

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by Southwest Ocala Utility, Inc.  
to establish base facility charges for additional  
meter sizes.

DOCKET NO. 20220151-WU  
ORDER NO. PSC-2022-0359-TRF-WU  
ISSUED: October 24, 2022

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

ART GRAHAM, Chairman  
GARY F. CLARK  
MIKE LA ROSA  
GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO ESTABLISH BASE FACILITY CHARGES FOR  
ADDITIONAL METER SIZES

BY THE COMMISSION:

Background

Southwest Ocala Utility, Inc. (Southwest Ocala or utility) is a Class C utility providing water service to approximately 539 residential, 10 general service, and two private fire protection customers located in Marion County.<sup>1</sup> Southwest Ocala's current rates were approved by us in 2015 in a transfer of the utility from County-Wide Utility Co., Inc. to Southwest Ocala.<sup>2</sup>

On August 10, 2022, Southwest Ocala filed a request to add additional base facility charges (BFC) to its tariff for larger meter sizes for general service customers. On September 9, 2022, the utility filed a corrected tariff sheet No. 13.1. Currently, the utility only has Commission-approved general service BFCs up to a 6-inch meter. This order addresses the utility's request to add the additional BFCs for larger meter sizes to the general service tariff and adjustments to the BFCs in the private fire protection tariff. We have jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.091, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Decision

The utility explained that it is anticipating the possible addition of some larger meter size multifamily residential or general service customers. Currently, Southwest Ocala's general service tariff only has BFCs for meter sizes up to 6 inches. The utility's proposed BFCs for the

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<sup>1</sup> Number of customers as reported in 2021 Annual Report ending December 31, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Order No. PSC-2017-0311-FOF-WU, issued August 7, 2017, in Docket No. 20150012-WU, *In re: Application for transfer of Certificate No. 390-W from County Wide Utility Co., Inc. to Southwest Ocala Utility, Inc. in Marion County.*

additional meter sizes are calculated by using the utility's existing BFC of \$11.50 for the 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch size meter as a foundation, and then applying the American Water Works Association's (AWWA's) meter equivalent factor. The AWWA meter equivalent factors are contained in Rule 25-30.055, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). Southwest Ocala's existing BFCs and the BFCs for the three proposed additional general service meters based on the AWWA meter equivalents are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
**Current and Proposed General Service BFC Charges**

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>AWWA Meter Factor</b>	<b>BFC</b>
5/8" X 3/4"	1	\$11.50
3/4"	1.5	\$17.25
1"	2.5	\$28.75
1-1/2"	5	\$57.50
2"	8	\$92.00
3"	16	\$184.00
4"	25	\$287.50
6"	50	\$575.00
8"	90	\$1035.00
10"	145	\$1667.50
12"	215	\$2472.50

Source: Utility's filing

The utility also proposed one additional meter size (12 inches) for the private fire protection tariff and adjusted the existing fire protection BFCs for the 8-inch and 10-inch meter sizes in order to comply with the AWWA equivalent factors contained in Rule 25-30.055, F.A.C. Pursuant to Rule 25-30.465, F.A.C., the BFCs for private fire protection are 1/12<sup>th</sup> the amount of the equivalent sized general service BFCs. Southwest Ocala's current and proposed BFCs for the private fire protection tariff are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2**  
**Current and Proposed Fire Protection BFC Charges**

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Current BFC</b>	<b>Proposed BFC</b>
4"	\$23.96	\$23.96
6"	\$47.92	\$47.92
8"	\$76.67	\$86.25
10"	\$110.21	\$138.96
12"	-	\$206.04

Source: Utility's filing

The utility's proposed tariffs containing the BFCs for additional meter sizes for the general service and revised and additional BFCs for the private fire protection classes conform to

the AWWA's meter equivalent factors and shall be approved. Southwest Ocala's Fourth Revised Sheet No. 12.0 and Fourth Revised Sheet No. 13.1 shall be approved as filed. The approved rates shall be effective on the date of our vote, October 4, 2022. Since no current customers are affected by the proposed tariff revisions, no customer notices are required.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Southwest Ocala's petition to establish BFCs for additional meter sizes is granted. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed within 21 days of issuance of the Order, the tariff shall remain in effect with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 24th day of October, 2022.



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ADAM J. TEITZMAN  
Commission Clerk  
Florida Public Service Commission  
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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.

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

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.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on November 14, 2022.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.