

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 15

VOTE SHEET

FILED 12/11/2018
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FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

December 11, 2018

Docket No. 20180063-WS – Application for limited proceeding rate increase in Polk County by Orchid Springs Development Corporation.

Issue 1: Should the Commission approve the utility's request for a limited proceeding?

Recommendation: The Commission should approve the utility's request for a limited proceeding rate increase as modified by staff. Orchid Springs should be allowed an annual increase of \$7,822 (8.35 percent) for water, resulting in an adjusted revenue requirement of \$101,489. For wastewater, the utility should be allowed an annual increase of \$23,837 (11.73 percent), resulting in an adjusted revenue requirement of \$227,066. The adjusted revenue requirements are reflected on Schedule Nos. 3-A and 3-B.

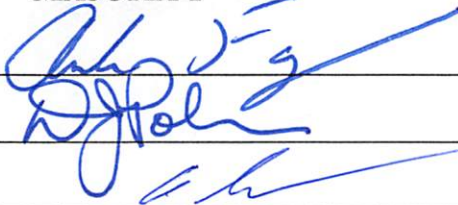
APPROVED


COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners


COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING







REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

Commissioner Brown dissents.

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Issue 2: What are the appropriate water and wastewater rates for Orchid Springs?

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the rate increase of 8.35 percent for water and 11.73 percent for wastewater should be applied as an across-the-board increase monthly to service rates. The rates, as shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B of staff's memorandum dated November 29, 2018, should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. The utility should file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. In addition, the approved rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. The utility should provide proof of the date that notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

APPROVED

Issue 3: What is the appropriate amount by which rates should be reduced four years after the published effective date to reflect the removal of the amortized rate case expense?

Recommendation: The water and wastewater rates should be reduced as shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B of staff's memorandum dated November 29, 2018, to remove rate case expense grossed-up for regulatory assessment fees (RAFs) and amortized over a four-year period. The decrease in rates should become effective immediately following the expiration of the four-year rate case expense recovery period, pursuant to Section 367.081(8), F.S. The utility should be required to file revised tariffs and a proposed customer notice setting forth the lower rates and the reason for the reduction no later than one month prior to the actual date of the required rate reduction. If Orchid Springs files this reduction in conjunction with a price index or pass-through rate adjustment, separate data should be filed for the price index and/or pass-through increase or decrease and the reduction in the rates due to the amortized rate case expense.

APPROVED

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Issue 4: Should the recommended rates be approved for Orchid Springs on a temporary basis, subject to refund, in the event of a protest filed by a substantially affected person or party?

Recommendation: Yes. The recommended rates should be approved for the utility on a temporary basis, subject to refund, in the event of a protest filed by a substantially affected person or party. The utility should file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the temporary rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed notice, and the notice has been received by the customers. Prior to implementation of any temporary rates, the utility should provide appropriate security. If the recommended rates are approved on a temporary basis, the rates collected by the utility should be subject to the refund provisions discussed in the analysis portion of staff's memorandum dated November 29, 2018. In addition, after the increased rates are in effect, pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(6), F.A.C., the utility should file reports with the Commission Clerk's office no later than the 20th of every month indicating the monthly and total amount of money subject to refund at the end of the preceding month. The report filed should also indicate the status of the security being used to guarantee repayment of any potential refund.

APPROVED

Issue 5: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: If no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order, a consummating order should be issued. The docket should remain open for staff's verification that the revised tariff sheets and customer notice have been filed by the utility and approved by staff. Once these actions are complete, this docket should be closed administratively.

APPROVED