

DOCKET NO. 20250080-GU

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May 20, 2025

#### BY E-PORTAL

Mr. Adam Teitzman Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: [New Filing] – Petition of St. Joe Natural Gas Company for Approval of Tariff Changes to Implement a Temporary Surcharge to Recover Regulatory Asset

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Attached for filing, please find the Petition of St. Joe Natural Gas Company for Approval of Tariff Changes to Implement a Temporary Surcharge to Recover Regulatory Asset, along with 5<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 83 in clean and legislative format.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing. As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions whatsoever.

Sincerely,

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

MEK cc:/(Service List)

#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for Approval to Implement | DOCKET NO. Temporary Surcharge to Recover Regulatory

Asset Established by Settlement.

DATED: May 20, 2025

# PETITION OF ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF CHANGES TO IMPLEMENT A TEMPORARY SURCHARGE TO RECOVER REGULATORY ASSET

St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc., (herein "SJNG" or "Company"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby files this Petition, pursuant to Sections 366.041 and 366.06, Florida Statutes ("F.S."), and in accordance with Rule 28-106.201, F.A.C., requests that the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") approve tariff changes to implement a temporary, 10-year, surcharge that will enable it to collect \$77,762 associated with a regulatory asset established in accordance with the Settlement approved by Order No. PSC-2021-0196-AS-GU, issued June 3, 2021, in Docket No. 20200039-GU: Petition for approval to implement a temporary storm cost recovery surcharge, by St. Joe Natural Gas Company. In further support of this request, the Company hereby states:

1) SJNG is a natural gas distribution company subject to the Commission's jurisdiction under Chapter 366, Florida Statutes. Its principal business address is:

St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. P.O. Box 549 Port St. Joe, Florida 32457-0549

2) The name and mailing address of the persons authorized to receive notices are:

Beth Keating, Esq. Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe Street, Suite 601 Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1839

Stuart Shoaf President St. Joe Natural Gas P.O. Box 549

(850) 521-1706 bkeating@gunster.com Port St. Joe, Florida 32457-0549 850-229-8216 sshoaf@stjoegas.com

- 3) The physical location of the Company's offices is 301 Long Avenue, Port St. Joe, Florida.
- The Company is unaware of any material facts in dispute at this time, but the proceeding may involve disputed issues of material fact. The Company's request set forth herein does not involve reversal or modification of a Commission decision or proposed agency action. This is a Petition representing an initial request to the Commission, which is the affected agency located at 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

# <u>I.</u> <u>Hurricane Michael</u>

- As the Commission will recall, following Hurricane Michael, St. Joe Natural Gas Company (St. Joe or Company) was severely damaged, along with the catastrophic damage to the homes and businesses of the Company's customers. On January 24, 2020, the Company filed a petition to recover incremental storm restoration costs associated with Hurricane Michael.
- 6) Prior to the hearing scheduled in that proceeding, the Company reached a mutually-beneficial settlement with the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC"), which was submitted to the Commission for approval ("Storm Settlement"). Among other things, the Storm Settlement reflected the parties' agreement that the Company should be allowed to recover \$330,115 in storm costs through the surcharge that had already been approved on an interim basis by Order No. PSC-2020-0117-PCO-GU. The storm surcharge was to extend through December 2024 at which time the surcharge was scheduled to terminate. The Commission approved the Storm Settlement by Order No. PSC-2021-0196-AS-GU, issued June 3, 2021, in Docket No. 20200039-GU.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>This surcharge was terminated early, as approved by Order No. 2024-0272-TRF-GU, issued July 26, 2024, because the Company notified the Commission that it had fully collected the \$330,115 in storm costs.

- 7) Paragraph 6.b. of that Storm Settlement also contemplated that the Company would be allowed to record \$77,761 in a regulatory asset for amounts associated with the lost remaining life of capital assets, which would be recovered through an increase in base rates over a 10-year period, which was anticipated to begin January 1, 2025.
- 8) In the period since approval of that Storm Settlement, the Company has revisited with the OPC the issue of implementing the increase associated with the lost remaining life of capital assets through a surcharge, rather than a base rate increase. Given the minimal increase and the ease of terminating a surcharge at the end of 10 years, as compared with a base rate change, the Company is asking that it be allowed to instead implement recovery of the \$77,761 through the surcharges reflected in the attached revised Tariff Sheet No. 83.

## III. Request for Relief

- 9) The Company requests that the Commission approve SJNG's proposed surcharges, effective with the date of the Commission's vote and thereafter for a period of 10-years, which will allow the Company to collect the previously approved \$77,761 associated with lost remaining lives of capital assets through a monthly per therm surcharge.
- 10) The Company respectfully requests that the Commission accept the Company's proposed methodology for recovery of this remaining regulatory asset associated with Hurricane Michael, as reflected below and set forth in the attached revised tariff sheet.

RATE CLASS	ADJUSTMENT FACTOR \$ Per Therm
RS-2	\$0.01523
RS-3	\$0.01022
GS-1	\$0.00577
GS-2	\$0.00338
GS-4/FTS-4	\$0.00206

- 11) The Company requests that the surcharges remain in effect for a period of 10 years as contemplated by the Storm Settlement.
- 12) The Company represents that it has consulted with OPC and can represent that the OPC does not object this request.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 20th day of May, 2025.

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

Attorneys for St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following by Electronic Mail this 20th day of May, 2025.

Mary Ann Helton, Interim General Counsel		
Florida Public Service Commission		
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard		
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850		
khetrick@psc.state.fl.us		

Walt Trierweiler Office of Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 W. Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400 Trierweiler.walt@leg.state.fl.us

By: West He Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601 Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

# REVISED TARIFF SHEET SHEET NO. 83

(Clean/Legislative)

#### RATE SCHEDULE TEMPORARY STORM COST RECOVERY SURCHARGE

#### **APPLICABILITY**

Applicable to Customers receiving Gas Service under the following rate schedule.

#### DETERMINATION OF TEMPORARY STORM COST RECOVERY SURCHARGE

The Temporary Storm Cost Recovery Surcharge will be a per therm rate per month for the bills rendered for meter readings taken on or after June 1, 2025, beginning with the first or applicable billing cycle through the last billing cycle for May 31, 2035. The Customer's monthly bill for Gas Service shall be increased by the Temporary Storm Cost Recovery Surcharge determined in accordance with this tariff.

## Temporary Storm Cost Recovery Surcharge factors are shown below:

RATE CLASS	ADJUSTMENT FACTOR  \$ Per Therm
RS-2	\$0.01523
RS-3	\$0.01022
GS-1	\$0.00577
GS-2	\$0.00338
GS-4/FTS-4	\$0.00206

This rate schedule is subject to Rules and Regulations of the Company and the Florida Public Service Commission.

Issued By:

Stuart L. Shoaf, President

Effective:

Issued On:

#### RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

#### RATE SCHEDULE TEMPORARY STORM COST RECOVERY SURCHARGE

## **APPLICABILITY**

Applicable to Customers receiving Gas Service under the following rate schedule.

#### DETERMINATION OF TEMPORARY STORM COST RECOVERY SURCHARGE

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<u>GS-1</u>	\$0.00577	
<u>GS-2</u>	<u>\$0.00338</u>	
<u>GS-4/FTS-4</u>	<u>\$0.00206</u>	

This rate schedule is subject to Rules and Regulations of the Company and the Florida Public Service Commission.

Issued By:

Stuart L. Shoaf, President

Issued On:

Effective: July 9, 2024