

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 7

VOTE SHEET

October 6, 2020

FILED 10/8/2020
DOCUMENT NO. 11027-2020
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

Docket No. 20200189-WS – Petition for approval of a regulatory asset to record costs incurred due to COVID-19, by Utilities, Inc. of Florida.

Issue 1: Should the Commission approve UIF's request for approval to establish a regulatory asset for recording the deferral of certain costs attributable to COVID-19?


Recommendation: The Commission should approve UIF's request to establish a regulatory asset 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 UIF's employees and its customers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the Commission should deny the deferral of lost revenue for inclusion in the regulatory asset. The approval to establish a regulatory asset, 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 asset is included.


COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners


COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES


MAJORITY

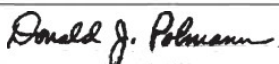
DISSENTING











REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

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UIF should be required to track any assistance or benefits received by the Utility 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, UIF should be prepared to explain what actions and efforts it has undertaken to reduce or minimize these costs and to maximize the receipt of any available COVID-19 assistance or benefits. Finally, UIF 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 asset. The first COVID-19 regulatory asset report should be filed on December 1, 2020, and every month thereafter until the Utility presents the regulatory asset 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