

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for transfer of water and wastewater systems of Aquarina Utilities, Inc., Water Certificate No. 517-W, and Wastewater Certificate No. 450-S to CSWR-Florida Utility Operating Company, LLC, in Brevard County.

DOCKET NO. 20210093-WS
ORDER NO. PSC-2021-0230-CFO-WS
ISSUED: June 23, 2021

ORDER GRANTING CSWR- FLORIDA UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, LLC'S
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION
(DOCUMENT NO. 03889-2021)

On May 4, 2021, pursuant to Section 367.156, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), CSWR-Florida Utility Operating Company, LLC (CSWR-Florida UOC) filed a Request for Confidential Classification (Request) of certain financial information provided in its Application filed on May 3, 2021 (Document No. 03889-2021).

Request for Confidential Classification

CSWR-Florida UOC contends that portions of the information contained in its Application constitute proprietary confidential business information entitled to protection under Section 367.156, F.S, and Rule 25-22.006, F.A.C. Because CSWR-Florida UOC does not yet have financial statements, the information submitted includes consolidated financial statements of CSWR, LLC, a private company whose financial statements are not publicly available, and its subsidiaries. The information includes a detailed financial statement (balance sheet and income statement) that shows all assets and liabilities of every kind and character. CSWR-Florida UOC contends that disclosure of this information may impair its or CSWR, LLC's ability to contract for goods or services on favorable terms. CSWR-Florida UOC asserts that this information is intended to be proprietary, is treated as proprietary, and has not been publicly disclosed. CSWR-Florida UOC requests that the Commission grant confidential classification for the information for a period of 18 months from the date of the issuance of this Order, pursuant to Section 367.156(4), F.S.

Ruling

Section 367.156(1), F.S., provides that records the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) has found to contain proprietary business information shall be kept confidential and shall be exempt from Chapter 119, F.S. Section 367.156(3), F.S., defines proprietary confidential business information as information that is intended to be and is treated by the company as private, in that disclosure of the information would cause harm to the company's ratepayers or business operations, and has not been voluntarily disclosed to the public. Section 367.156(3), F.S., provides that proprietary confidential business information includes, but is not limited to:

(d) Information concerning bids or other contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the public utility or its affiliates to contract for goods or services on favorable terms; and

(e) Information relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information.

Upon review, it appears the above-referenced information satisfies the criteria set forth in Section 367.156(3), F.S., for classification as proprietary confidential business information. The information constitutes “information relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information.” Thus, the information identified in Document No. 03889-2021 shall be granted confidential classification under 367.156(4), F.S.

Pursuant to Section 367.156(4), F.S., the information for which confidential classification is granted herein shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of up to 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. At the conclusion of the 18-month period, the confidential information will no longer be exempt from Section 119.07(1), F.S., unless CSWR-Florida, or another affected person shows, and the Commission finds, that the records continue to contain proprietary confidential business information.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Commissioner Art Graham as Prehearing Officer, that CSWR-Florida Utility Operating Company, LLC’s Request for Confidential Classification of Document No. 03889-2021, is granted as set forth herein. It is further

ORDERED that the information in Document No. 03889-2021, for which confidential classification has been granted, shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall be the only notification by the Commission to the parties of the date of declassification of the materials discussed herein.

By ORDER of Commissioner Art Graham, as Prehearing Officer, this 23rd day of June, 2021.



ART GRAHAM

Commissioner and Prehearing Officer
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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.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, 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 or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Office of Commission Clerk, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.