 29       | 203           | 10             | 70           |
| 41       | 328           | 6              | 48           |
| 49       | 441           | 10             | 90           |
| 54       | 540           | 9              | 90           |
| 55       | 605           | 10             | 110          |
| 45       | 540           | 15             | 180          |
| 66       | 858           | 18             | 234          |
| 80       | 1,120         | 21             | 294          |
| 81       | 1,215         | 17             | 255          |



# **Rate Design Table**

| Block # | Block Switch Point             | Rate for Block                           |
|---------|--------------------------------|--|
| Block 1 | 10                             | \$2.50                                   |
| Block 2 | 20                             | \$3.00                                   |
| Block 3 | Rate for first 10 units        | \$3.75                                   |
| Block 4 | Rate for next                  | \$3.75                                   |
| Block 5 | 10 units                       | \$3.75 Copy rate in last block to unused |
|         | Rate for units in excess of 20 | blocks                                   |



# Rate Design Screenshot

#### Rate Design Tables

#### Rate Performance Indicators

#### 2. Specify rates for each Customer Class in the tables below.

Use the tables below to specify the Current and Proposed rates for each Customer Class. You can specify Uniform and Uniform Seasonal Designs: Enter the same rate for all five blocks. If you want the uniform ra Block and Seasonal Block Designs: Enter the blocks and rates for each block level. You can specify up to 5 the block information for Block 4 and Block 5 that you did for Block 3. If you want seasonal block rates, you can Mixed Designs: You can vary the rate design by Customer Class and season. For example, you can specify a other classes. Or you can specify a uniform rate for one season and a block rate for the other.

Single Family

Block 1 Block 2

Block 3 Block 4 Block 5

|        |          | Jff Peak Seasoi |       |          |
|--------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|
| Curren | t Rates  |                 |       |          |
| Block  | Rate     |                 | Block | Rate     |
| (CCF)  | (\$/CCF) |                 | (CCF) | (\$/CCF) |
| 5      | \$3.00   |                 | 5     | \$2.50   |
| 10     | \$3.00   |                 | 10    | \$2.50   |
| 15     | \$3.00   |                 | 15    | \$2.50   |
| 15     | \$3.00   |                 | 15    | \$2.50   |
| 15     | \$3.00   |                 | 15    | \$2.50   |
|        |          |                 |       |          |

ock, seasonal, and seasonal block rates.
by season, set a different uniform rate for each season.
fy you want fewer blocks than 5 -- say 3 -- then enter the same rate and fy different blocks and/or rates for each season.

eak Seas

ock rate for the single family residential class and uniform rates for all

|        |          | F |
|--------|----------|---|
| Curren | t Rates  | Г |
| Block  | Rate     |   |
| (CCF)  | (\$/CCF) |   |
| 5      | \$3.00   |   |
| 10     | \$3.00   |   |
| 15     | \$3.00   |   |
| 15     | \$3.00   |   |
| 15     | \$3.00   |   |

| son |       |          |
|-----|-------|----------|
|     |       | ed Rates |
|     | Block | Rate     |
|     | (CCF) | (\$/CCF) |
|     | 5     | \$3.75   |
|     | 10    | \$3.75   |
|     | 15    | \$3.75   |
|     | 15    | \$3.75   |
|     | 15    | \$3.75   |
|     |       |          |

Save/Load Rates
Save/Load Rates

Rate Performance by Customer Class

|     | Anı       | nual Sales Volu | me       |
|-----|-----------|-----------------|----------|
|     | Current   |                 | % Change |
| CCF | 9,069,061 | 8,913,705       | -1.7%    |
|     |           |                 |          |

|         | Annua    | al Revenue (Th | ou. \$)  |
|---------|----------|----------------|----------|
|         | Current  |                | % Change |
| Service | \$12,263 | \$12,263       | 0.0%     |
| Volume  | \$27,207 | \$27,744       | 2.0%     |
| Total   | \$39,470 | \$40,007       | 1.4%     |
|         |          |                |          |

Impact of Proposed Rates Relative to Current Rates

|     | Annual<br>Sales Volume<br>(% Change) | Annual<br>Service & Volume Revenue<br>(% Change) |  |
|-----|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 50% |                                      | 50%  |  |
| 30% |                                      | 30%  |  |
| 10% |                                      | 10%  |  |

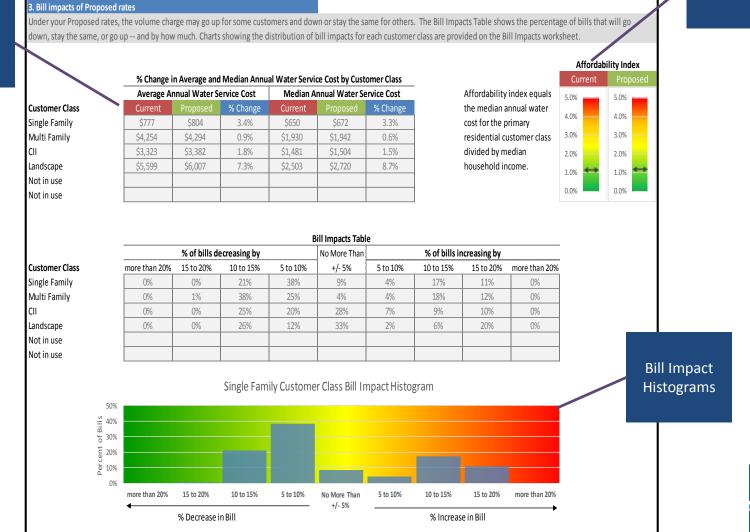




# **Bill Impacts Screenshot**

Affordability Indicator

Avg and median bill impacts





# **Drought Rates**

- Evaluate rate performance under water use curtailment
- Up to 4 drought stages can be specified
- Curtailment levels can vary by customer class
- ▶ User can design rates "by hand", OR
- Use built-in calculator to find revenue-neutral rates by drought stage



# **Specifying Curtailment Levels**

# Requested curtailment level by stage

#### 1. Specify Curtailment Levels for Drought/Shortage Stages

- 1. Enter the Customer Class curtailment levels for each stage. If you have fewer than 4 stage. Shortage condition. Do not modify the settings for this stage.
- 2. For each stage, enter the expected compliance rate. The compliance rate can vary by stages where curtailment is mandatory and enforced. The expected curtailment level for rate.

| Single Family Multi Family CII Landscape |
|--|
| CII<br>Landscape                         |
| Landscape                                |
| •  |
| Notin use                                |
| Not in use                               |
| Not in use                               |

| Drought/Shortage Stage Customer Class Curtailment L |         |         |         | s Table |         | Ехр     | ected Curtailm | ent     |         |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Stage 0   | Stage 1 | Stage 2 | Stage 3 | Stage 4 | Stage 0 | Stage 1 | Stage 2        | Stage 3 | Stage 4 |
| 0%  | 10%     | 15%     | 20%     | 25%     | 0%      | 8%      | 12%            | 17%     | 21%     |
| 0%  | 10%     | 15%     | 20%     | 25%     | 0%      | 8%      | 12%            | 17%     | 21%     |
| 0%  | 0%      | 10%     | 20%     | 25%     | 0%      | 0%      | 8%             | 17%     | 21%     |
| 0%  | 0%      | 10%     | 20%     | 25%     | 0%      | 0%      | 8%             | 17%     | 21%     |
| 0%  |         |         |         |         | 0%      | 0%      | 0%             | 0%      | 0%      |
| 0%  |         |         |         |         | 0%      | 0%      | 0%             | 0%      | 0%      |

| Enter Expected Compliance % | 100% | 80% | 80% | 85% | 85% |
|-----------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|

Expected compliance rate

Expected curtailment



# **Designing Drought Rates**



#### Rate Performance Indicators

#### 2. Rate Performance by Drought/Shortage Stage

The tables in this section hold two sets of rates. Your proposed rates are carried over from Step 3. These of for calculating the revenue impacts of drought stages. The Stage rates are the rates that would apply for a gardrought stage, click the Reset Drought Stage Rates to Proposed Rates. This will copy your Proposed rates drop-down list to cycle through the drought stages and see how your sales revenue would be impacted by eare summarized to the right of the rate tables. You can adjust the Stage Rates to see how your annual sales vas well as the rates for each block. You can use trial and error to find rates appropriate to each drought/short Section 3 provides a calculator that can quickly identify rates for a given drought/shortage stage that are reve

#### Single Family Block Block Rate Rate (\$/CCF) (\$/CCF) (CCF) \$2.50 \$2.50 Block 1 5 10 \$2.50 Block 2 \$2.50 10 Block 3 \$2.50 15 \$2.50 \$2.50 Block 4 15 \$2.50 15 \$2.50 Block 5 15 \$2.50

#### Drought Stage Selector

es for the Stage Rates. You can then use the Select Drought Stage impacts to annual sales volume and revenue for each Customer Class d revenue would respond. You can adjust the size or number of blocks e, or you can use Excel's goal-seek or solver functionality to do this.

ed on this worksheet. They

shortage stage. To see how y

| Peak Season |          |  |       |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------|----------|--|-------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|             | ed Rates |  |       | 2 Rates  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Block       | Rate     |  | Block | Rate     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (CCF)       | (\$/CCF) |  | (CCF) | (\$/CCF) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5           | \$3.75   |  | 5     | \$3.75   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10          | \$3.75   |  | 10    | \$3.75   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15          | \$3.75   |  | 15    | \$3.75   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15          | \$3.75   |  | 15    | \$3.75   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15          | \$3.75   |  | 15    | \$3.75   |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Select Drought Stage Stage 2 ▼ Rate Performance by Customer Class Annual Sales Volume Proposed Stage 2 % Change CCF 8,913,705 7,844,060 -12.0%

|         | Annual Sales Revenue (Thou. \$) |          |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------|---------------------------------|----------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|         |                                 | Stage 2  | % Change |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Service | \$12,263                        | \$12,263 | 0.0%     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Volume  | \$27,744                        | \$24,415 | -12.0%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total   | \$40,007                        | \$36,678 | -8.3%    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|      | Impact of Drought Stage Rates<br>Relative to Proposed Rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|      | Annual<br>Sales Volume<br>(% Change)                        | Annual<br>Service & Volume Revenue<br>(% Change) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 509  | S   | 50%  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 309  | ·   | 30%  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 109  |   | 10%  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -10% | <b>←</b>  | -10%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -30% | <u> </u>  | -30%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -50% |   | -50%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



# **Drought Rate Calculator**

#### 3. Calculate Revenue Neutral Rates by Drought Stage

The revenue neutral rates calculator will quickly find a set of rates for a given drought/shortage stage that will generate the same revenue as your Proposed rates under a no shortage condition. There are four steps to using the calculator:

- 1. Choose the drought/shortage stage you want to calculate rates for.
- 2. Choose the method for calculating the rates. There are two choices. The first choice is to adjust your Proposed rates so that each customer class generates the same revenue it would have generated under your Proposed rates assuming no use curtailment. This may result in significant differences across classes in the amount by which rates are adjusted. The second choice is to adjust your Proposed rates so that all classes when grouped together are revenue neutral. Rates across classes will be adjusted by the same proportionate amount. Revenue neutrality may not hold for individual classes, but overall revenue will be neutral to the Proposed rates assuming no use curtailment.
- 3. Complete the Leave or Adjust Rate in Block table below. Choose Leave if you want the rate in the block to be the same as it is for your Proposed rates. Choose Adjust if you want the calculator to adjust this rate. For example, if you only want to adjust the upper block rates, choose Leave for lower blocks and Adjust for upper blocks. If you have fewer than 5 blocks, set the unused blocks to the same setting used for your last block.
- 4. Make desired adjustments to the block widths for the Stage Rates in the Stage Rates tables above.
- 5. Click the Find Revenue Neutral Rates button.

Adjust

Leave

Leave

Leave

Leave

Leave

Adjust

Leave

Leave

Adjust

Leave

Leave

Landscape

Not in use

Not in use

Note: The calculator will overwrite the rates that are in the Stage Rates tables above. If you want to preserve these rates, save them as a rate scenario by clicking the Save/Load Rates button before using the calculator.

**Choose Drought Stage to Evaluate:** Stage 2 Find Revenue Neutral Rates Choose Method for Calculating Revenue Neutral Rates: 1. Scale rates so that each customer class is revenue neutral Reset Drought Stage Rates to **Proposed Rates** Leave or Adjust Rate in Block? Save/Load Rates Class Block 1 Block 2 Block 3 Block 4 Block 5 Single Family Adjust Adjust Adiust Adjust Leave Multi Family Adjust Adjust Leave Adjust Adjust Leave Adjust Adjust Adiust Adjust

Adjust

Leave

Leave



## **Limitations of the Rate Design Module**

Plans based on average assumptions are wrong on average -- Sam Savage, The Flaw of Averages

- Results only as good as the bill tabulation data
- Can only evaluate how rates will perform ON AVERAGE
- ▶ Does not provide insight into VARIABILITY of performance
- ► That's where the Revenue Simulation Module steps in

## **Revenue Simulation Module**



#### **Questions the Simulation Module Can Address**

- ► What is the likelihood we will meet our oneyear, three-year, five-year revenue targets under our current or proposed rates?
- ► What is the chance our revenues will turn out more than 15% below our current projections?
- ► What level of confidence can we have that our sales will exceed our minimum planning estimates?

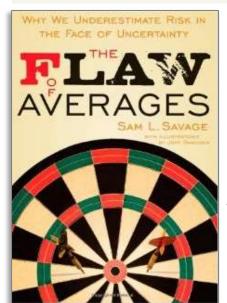


## **Average Outcome vs. Likely Outcomes**

#### **Flaw of Averages**

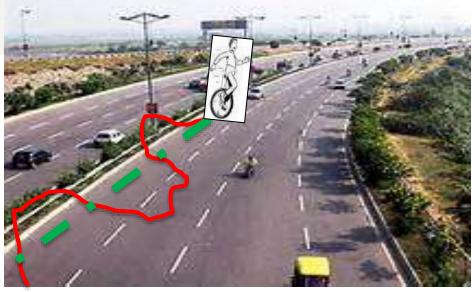
- ► Fact 1 Planning for the future is rife with uncertainties.
- ▶ Fact 2 Most people are not happy with Fact 1 and prefer to think of the future in terms of average outcomes.
- ▶ Fact 3 The "flaw of averages" states that plans based on average assumptions are, on average, wrong.

-adapted from Savage (2012) Flaw of Averages www.probabilitymanagment.org



The cyclist is **safe** on the average 

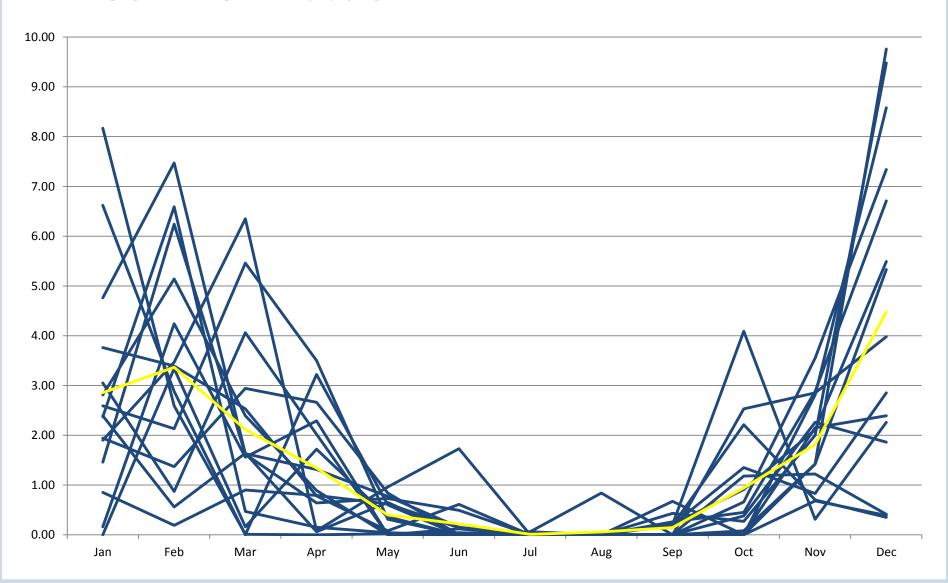
path



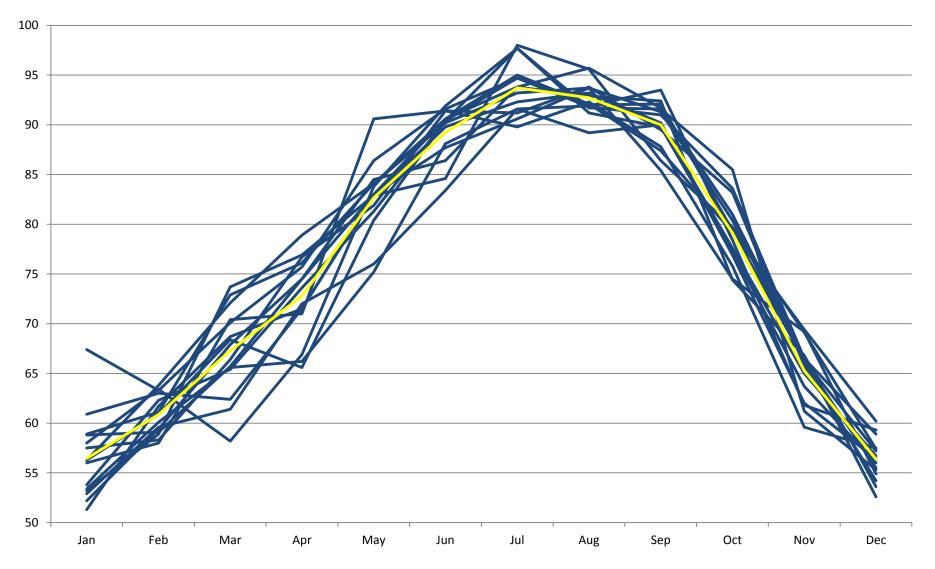


On average, the cyclist is dead.

# Monthly Precipitation Data 2000-2014 Mean vs. Actual

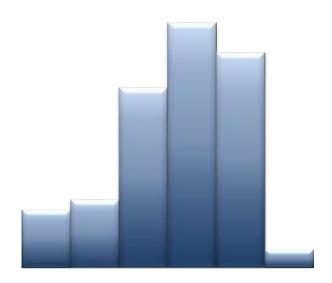


# Temperature Data 2000 – 2014 Mean vs. Actual



# **Planning for the Future**





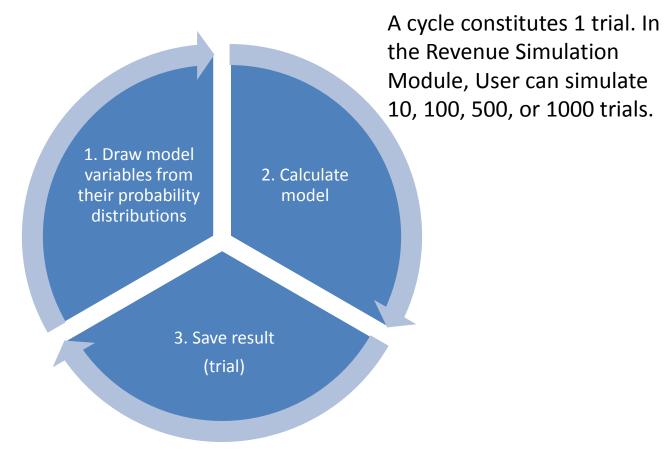


### **How Does It Work?**

- ► The model focuses on three variables that are key to short-run revenue performance:
  - Weather (historical or synthetic)
  - Growth (projected)
  - Supply disruption/use curtailment (correlated to weather)
- ► Two rate designs are simultaneously evaluated:
  - Current rate (reference condition)
  - Proposed rate
- ► Monte Carlo Simulation



## **Simulation Process**





# Why Simulate?

- ► Alternatives to simulation are:
  - Ignore uncertainty (a common strategy)
  - Construct scenarios (also common)
  - Both are problematic
- ► Simulation offers:
  - More complete enumeration of possible outcomes
  - Likelihood of particular outcomes





#### Simulation of Sales Revenue Distribution





#### **Additional Data Needed for Module**

- Weather
  - Monthly Precipitation and Temperature data for Service Area
    - Historical (up to 90 years), OR
    - Synthetic (for example, to simulate impact of climate change)
  - Easy to get historical weather data for service areas Guidebook recommends several sources for weather data
- Customer Class Account Growth
  - User specifies Low, Medium, High Account Growth Rates, by Class



## Weather Data Screenshot

#### Step 6: Enter Weather Data to be Used

Can enter up to 90 yrs. Need at least On this worksheet you enter historical mor 15. More is better than less. You can enter up to a maximum of 90 years It is not required that you provide data for

ow your demands may vary in respons ears. It also must be complete across ate rows of the tables. To get reliable Can modify historical weather for future climate change if desired.

Go forward to Step 7:

Go back to Revenue Simulation Module Worksheet

#### 1. Set most recent year in your weather data

Consult the user guide for information on v

Enter the most recent year for which you are providing weather data.

Most recent year:

2012

#### 2. Enter Monthly Precipitation Totals (in)

Enter total monthly precipitation in inches for each year of weather data you have for your service

| Year | Jan  | Feb   | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | Dec   |
|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 2012 | 2.91 | 1.18  | 4.17 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.87 | 4.09 | 5.83  |
| 2011 | 1.18 | 4.06  | 6.26 | 0.28 | 0.79 | 1.93 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.91 | 1.22 | 0.08  |
| 2010 | 5.71 | 2.80  | 1.93 | 3.82 | 1.06 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.83 | 1.85 | 5.71  |
| 2009 | 1.02 | 6.34  | 2.36 | 1.22 | 0.71 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.16 | 3.74 | 0.59 | 2.40  |
| 2008 | 7.13 | 1.85  | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 2.36 | 1.81  |
| 2007 | 0.43 | 3.70  | 0.24 | 0.59 | 0.28 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 1.22 | 0.75 | 2.40  |
| 2006 | 2.24 | 1.97  | 6.26 | 4.25 | 1.02 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 1.42 | 2.95  |
| 2005 | 4.33 | 3.31  | 2.60 | 1.46 | 1.26 | 0.28 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 0.94 | 10.04 |
| 2004 | 2.48 | 5.04  | 0.91 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.08 | 2.64 | 2.17 | 3.90  |
| 2003 | 1.14 | 0.98  | 1.46 | 3.58 | 0.51 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.65 | 5.94  |
| 2002 | 0.75 | 1.54  | 1.89 | 0.16 | 1.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.40 | 8.66  |
| 2001 | 1.89 | 5.51  | 1.10 | 1.14 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 0.28 | 3.58 | 7.01  |
| 2000 | 5.79 | 8.11  | 2.01 | 0.79 | 1.14 | 0.08 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 1.34 | 0.75 | 0.39  |
| 1999 | 2.76 | 5.12  | 2.48 | 1.69 | 0.08 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.31 | 2.05 | 0.51  |
| 1998 | 8.03 | 12.20 | 2.09 | 1.26 | 2.64 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.16 | 0.79 | 3.07 | 0.67  |
| 1997 | 8.19 | 0.20  | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.28 | 0.20 | 0.00 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 0.79 | 5.47 | 2.56  |
| 1996 | 5.28 | 5.94  | 2.44 | 1.81 | 1.77 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.91 | 2.72 | 6.89  |
| 1995 | 9.84 | 0.20  | 8.62 | 1.06 | 1.22 | 1.18 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.77  |
| 1994 | 1.77 | 3.94  | 0.20 | 0.87 | 1.61 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.67 | 5.91 | 2.48  |
| 1993 | 8.46 | 4.25  | 2.13 | 0.59 | 0.55 | 0.39 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.31 | 2.52 | 2.36  |
| 1992 | 1.38 | 5.94  | 3.11 | 0.31 | 0.00 | 0.28 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.38 | 0.16 | 6.02  |

#### 3. Enter Monthly Average Maximum Air Temperature (degrees F)

Enter the monthly average daily maximum air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit for each year of we service area. Be sure you are entering average daily **maximum** air temperature and not average dail dir temperature.

| Year | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | Dec  |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2012 | 61.0 | 63.0 | 63.0 | 70.6 | 78.6 | 82.9 | 85.9 | 87.3 | 83.4 | 75.7 | 65.8 | 56.9 |
| 2011 | 56.2 | 60.5 | 62.7 | 69.0 | 72.4 | 79.2 | 84.3 | 84.5 | 86.4 | 76.5 | 62.8 | 60.0 |
| 2010 | 55.1 | 60.8 | 65.3 | 66.1 | 72.5 | 82.6 | 84.1 | 83.3 | 85.2 | 74.9 | 64.7 | 57.2 |
| 2009 | 60.4 | 59.1 | 65.4 | 70.6 | 78.6 | 80.4 | 86.6 | 87.1 | 88.0 | 73.3 | 65.7 | 54.6 |
| 2008 | 53.7 | 60.8 | 66.5 | 71.6 | 77.7 | 85.3 | 86.7 | 88.5 | 85.1 | 78.1 | 66.9 | 54.7 |
| 2007 | 58.2 | 60.8 | 70.5 | 72.2 | 77.7 | 83.9 | 86.1 | 87.0 | 80.8 | 72.9 | 67.4 | 55.9 |
| 2006 | 58.5 | 63.2 | 59.3 | 66.0 | 77.8 | 84.9 | 91.8 | 83.9 | 83.0 | 74.0 | 64.2 | 57.9 |
| 2005 | 52.7 | 61.3 | 67.0 | 68.8 | 74.9 | 78.7 | 89.7 | 87.2 | 80.1 | 75.6 | 67.8 | 58.8 |
| 2004 | 55.1 | 59.7 | 74.0 | 75.0 | 77.9 | 83.2 | 85.9 | 87.0 | 86.7 | 73.1 | 62.2 | 56.8 |
| 2003 | 59.2 | 61.5 | 67.6 | 64.9 | 76.6 | 83.3 | 91.1 | 86.3 | 86.6 | 81.5 | 61.7 | 56.6 |
| 2002 | 55.0 | 63.0 | 64.6 | 69.5 | 76.1 | 84.0 | 87.5 | 86.1 | 86.1 | 76.2 | 66.9 | 58.1 |
| 2001 | 57.0 | 59.2 | 69.1 | 67.9 | 85.9 | 87.2 | 84.0 | 86.4 | 82.1 | 78.7 | 65.9 | 55.7 |
| 2000 | 58.8 | 60.0 | 66.5 | 72.9 | 76.9 | 84.5 | 82.5 | 86.1 | 84.3 | 73.1 | 61.0 | 59.3 |
| 1999 | 55.3 | 58.5 | 60.8 | 69.1 | 73.0 | 80.7 | 83.2 | 83.3 | 82.8 | 79.3 | 66.4 | 61.2 |
| 1998 | 56.3 | 57.6 | 64.9 | 67.5 | 67.3 | 76.5 | 85.4 | 88.9 | 82.6 | 73.8 | 62.3 | 55.3 |
| 1997 | 56.0 | 63.4 | 69.9 | 73.1 | 82.6 | 83.0 | 86.5 | 84.6 | 86.1 | 75.2 | 65.5 | 56.5 |
| 1996 | 57.9 | 62.1 | 67.1 | 72.9 | 77.5 | 84.3 | 89.5 | 88.9 | 82.1 | 75.5 | 65.1 | 59.0 |
| 1995 | 57.1 | 61.3 | 62.2 | 68.3 | 71.7 | 79.9 | 86.2 | 87.7 | 83.8 | 79.2 | 71.2 | 59.9 |
| 1994 | 58.2 | 58.4 | 68.4 | 70.9 | 74.1 | 83.4 | 84.4 | 87.0 | 82.4 | 75.3 | 58.0 | 53.0 |
| 1993 | 54.8 | 58.7 | 67.2 | 69.9 | 75.8 | 84.6 | 85.7 | 86.6 | 84.1 | 76.8 | 65.3 | 55.0 |
| 1992 | 52.8 | 63.7 | 65.7 | 74.8 | 81.9 | 80.8 | 85.7 | 88.8 | 84.9 | 79.1 | 66.6 | 54.2 |



## **Calculation of Weather Effects**

- Based on CUWCC GPCD Weather Normalization Methodology and Empirical Model
- Accounts for
  - Seasonal Shape of Demand
  - Relative Importance of (weather sensitive) Outdoor Use
- Monthly effects formed into weighted-average seasonal effect
- Weighting accounts for:
  - Monthly contribution to total seasonal use
  - Strength of monthly weather effect on total seasonal use
- Weather effect coefficients can be modified by user



### **Uncertain Account Growth**

- ► Can simulate with or without growth uncertainty
  - No Growth
  - Certain Growth
  - Uncertain Growth
- ▶ If Uncertain Growth, then Low, Medium, High Growth Rates transformed into probability distribution
  - Normal
  - Triangular
  - Uniform
- User specifies which distribution to use



### **Water Use Curtailments**

- ► Three Choices
  - Exclude from simulation
  - Associate with historical weather (preferred method)
  - Specify likelihood



#### **Associate Drought Stage with Historical Weather**

#### Preferred Method

#### 3. Enter Monthly Average Maximum Air Temperature (degrees F)

Enter the monthly average daily maximum air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit for each year of weather data you have for your service area. Be sure you are entering average daily maximum air temperature and not average daily air temperature.

| Year | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | Dec  |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2012 | 61.0 | 63.0 | 63.0 | 70.6 | 78.6 | 82.9 | 85.9 | 87.3 | 83.4 | 75.7 | 65.8 | 56.9 |
| 2011 | 56.2 | 60.5 | 62.7 | 69.0 | 72.4 | 79.2 | 84.3 | 84.5 | 86.4 | 76.5 | 62.8 | 60.0 |
| 2010 | 55.1 | 60.8 | 65.3 | 66.1 | 72.5 | 82.6 | 84.1 | 83.3 | 85.2 | 74.9 | 64.7 | 57.2 |
| 2009 | 60.4 | 59.1 | 65.4 | 70.6 | 78.6 | 80.4 | 86.6 | 87.1 | 88.0 | 73.3 | 65.7 | 54.6 |
| 2008 | 53.7 | 60.8 | 66.5 | 71.6 | 77.7 | 85.3 | 86.7 | 88.5 | 85.1 | 78.1 | 66.9 | 54.7 |
| 2007 | 58.2 | 60.8 | 70.5 | 72.2 | 77.7 | 83.9 | 86.1 | 87.0 | 80.8 | 72.9 | 67.4 | 55.9 |
| 2006 | 58.5 | 63.2 | 59.3 | 66.0 | 77.8 | 84.9 | 91.8 | 83.9 | 83.0 | 74.0 | 64.2 | 57.9 |
| 2005 | 52.7 | 61.3 | 67.0 | 68.8 | 74.9 | 78.7 | 89.7 | 87.2 | 80.1 | 75.6 | 67.8 | 58.8 |
| 2004 | 55.1 | 59.7 | 74.0 | 75.0 | 77.9 | 83.2 | 85.9 | 87.0 | 86.7 | 73.1 | 62.2 | 56.8 |
| 2003 | 59.2 | 61.5 | 67.6 | 64.9 | 76.6 | 83.3 | 91.1 | 86.3 | 86.6 | 81.5 | 61.7 | 56.6 |
| 2002 | 55.0 | 63.0 | 64.6 | 69.5 | 76.1 | 84.0 | 87.5 | 86.1 | 86.1 | 76.2 | 66.9 | 58.1 |
| 2001 | 57.0 | 59.2 | 69.1 | 67.9 | 85.9 | 87.2 | 84.0 | 86.4 | 82.1 | 78.7 | 65.9 | 55.7 |
| 2000 | 58.8 | 60.0 | 66.5 | 72.9 | 76.9 | 84.5 | 82.5 | 86.1 | 84.3 | 73.1 | 61.0 | 59.3 |
| 1999 | 55.3 | 58.5 | 60.8 | 69.1 | 73.0 | 80.7 | 83.2 | 83.3 | 82.8 | 79.3 | 66.4 | 61.2 |
| 1998 | 56.3 | 57.6 | 64.9 | 67.5 | 67.3 | 76.5 | 85.4 | 88.9 | 82.6 | 73.8 | 62.3 | 55.3 |
| 1997 | 56.0 | 63.4 | 69.9 | 73.1 | 82.6 | 83.0 | 86.5 | 84.6 | 86.1 | 75.2 | 65.5 | 56.5 |
| 1996 | 57.9 | 62.1 | 67.1 | 72.9 | 77.5 | 84.3 | 89.5 | 88.9 | 82.1 | 75.5 | 65.1 | 59.0 |
| 1995 | 57.1 | 61.3 | 62.2 | 68.3 | 71.7 | 79.9 | 86.2 | 87.7 | 83.8 | 79.2 | 71.2 | 59.9 |
| 1994 | 58.2 | 58.4 | 68.4 | 70.9 | 74.1 | 83.4 | 84.4 | 87.0 | 82.4 | 75.3 | 58.0 | 53.0 |
| 1993 | 54.8 | 58.7 | 67.2 | 69.9 | 75.8 | 84.6 | 85.7 | 86.6 | 84.1 | 76.8 | 65.3 | 55.0 |
| 1992 | 52.8 | 63.7 | 65.7 | 74.8 | 81.9 | 80.8 | 85.7 | 88.8 | 84.9 | 79.1 | 66.6 | 54.2 |
| 1991 | 57.8 | 65.3 | 59.6 | 68.5 | 72.7 | 77.9 | 85.1 | 82.0 | 84.4 | 80.6 | 67.6 | 57.1 |
| 1990 | 57.0 | 57.8 | 65.4 | 73.3 | 74.6 | 81.8 | 85.8 | 84.7 | 83.3 | 79.2 | 65.9 | 53.9 |
| 1989 | 55.6 | 56.8 | 63.4 | 73.5 | 75.6 | 80.5 | 86.4 | 83.1 | 79.0 | 74.5 | 67.2 | 57.0 |
| 1988 | 56.2 | 66.0 | 70.1 | 70.9 | 74.6 | 81.3 | 89.2 | 84.5 | 83.1 | 75.7 | 62.6 | 57.1 |
| 1987 | 55.2 | 62.1 | 64.8 | 76.2 | 78.8 | 81.5 | 80.9 | 83.9 | 82.6 | 77.7 | 63.6 | 55.2 |

#### 4. Enter Drought Shortage Stage

**(Optional)** For each hydrologic year you can select what drought/shortage stage would have applied given your current system supplies and customer demands. You can then have the model use this information when it simulates water sales. This is explained further in Step 5 Setup Simulation.

| IIIIs is ext | nameu rur |
|--------------|-----------|
| Stage        | Index     |
| Stage 0      | 0         |
| Stage 0      | 0         |
| Stage 0      | 0         |
| Stage 2      | 2         |
| Stage 0      | 0         |
| Stage 1      | 1         |
| Stage 0      | 0         |
| Stage 4      | 4         |
| Stage 3      | 3         |
| Stage 2      | 2         |
| Stage 1      | 1         |

Drought Stage association table



# **Specify Drought Stage Likelihood**

Secondary Method

**Choose Method for Simulating Impact of Droughts/Shortages on Sales Volumes and Revenues:** 

Use Stage Probabilities Table ▼

#### **Drought Stage Probabilities Table**

|               | Likelihood of | Cumulative  |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Drought Stage | Occurrence    | Probability |
| Stage 0       | 90.00%        | 90.00%      |
| Stage 1       | 5.00%         | 95.00%      |
| Stage 2       | 2.50%         | 97.50%      |
| Stage 3       | 1.50%         | 99.00%      |
| Stage 4       | 1.00%         | 100.00%     |
|               | 100.00%       |             |

**Table Instructions:** For each stage, enter the likelihood of occurrence. For example, if historically your system has had no water use curtailments in 90% of years, you would enter 90% for Stage 0. The remaining 10% would then be distributed across the other stages according to the likelihood of each stage's occurrence. The sum of the occurrence likelihoods must sum to 100%.

User specifies probability of occurrence



# **Simulation Outputs**



# **Summary Statistics**

#### 1. Simulation Summary Statistics

Summary statistics for the simulation are provided in the following tables. The average value shows the central tendency while the standard deviation indicates the degree of variability. The minimum and maximum values define the range of outcomes.

#### ---- Results based on 1000 simulation trials ----

#### **Under Proposed Rates Under Current Rates** Sales Volume (CCF) Sales Volume (CCF) Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 15,391,247 15,496,019 15,635,586 15,697,702 15,861,245 Avg 15,155,448 15,259,211 15,397,276 15,457,801 15,619,683 Avg St Dev 894,240 880,139 935,512 900,860 St Dev 829,223 880,884 867,799 922,020 888,074 841,193 Min 12,254,361 12,309,867 12,375,362 12,440,635 12,474,137 Min 12,070,660 12,125,441 12,190,075 12,254,491 12,287,565 16,520,316 16,657,595 16,843,932 16,280,144 Max 16.200.382 16.344.414 Max 15.964.343 16.106.516 16.415.657 16.599.589 Sales Revenue (Thou. \$) Sales Revenue (Thou. \$) Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 \$69,966 \$72,016 \$72,657 Avg \$70,430 \$70,999 \$71,338 \$71,981 Avg \$70,634 \$71,096 \$71,664 St Dev \$2,524 \$2,682 \$2,645 \$2,809 \$2,706 St Dev \$2,551 \$2,719 \$2,670 \$2,842 \$2,735 Min \$60,555 \$60,814 \$61,121 \$61,426 \$61,581 Min \$61.031 \$61,292 \$61,600 \$61,908 \$62,063 \$73,767 \$74,356 \$75,157 \$73,573 \$75,010 \$75,705 Max \$72.393 \$73.011 Max \$72.994 \$74.308



## **Simulation Distributions**



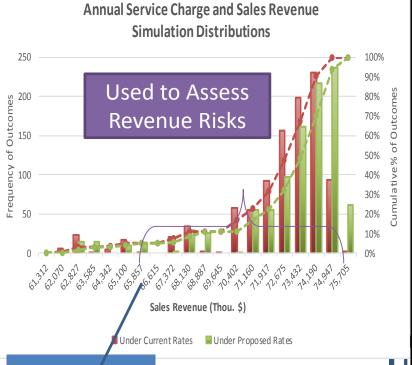
The charts below show the frequency and cumulative distributions for simulated sales volume and revenue. The cumulative distributions (the dashed lines in the charts) show the likelihood of sales volume or revenue being above or below the corresponding value on the x-axis. The frequency distributions (the bars) show the likelihood that sales volume or

revenue will fall between the value indicated on the x-axis and the value to its left.

Use the drop-down to choose the forecast year to display:

User selects forecast year





Water Sales

Annual Revenue



## **Confidence Intervals**

#### 3. Sales Volume and Revenue Confidence Intervals

17,000

16,500

15,500

14,000 13.500

13,000

12.000

Year 1

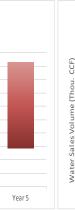
± 12,500

u 15,000

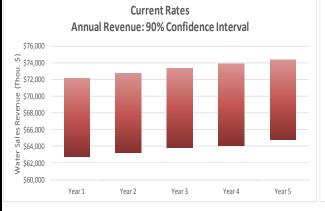
A 95% confidence interval indicates the range of values such that 95% of all simulation outcomes fall within this interval. Similarly, for a 90% confidence interval, 90% of all simulation outcomes would fall within the interval. This means the probability that the outcome variable will take on a value in the indicated range is x%. The charts below show confidence intervals (by year) for sales volume and revenue under your Current and Proposed rates. You can use the drop-down list to select the desired confidence level for the intervals. As you select higher levels of confidence you will note the intervals widen to accommodate the broader range of potential outcomes.

Use drop-down to select confidence level for sales volume and revenue confidence intervals:

Current Rates
Water Sales Volume: 90% Confidence Interval



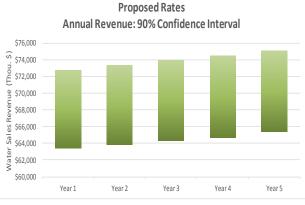




Year 3

Year4

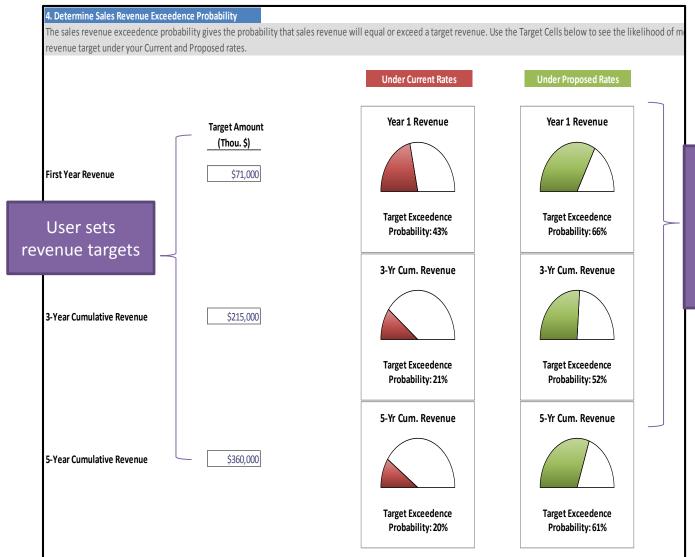
Year 2



User selects level of confidence for interval (50-95%)



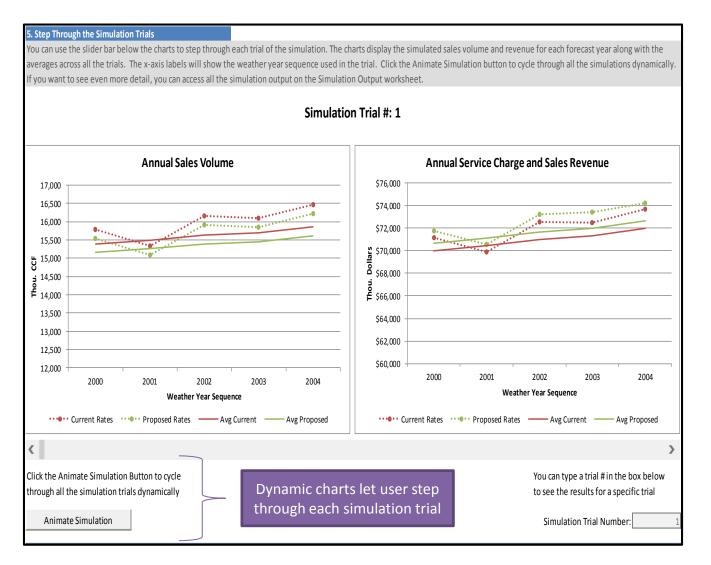
## **Exceedence Probabilities**



Model calculates likelihood of meeting or exceeding target



# **Dynamic Step-Through Charts**





#### Demo

► Model includes built-in demonstration data

and exercises:

- Model setup
- Bill tabulation
- Setting service charges
- Designing volume rates
- Drought rate adjustments
- Simulation

