BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for approval of tariff modification for equipment financing, by Florida Public Utilities Company. DOCKET NO. 20250057-GU ORDER NO. PSC-2025-0168-PCO-GU ISSUED: May 27, 2025

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MIKE LA ROSA, Chairman ART GRAHAM GARY F. CLARK ANDREW GILES FAY GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO SMITH

ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS

BY THE COMMISSION:

Background

On April 4, 2025, Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC or the utility) filed a petition seeking approval of tariff changes to enable FPUC to provide and finance equipment related to compression, gas conversion, or Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) for its customers.

The requested tariff modifications (First revised Tariff Sheet No. 6.153 and Original Sheet No. 6.154) reflect a similar provision that the Commission approved for Florida City Gas (FCG).¹ FPUC asserts that FCG has successfully utilized this similar provision to help customers manage the costs of converting appliances to natural gas. In its petition, FPUC stated that FCG's tariff has enabled it to help customers manage the cost of making conversions that might otherwise be cost prohibitive. FPUC states that it would like to implement the proposed tariff language to enable it to assist its own customers in the same way. The utility stated that with this tariff change to implement equipment financing, the utility and a customer will be able to enter into an agreement to recover the costs, plus interest, associated with the compression, gas conversion, or RNG equipment. The financing charge will be reflected on the customer's bill until paid off. FPUC stated that it anticipates a similar level of interest in equipment financing service as FCG has received, along with improved alignment between the two companies' offerings and an enhanced ability to serve its customers.

On April 18, 2025, Commission staff issued a data request to FPUC, for which responses are pending.

¹ Florida City Gas Tariff, First Revised Sheet No. 26, Paragraph 19. FCG and predecessor companies have had equipment financing tariff provisions for compression and gas conversion equipment since the early 2000's. Tariff changes to add RNG equipment and make other minor wording changes were approved in subsequent tariff filings.

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This order suspends FPUC's proposed tariffs. We have jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 366.04, 366.041, 366.05, and 366.06, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Decision

Pursuant to Section 366.06(3), F.S., we may withhold consent to the operation of all or any portion of a new rate schedule, delivering to the utility requesting such a change, a reason, or written statement of good cause for doing so within 60 days. FPUC's proposed revisions to the tariffs to provide and finance compression, gas conversion, or RNG equipment for its customers shall be suspended to allow Commission staff sufficient time to review the petition and gather all pertinent information in order to present us with an informed recommendation on the tariff proposals. We find that this constitutes good cause consistent with the requirement of Section 366.06(3), F.S.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Florida Public Utilities Company's proposed tariff revisions are hereby suspended. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open pending our decision on the proposed revised tariffs.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 27th day of May, 2025.

ADAM J. TEITZMAN Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399 (850) 413-6770 www.floridapsc.com

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 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.