

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 6

VOTE SHEET

October 6, 2020

FILED 10/8/2020
DOCUMENT NO. 11026-2020
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

Docket No. 20200194-PU – Petition for approval of regulatory assets to record costs incurred due to COVID-19, by Florida Public Utilities Company, Florida Public Utilities Company - Indiantown Division, Florida Public Utilities Company - Fort Meade, Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation.

Issue 1: Should the Commission approve the Companies’ request for approval to establish regulatory assets for recording the deferral of certain costs attributable to COVID-19?


Recommendation: The Commission should approve the Companies’ request to establish regulatory assets for the accounting purpose of recording the deferral of costs associated with (1) incremental bad debt expense incurred due to COVID-19, and (2) safety-related costs incurred due to COVID-19; however, the Commission should expressly limit the inclusion of safety-related costs to those expenses that are directly and solely attributable to the health and safety of the Companies’ employees and customers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the Commission should deny the Companies’ request to establish regulatory assets for recording the deferral of lost revenue. The approval to establish the regulatory assets, for accounting purposes, does not limit the Commission’s ability to review the amounts, recovery method, scope of financial impact, recovery period, specific types or subsets of proposed costs within an approved category of costs, and other related matters for reasonableness in a future proceeding in which the regulatory assets are included.


COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners


COMMISSIONERS’ SIGNATURES


MAJORITY

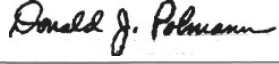
DISSENTING











REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

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The Companies should be required to track any assistance or benefits received in connection with COVID-19, regardless of form or source, that would offset any COVID-19-related expenses. This would include, but is not limited to, any cost savings directly attributable to the suspension of disconnections or other activities as a result of the pandemic. The regulatory asset costs and offsets should be recorded and maintained in a detailed manner that will allow incremental costs and any benefits and savings to be readily identifiable in a future proceeding. In addition, FPUC and CFG should be prepared to explain what actions and efforts they have undertaken to reduce or minimize these costs and to maximize the receipt of any available COVID-19 assistance or benefits. Finally, the Companies should be required to file monthly reports identifying the amounts of the costs incurred, any assistance or benefits received, and any cost savings realized that have been recorded in the regulatory assets. The first set of COVID-19 regulatory asset reports should be filed on December 1, 2020, and every month thereafter until the Companies present the regulatory assets for Commission consideration.

APPROVED

Issue 2: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: If no protest is filed by a substantially affected person within 21 days of the issuance of the order, a consummating order should be issued. If the Commission approves the staff recommendation in Issue 1, the docket should remain open for the filing of the required monthly reports.

APPROVED