# FLORIDA UTILITY SERVICES 1, LLC 5911 TROUBLE CREEK RD. NEW PORT RICHEY, FL. 34652 863-904-5574

November 30, 2020

Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee. FL. 32399

RE: Application for a staff assisted rate case for McLoed Gardens Utilities, Docket # 20200168

Dear Commission Clerk:

Please find enclosed affidavit of mailing for the above docket file.

On behalf of the company,

Mike Smallridge.

001241271041 001241271041

# BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for Staff Assisted Rate	)	
Case in Lake County by McLeod Gardens	)	
Utilities, LLC.	)	Filed: 12/1/2020
Docket # 20200168-WU	)	
	≅ ) }	

#### AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF PASCO

Before me, the undersigned authority, authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgements, personally appeared MICHAEL SMALLRIDGE, who, after being duly sworn on oath, did depose on oath and say that he is MICHAEL SMALLRIDGE, and that to the best of his knowledge and belief, on or about November 20, 2020, a copy of the attached Notice was sent to all customers of McLeod Gardens Utilities, LLC by regular US mail.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

MICHAEL SMALLRIDGE

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of December 2020 by Michael Smallridge, who is personally known to me.

Ericka Dominguez
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF FLORIDA
Comm# GG220413
Expires 5/21/2022

Print Name
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires:

# BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

#### NOTICE OF CUSTOMER MEETING

#### TO THE CUSTOMERS OF MCLEOD GARDENS UTILITIES, LLC

#### AND

### ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

DOCKET NO. 20200168-WU

#### APPLICATION OF MCLEOD GARDENS UTILITIES, LLC.

#### FOR A STAFF-ASSISTED RATE CASE IN

#### **POLK COUNTY**

Date Issued: November 20, 2020

NOTICE is hereby given that the staff of the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) will conduct a customer meeting to discuss McLeod Gardens Utilities, LLC's (McLeod or Utility) application for a staff-assisted rate case (SARC) in Polk County. The meeting will be held virtually on the following date and time:

#### Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 6:00 P.M.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate at this meeting should contact the Office of Commission Clerk no later than five days prior to the hearing at 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 or (850) 413-6770 (Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8770 Voice or 1-800-955-8771 TDD).

#### PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE

The purpose of this meeting is to give customers and other interested persons an opportunity to offer comments to Commission staff regarding the quality of service the Utility provides and on the preliminary rates included in this notice. Customers and other interested persons may be asked follow-up questions. These comments will be taken into consideration by the Commission in its decision regarding the proposed rate increase.

State buildings are currently closed to the public and other restrictions on gathering remain in place due to COVID-19. Accordingly, this customer meeting will be conducted virtually. The Commission shall act as the host of the customer meeting and will use a combination of technologies to ensure full participation. The Commission will employ GoToMeeting as an audio and video platform for the meeting, and will provide for simultaneous, audio-only participation

by telephone. Persons wishing to provide comments will present their comments over the telephone.

Persons wishing to comment at the customer meeting must register by contacting the Commission via email at <a href="mailto:speakersignup@psc.state.fl.us">speakersignup@psc.state.fl.us</a> or calling (850) 413-7080. You will need to provide your name, address, and the name of your Utility (McLeod). Please register as soon as possible, preferably two business days prior to the meeting. After registering to comment, either by email or phone, you will be provided further instructions on how to participate, including the call-in number. Please note: the order in which customers speak at the customer meeting is based upon the order in which they sign up. To watch the meeting live, visit www.floridapsc.com and look for the "Watch Live Broadcast" icon on the left side of the webpage. If you do not have access to the internet, you may call (850) 413-7999 to listen to the meeting.

All customers who register to present comment at the meeting are urged to call-in promptly at the scheduled meeting time, since the meeting may be adjourned early if no customers are present. One or more of the Commissioners of the Commission may attend and participate in this meeting. The meeting will begin as scheduled and will continue until all the customers have been heard.

If a named storm or other disaster requires cancellation of the meeting, Commission staff will attempt to give timely direct notice to the parties. Notice of the cancellation of the meeting will also be provided on the Commission's website under the Hot Topics link found on the home page. Cancellation can also be confirmed by calling the Commission's Office of the General Counsel at (850) 413-6199.

#### **BACKGROUND**

McLeod is a Class C utility providing service to approximately 96 water customers in Polk County. On June 19, 2020, McLeod filed its application for a staff-assisted rate case to recover the costs of replacing a well house, implementing a meter replacement program, and to account for increased operating expenses. McLeod's rates and charges were approved in its last staff-assisted rate case in 2002. Additionally, according to McLeod's 2019 annual report, total gross revenues were \$33,563 and total operating expenses were \$41,418.

The results of staff's preliminary investigation are contained in a staff report dated November 13, 2020. Copies of the staff report and the Utility's application for a rate increase is available for review by members of the public by visiting http://www.floridapsc.com/ClerkOffice/Docket and entering 20200168 in the docket number search field.

#### **CURRENT AND PRELIMINARY RATES AND CHARGES**

Staff has compiled the following recommended rates for the purpose of discussion at the customer meeting. These rates are preliminary and subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further staff review, and the final decision by the Commission. The Utility's current and staff's recommended preliminary rates are as follows:

# MCLEOD GARDENS UTILITIES LLC. TEST YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 MONTHLY WATER RATES

SCHEDULE NO. 4 DOCKET NO. 20200168-WU

	UTILITY	COMMISSION APPROVED	STAFF PRELIMINARY	4 YEAR
	CURRENT	INTERIM	RECOMMENDED	RATE
	RATES	RATES**	RATES	REDUCTION
Residential and General Service				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8"X3/4"	\$11.88	\$12.61	\$14.78	\$0.11
3/4"	\$17.82	\$18.92	\$22.17	\$0.16
1"	\$29.70	\$31.53	\$36.95	\$0.27
1-1/2"	\$59.40	\$63.05	\$73.90	\$0.53
2"	\$95.04	\$100.88	\$118.24	\$0.85
3"	\$190.08	\$201.76	\$236.48	\$1.70
4"	\$297.00	\$315.25	\$369.50	\$2.66
6"	\$594.03	\$630.50	\$739.00	\$5.32
Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential				
All gallons	\$2.97	\$3.15	N/A	N/A
0 - 5,000 gallons	N/A	N/A	\$4.49	\$0.03
5,001 - 10,000 gallons	N/A	N/A	\$6.74	\$0.05
Over 10,000 gallons	N/A	N/A	\$8.99	\$0.06
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General Service	\$2.97	\$3.15	\$5.44	\$0.04
Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison				
5,000 Gallons	\$26.73	\$28.36	\$37.23	
10,000 Gallons	\$41.58	\$50.42	\$70.93	
15,000 Gallons	\$56.43	\$59.86	\$115.88	
**The Utility has not implemented interim rates.				

#### HOW TO PROVIDE COMMENTS TO THE COMMISSION

If you would like to share your comments with the Commission, you may:

- Speak at the customer meeting on December 16, 2020, by contacting the Commission via email at speakersignup@psc.state.fl.us or calling (850) 413-7080 as indicated above.
- Email your comments to the Commission at clerk@psc.state.fl.us.
- Fill out and return, by US Mail or fax, the "Comment Card" attached to this Notice.
- Submit written comments to the Commission Clerk at the address below.

Office of the Commission Clerk 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

All correspondence should refer to "Docket No. 20200168-WU, McLeod Gardens Utilities, LLC"

Address the Commissioners by phone during the Commission's Conference, currently scheduled for March 2, 2021. You may address the Commissioners by phone even if you also provide written comments through any of the other methods. If you would like to provide comments by phone at the Commission Conference, please contact Rachael Dziechciarz at (850) 413-6212 or rdziechc@psc.state.fl.us.

Please note that written comments are given the same consideration as if they were provided by phone during the Commission's Conference.

#### PROCEDURES AFTER THE CUSTOMER MEETING

Commission staff will prepare a recommendation which is tentatively scheduled to be submitted to the Commission on February 18, 2021. The Commission will then vote on staff's recommendation at its March 2, 2021 Commission Conference. As noted above, customers may address the Commission directly at this Conference. Customers may also watch the Commission Conference live from the PSC website at <a href="www.floridapsc.com">www.floridapsc.com</a>. Look for the "Watch Live Broadcast" icon on the left side of the webpage.

The Commission will thereafter issue a proposed agency action (PAA) order containing rates which may be different from those contained in staff's final recommendation. Substantially affected persons have 21 days from the date that the PAA order is issued to protest the Commission's PAA order. Customers are able to obtain a copy of staff's recommendation and all documents filed in this docket under the Clerk's Office tab at the Commission's website (http://www.floridapsc.com/).

#### CONTACTING THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL (OPC)

At any time during this process, you may contact the Office of Public Counsel (OPC). The OPC was established by the Florida Legislature to represent you and the other utility consumers before the PSC. The Public Counsel is independent from the PSC and can be reached at 1-800-342-0222 or www.floridaopc.gov.

#### HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contact information for staff is provided below. You may also find additional information in the Rate Case Overview, which can be viewed at <a href="http://www.floridapsc.com/Publications/RateCaseOverviews">http://www.floridapsc.com/Publications/RateCaseOverviews</a>.

For technical questions contact: Clayton Lewis at (850) 413-6994 or

(clewis@psc.state.fl.us)

For legal questions contact: Rachael Dziechciarz at (850) 413-6212 or

(rdziechc@psc.state.fl.us)

If you wish to contact the Commission regarding complaints about service, you may call the Commission's Division of Consumer Assistance and Outreach at the following toll-free number 1-800-342-3552.

## Application for a staff-assisted rate case in Polk County by

# McLeod Gardens Utilities, LLC

# DOCKET NO. 20200168-WU

Name		 	
Address			

To submit your comments about this docket to the Florida Public Service Commission, please complete this comment form and return it by mail, or fax it to 1-800-511-0809. Correspondence will be placed in the docket file.

CUSTOMER	COMMENTS

Any email or other correspondence sent to a Florida Public Service Commissioner, or any other public official and/or employee of the PSC, in the transaction of public business is considered a public record and is subject to Florida's Public Records Law. This means that Florida law generally requires the PSC to provide a copy of any such email or correspondence, upon request, for inspection and copying to any Florida citizen or to any member of the media.