Plant utilization is how much you schedule the plant to be producing over an entire year. A plant utilization of 85% means the plant averages 365 x 0.85 = 310 days a year with all lines running continuously. This would not be 310 days running and then 55 days of the entire plant down. It would be a mix of some lines not running every day, or running less shifts per day. It also allows time for the maintenance, line cleaning, and other operations that can be performed when there is no water usage on a packaging line.

Using a total of 310 days at 1.15 million gallons per day gives a total yearly usage of 356.5 million gallons. Divided by 365 this value gives an average annual daily usage of 0.976 million gallons per day. This is very close to the 0.984 million gallons per day value estimated by PET Systems. My approach is slightly different but it demonstrates the same calculation. I did choose higher end values to create this value, but they are achievable.

Recommended Annual average daily usage volume:

I support the PET System calculation of 0.984 million gallons per day as an annual average. It is within any calculation tolerances given the data provided. I would consider it the upper limit of annual water usage for the High Springs facility. A list of documents used to generate this estimate is attached.

Tom Rutledge, MBA, B.E.Sc.