BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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| In re: Natural gas conservation cost recovery. | DOCKET NO. 150004-GU  ORDER NO. PSC-15-0541-FOF-GU  ISSUED: November 23, 2015 |

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

ART GRAHAM, Chairman

LISA POLAK EDGAR

RONALD A. BRISÉ

JULIE I. BROWN

JIMMY PATRONIS

APPEARANCES:

BETH KEATING, ESQUIRE, Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A.,

215 South Monroe Street, Suite 601, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

On behalf of the Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation (CUC), Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC), Florida Public Utilities Company – Indiantown Division (Indiantown), Florida Public Utilities Company- Fort Meade (Fort Meade), and Florida City Gas (FCG).

ANSLEY WATSON, JR. and ASHLEY R. KELLGREN, ESQUIRES, Macfarlane Ferguson & McMullen, Post Office Box 1531, Tampa, Florida 33601-1531

On behalf of Peoples Gas System (PGS)

CHARLES A. SHOAF, Vice President

Post Office Box 549, Port St. Joe, Florida 32457

On behalf of St. Joe Natural Gas Company (SJNG)

NORMAN H. HORTON, ESQUIRE, Messer Caparello, P.A., Post Office Box 15579, Tallahassee, Florida 32317

On behalf of Sebring Gas System Inc. (SGS).

CHARLES J. REHWINKEL, ESQUIRE, Office of Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature, 111 West Madison Street, Room 812, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400

On behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida (OPC)

LESLIE AMES, ESQUIRE, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

On behalf of the Florida Public Service Commission (Staff).

MARY ANNE HELTON, ESQUIRE, Deputy General Counsel,

Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Advisor to the Florida Public Service Commission.

FINAL ORDER APPROVING NATURAL GAS CONSERVATION COST RECOVERY AMOUNTS AND ESTABLISHING NATURAL GAS CONSERVATION COST RECOVERY FACTORS FOR JANUARY 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 2016

BACKGROUND

As part of the Florida Public Service Commission’s continuing natural gas conservation cost recovery clause proceedings, an administrative hearing was held on November 2, 2015. Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation (CUC), Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC), Florida Public Utilities Company – Indiantown (Indiantown), Florida Public Utilities Company – Fort Meade (Fort Meade)[[1]](#footnote-1), Florida City Gas (FCG), Sebring Gas System, Inc. (Sebring), Peoples Gas System (PGS), and St. Joe Natural Gas Company (SJNG) submitted testimony and exhibits in support of their proposed final and estimated true-up amounts and their conservation cost recovery factors. Prior to the hearing, the parties reached an agreement concerning all issues identified for resolution at the hearing. The Office of Public Counsel took no position. These issues were presented to us as stipulations. We have jurisdiction over the subject matter by the provisions of Chapter 366, Florida Statutes (F.S.), including Sections 366.04, 366.05, and 366.06, F.S.

The parties stipulated to the final and estimated true-up amounts and purchased gas cost recovery factors appropriate for each utility. We accept and approve the stipulations as reasonable and supported by competent, substantial evidence of record, as set forth below.

DECISION

Conservation Cost Recovery Factors

We find that the appropriate final conservation cost recovery true-up amounts for the period January 2014 through December 2014 are as follows:

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| FPUC | $648,399 Under-recovery |
| CUC | $399,372 Under-recovery |
| FPUC Indiantown | $8,765 Under-recovery |
| FCG | $30,343 Over-recovery |
| PGS | $309,546 Over-recovery |
| SJNG | $48,666 Under-recovery |
| Sebring | $15,466 Under-recovery |

We find the appropriate total conservation cost recovery amounts to be collected during the period January 2016 through December 2016 are as follows:

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| Consolidated Companies  *(CUC, FPUC, Indiantown, Ft. Meade)* | $7,323,049 |
| FCG | $5,045,381 |
| PGS | $12,099,834 |
| SJNG | $183,819 |
| Sebring | $28,775 |

We find the appropriate conservation cost recovery factors for the period January 2016 through December 2016 are as follows:

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| **FPUC and**  **Fort Meade** | **Rate Class** | **ECCR Factor** |
|  | Residential (FPUC, Fort Meade) | $ 0.14796/therm |
|  | Commercial small (FPUC only) CVPD | $ 0.08788/therm |
|  | Commercial Small (FPUC only) (Gen Srv GS2 & GS Transportation >600) | $ 0.06987/therm |
|  | Commercial Large (FPUC, Fort Meade) (Large Vol & LV Transportation <,> 50,000 units) | $ 0.05706/therm |

| **CUC** | **Rate Class** | **ECCR Factor** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FTS-A | $ 0.34633 /therm |
|  | FTS-B | $ 0.26565 /therm |
|  | FTS-1 | $ 0.22795 /therm |
|  | FTS-2 | $ 0.12678 /therm |
|  | FTS-2.1 | $ 0.09281 /therm |
|  | FTS-3 | $ 0.07680 /therm |
|  | FTS-3.1 | $ 0.06147 /therm |
|  | FTS-4 | $ 0.05173 /therm |
|  | FTS-5 | $ 0.04561/therm |
|  | FTS-6 | $ 0.03638 /therm |
|  | FTS-7 | $ 0.02669 /therm |
|  | FTS-8 | $ 0.02309 /therm |
|  | FTS-9 | $ 0.01947 /therm |
|  | FTS-10 | $ 0.01849 /therm |
|  | FTS-11 | $ 0.01587 /therm |
|  | FTS-12 | $ 0.01198 /therm |

In accordance with Order No. PSC-07-0427-TRF-GU, issued May 15, 2007, in Docket No. 060675-GU, optional fixed rates are available to CUC customers in the following rate schedules as experimental per bill Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment (Experimental) factors:

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| **CUC** | **Rate Class** | | **ECCR Factor ($/bill)** |
|  | FTS-A | | $2.30 |
|  | FTS-B | | $3.02 |
|  | FTS-1 | | $3.84 |
|  | FTS-2 | | $7.62 |
|  | FTS-2.1 | | $10.93 |
|  | FTS-3 | | $28.10 |
|  | FTS-3.1 | | $36.55 |
| **FPUC Indiantown** | **Rate Class** | **ECCR Factor** | |
|  | TS-1 | $ 0.13840 /therm | |
|  | TS-2 | $ 0.02243 /therm | |
|  | TS-3 | $ 0.05210 /therm | |
|  | TS-4 | $ 0.00739 /therm | |

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| **FCG** | **Rate Class** | | **ECCR Factor** |
|  | GS-1, GS-100, GS-220, RSG, CSG (Sales & Transportation) | | $ 0.15163 /therm |
|  | GS-600 (Sales & Transportation) | | $ 0.07531 /therm |
|  | GS-1200 (Sales & Transportation) | | $0.04493 /therm |
|  | GS-6000 (Sales & Transportation) | | $0.03736 /therm |
|  | GS-25000 (Sales & Transportation) | | $0.03701 /therm |
|  | GS-60000 (Sales & Transportation | | $0.03583 /therm |
|  | Gas Lights  GS-120000 (Sales & Transportation) | | $0.07212 /therm  $0.02517 /therm |
|  | GS-250000 (Sales & Transportation) | | $0.02401 /therm |
| **PGS** | **Rate Class** | **ECCR Factor** | |
|  | Residential | $0.06421 /therm | |
|  | Residential-Standby Generator | $0.06421 /therm | |
|  | Small General Service | $0.04522 /therm | |
|  | Commercial Standby Generator  General Service-1 | $0.02222 /therm  $0.02222 /therm | |
|  | General Service-2 | $0.01629 /therm | |
|  | General Service-3 | $0.01339 /therm | |
|  | General Service-4 | $0.01005 /therm | |
|  | General Service-5 | $0.00732 /therm | |
|  | Natural Gas Vehicle Service | $0.01454 /therm | |
|  | Commercial Street Lighting | $0.01180 /therm | |

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| **SJNG** | **Rate Class** | **ECCR Factor** |
|  | RS-1 | $0.34483 /therm |
|  | RS-2 | $0.21639 /therm |
|  | RS-3 | $0.15564 /therm |
|  | GS-1 | $0.14949 /therm |
|  | GS-2 | $0.07090 /therm |
|  | FTS-4 | $0.03216 /therm |
| **SEBRING** | **Rate Class** | **ECCR Factor** |
|  | TS-1 | $0.10326 /therm |
|  | TS-2 | $0.05260 /therm |
|  | TS-3 | $0.02942 /therm |
|  | TS-4 | $0.02582 /therm |

Conservation Cost Recovery Effective Date For 2016 Billing Cycle

The factors shall be effective beginning with the specified conservation cost recovery cycle and thereafter for the period January 2016 through December 2016. Billing cycles may start before January 1, 2016, and the last cycle may be read after December 31, 2016, so that each customer is billed for twelve (12) months regardless of when the adjustment factor became effective.

Tariff Revisions Reflecting Natural Gas Conservation Cost Recovery Amounts And Establishing Natural Gas Conservation Cost Recovery Factors

We find the revised tariffs reflecting the natural gas conservation cost recovery amounts and establishing natural gas conservation cost recovery factors determined to be appropriate in this proceeding are approved. We direct our staff to verify that the revised tariffs are consistent with this Order.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the stipulations, findings, and rulings set forth in the body of this Order are hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that each utility that was a party to this docket shall abide by the stipulations, findings, and rulings herein which are applicable to it. It is further

ORDERED that the utilities named herein are authorized to collect the natural gas conservation cost recovery amounts and utilize the factors approved herein for the period beginning with the specified conservation cost recovery cycle and thereafter for the period January 2016 through December 2016. Billing cycles may start before January 1, 2016, and the last cycle may be read after December 31, 2016, so that each customer is billed for twelve months regardless of when the adjustment factor became effective. It is further

ORDERED that the utilities’ revised tariffs, reflecting the natural gas conservation cost recovery amounts and establishing natural gas conservation cost recovery factors determined to be appropriate herein, are approved. Our staff shall verify that the revised tariffs are consistent with this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the Natural Gas Conservation Cost Recovery Clause docket is ongoing and the docket shall remain open.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 23rd day of November, 2015.

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|  | /s/ Carlotta S. Stauffer |
|  | CARLOTTA S. STAUFFER  Commission Clerk |

Florida Public Service Commission

2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard

Tallahassee, Florida 32399

(850) 413‑6770

www.floridapsc.com

Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Office of Commission Clerk, and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

1. Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation (CUC), Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC), Florida Public Utilities Company – Indiantown (Indiantown), and Florida Public Utilities Company – Fort Meade (Fort Meade), are collectively referred to as the “Consolidated Companies”. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)