

# FILED 2/16/2024 DOCUMENT NO. 00741-2024 FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

Jody Lamar Finklea, B.C.S.

General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer
Board Certified City, County and Local Government Lawyer

February 16, 2024

Re: Docket No. 20230140-EU

#### VIA EMAIL

Michael Barrett
Economist Supervisor
Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850
Attention: Alara Kaymak, Public Utility Analyst

Dear Ms. Kaymak:

# RESPONSES TO STAFF'S SECOND DATA REQUEST

Below are the restated questions from Staff's second data request and the parties' joint responses.

1. The Second Amendment to Territorial Agreement, Paragraph 4 (Agreement of Parties) states that the joint petitioners reviewed "the requirements of the new customers." Please discuss the results of these reviews for Customer 1 and Customer 2, specifically stating for each customer all unusual, unique, or out-of-the-ordinary requirements that were considerations for providing electric service.

Both Customers 1 & 2 desired to build single family homes on adjoining parcels of land in Sumter County. In order to complete construction and occupy their new homes both had a pressing need for electric service. Although both parcels are technically located in the City of Bushnell's service area, they abut the territorial boundary line next to SECO where the City does not have any nearby facilities. (See diagram on page 17 of Composite Exhibit A to Joint Petition.) SECO, on the other hand, has sufficient existing facilities nearby. Faced with these unique circumstances, the City, in consultation with SECO, reviewed the requirements of serving Customers 1 & 2 and determined that it was more economic and time efficient for SECO to provide service.

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More specifically, as explained in Joint Petitioners' response to Staff's First Data Request, in order to service Customer 1 the City would have to reconductor a span of approximately 3400 feet of primary power line. The City estimated the cost of this extension at not less than \$50,000, which Customer 1 would have to bear. In contrast, SECO already had existing facilities located immediately adjacent to the Customer 1 parcel and only needed to install an underground pad-mount transformer and approximately 155 feet of secondary service wire to service the new home. Customer 1's total cost to have SECO extend service was \$939.

Similarly, in order to extend service Customer 2, the City would have to reconductor a span of approximately 3400 feet of primary power line. The City estimated the cost of this extension at not less than \$50,000 regardless of whether one or both of the customers connect In contrast, SECO already had existing facilities located immediately adjacent to the Customer 2's parcel and only needed to install approximately 150 feet of secondary service wire to service the new home. Customer 2's total cost to have SECO extend service was \$877.

2. On what date(s) did Customer 1 and Customer 2 notify one or both utilities regarding their need for electric service? Specify which utility(ies) the customers contacted.

SECO received a telephonic request for service from Customer 1's representative on June 9, 2023. The customer's representative was advised on the call that permanent service by SECO would be contingent on the City and SECO executing an agreement that would require PSC approval.

SECO received a telephonic request from Customer 2's representative on November 2, 2023 to relocate service from a nearby well to serve the new home. The customer's representative was advised on the call that permanent service by SECO would be contingent on the City and SECO executing an agreement that would require PSC approval.

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3. On what date(s) did Customer 1 and Customer 2 make a formal application to receive electric service?

Formal application for service to Customer 1 was made on or around June 10, 2023.

Formal application for service to Customer 2 was made on or around November 2, 2023.

4. During what dates did SECI construct electric service to Customer 1 and Customer 2?

SECO began to construct service to Customer 1 on or around July 6, 2023.

SECO began to construct service to Customer 2 on or around November 20, 2023.

5. On what date(s) did SECI establish service to Customer 1 and Customer?

SECO set the meter for Customer 1 on July 12, 2023. SECO set the meter for Customer 2 on November 22, 2023.

6. Please describe the notification(s) or customer communications one or both utilities provided to either or both customers about the territorial modification between SECO and Bushnell.

As explained in response to Data Request 2, above, both Customers were contacted telephonically and apprised that permanent service by SECO would require PSC approval of a change to the territorial boundary line.

7. Provide copies of any notices, letters, emails, invoices, or any other relevant documentation exchanged between the joint petitioners and Customer 1 and Customer 2 pertaining to the provision of electric service, the current territorial boundary, the proposed territorial boundary, the temporary service agreement,

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or the actions either or both utilities must undertake for governmental approvals needed in order to make changes to current territorial boundary. Please redact any confidential customer information as needed.

See attached service orders of SECO. These have been redacted to remove confidential customer information pursuant to PSC staff's instructions.

- 8. The Second Amendment to Territorial Agreement, Paragraph 5 (Meeting Customers Needs) references that the joint petitioners entered into a "temporary service agreement."
  - a. Please provide a copy of this agreement.

A copy of the agreement is attached. The agreement referenced in Paragraph 5 is a letter agreement with an effective date of June 23, 2023, and is attached. It expressly confirms that SECO agreed to serve Parcels N014-013 and N014-015 at the City's request. It further confirms the parties' understanding that a territorial agreement amendment approved by the PSC is needed in order for SECO to permanently serve the referenced parcels. The letter agreement states in pertinent part:

"Pursuant to Section 3.1 of the Territorial Agreement between SECO and the City, the parties may agree in writing to amend the territorial boundary line, subject to the Commission's approval. At the City's request, SECO hereby agrees to permanently provide service to Sumter County Parcels N014-013 and N014-015, subject to the City amending the Territorial Agreement to reflect this change within a reasonable time frame and at the City's sole cost and expense."

b. Do the joint petitioners believe the temporary service agreement is a proxy (or substitute) for adhering to the requirements of Rule 25-6.0440, Florida Administrative Code? Please discuss your response.

The intended purpose of the letter agreement is explained above in subparagraph a. It is a good faith attempt by the utilities to balance the

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Customers' urgent need for service with the requirements of PSC approval, while preserving both SECO's and the City's acknowledgement of the PSC's jurisdiction over the existing Territorial Agreement. It was intentionally structured to be respectful of Rule 25-6.0440 by confirming that permanent service by SECO would be subject to the City amending the Territorial Agreement to reflect this minor change to the territorial boundary and having that amendment approved by the PSC. Because of the dramatic difference in the cost to serve and the immediate need that Customers 1 & 2 had for electric service, the City and SECO continue to believe that the proposed territorial boundary change is in the public interest and should be approved by the PSC.

- 9. In a phone call with staff on February 13, 2024, joint petitioners stated that the temporary service agreement was entered into on June 23, 2023. Please answer the following:
  - a. The instant petition was filed December 27, 2023. Identify what impediments restricted the joint petitioners from seeking Commission approval in a more timely manner than evidenced here.
    - Despite good faith efforts by both parties, negotiations of the amendment to the territorial agreement took longer than expected. Once negotiations were complete, the agreement then had to be presented to and approved the City Council and the SECO Board of Trustees, both of which only meet once a month.
  - b. Joint petitioners stated that the temporary service agreement was contingent upon the Commission's approval of the formal territorial amendment. Please discuss the contingency plan for providing electric service under the scenario of the Commission not approving the formal territorial amendment, and what actions the petitioners would take to reverse the actions taken thus far.

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If the PSC were to find that the requested boundary change was not in the public interest, then the City would have to extend service at substantial cost to the Customers. However, given the significant cost that Customer 1 &2 would have to bear if the City were to extend service, it is difficult to foresee why the PSC would not approve the requested minor change to the territorial boundary line.

10. With regards to Docket No. 20210170-EU, please clarify whether the customers (one large industrial, security light service, and an RV Park) that had requested service were receiving temporary service from SECO while the proposed territorial agreement to exchange certain territorial parcels was pending approval before the Commission (similar to the situation in the current docket). That is staff's understanding from the February 13, 2024 phone call that the information was communicated to staff assigned to Docket No. 20210170-EU. If the three customers were already receiving temporary service from SECO, please state where in Docket No. 20210170-EU that information was expressly stated (in the petition or in the response to staff's data request). Staff searched its calendar and could not find a noticed meeting between staff and the parties where that information could have been provided. If the information was provided informally, please describe the communication to the best of your recollection.

In Docket No. 20210170-EU, the only service that was provided by SECO prior to receiving PSC approval was the security street light service. This was brought to the PSC's attention in Section 5 of the First Amendment to the Territorial Agreement filed in Docket No. 20210170. That section states in pertinent part:

"In addition to the foregoing customer-driven request, another Bushnell Territorial Area customer is requesting security light service for an area where there is no current electric service by the City and which would require a significant and costly extension of facilities by the City to provide such security light service. SECO is able to provide the security light service with less new investment and less costly extension of existing facilities. Upon

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agreement of the Parties, Bushnell has allowed SECO to provide temporary service to this customer subject to Commission approval ...."

Please let us know if anything additional is required.

Very truly yours,

Jody Lamar Finklea

General Counsel and Chief

Legal Officer

as counsel for the City of Bushnell, Florida

Enclosures (3)

cc: D. Bruce May, Jr.

Tracy de Lemos

Print Dt/Tm:

# SUMTER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

02/15/2024 12:01:59 PM **NEW SERVICE SERVICE MAP LOCATION: 3337 C1 29762 70890** Account: SO Nbr: 81201935 Cycle: 15 W/O#: 208993 Taken By: Date Taken: 06/09/2023 Needed On: 7/12/23 12:00:00 AM Home Phone: NONE LISTED Work Phone: NONE LISTED Service Address: Mobile Phone: Service Desc: SFH Subdivision: Service: Block: Lot: Mailing Address: Line Srv Area: District: SECO - Sumterville County: Sumter City: Bushnell Rate: GS - General Service **Builder: NONE LISTED Builder Phone: NONE LISTED General Comments:** NS UG 1802SF (1) AC 200AMPS PARCEL# NI4-013 PERMIT# 22-09-018 DR PER COMM ACCT 360/BILLED 110 6/7/23 ASKED BY CITY OF BUSHNELL TO SERVICE THIS HOME, DID SITE VISIT TOOK PICTURES, NEED BUILDER TO APPLY FOR SERVICE, NEED CITY TO SIGN AGREEMENT, 6/9/23 LOCATES COMPLETE FOR SECOND SITE VISIT TO SEE WHERE TX CAN BE ADDED IN LINE OF EXISTING UG PRIMARY. 6/10/23 BUILDER FINALLY APPLIED FOR SERVICE, WO PACKET READY FOR APPROVAL, STILL NEED CITY OF BUSHNELL TO SIGN AGREEMENT, NEED TO CALL WITH REGARDS TO USING THE SPECIFIC EASEMENT, 6/22/23 INFORMED THAT CITY OF BUSHNELL HAS YET TO SIGH THE AGREEMENT TO LET SECO SERVE THIS HOME. 6/24/23 RECIEVED WORD FROM THAT THE CONTRACT IS SIGNED, THIS JOB CAN NOW GO TO APPROVAL, 6/26/23 SPOKE WITH ! WHO OWNS THE PROPERTY WHERE THE SPECIFIC EASEMENT IS TO NOTIFY HER SECO WILL BE INSTALLING A PM TX WITHIN THE EASEMENT ON HER PROPERTY, SHE WAS PERFECTLY OKAY WITH THE CONSTRUCTION, **Service Comments:** RT 15-101 1562 WO 208993 RECD IN SDO 6/28/23 TO TO SCHEDULE SCHEDULED WITH IVY WEEK ENDING 7/7/23 **UG COMPLETED BY** /IVY 07/06/23 THEY HAVE THEIR GREEN TAG PRE POWER INSPECTION 7/11/23 PER EMAIL FROM WO#: 208993 MAP#: 3337 C1 29762 70890 NEAREST GIS#: 21272 NEAREST MTR#: G00106369 METERING INFO: SINGLE PHASE 200AMP

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SUMTER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE Print Dt/Tm: RELOCATE SERVICE 02/15/2024 12:02:29 PM **SERVICE MAP LOCATION: 3337 C1 29785 71260** SO Nbr: W/O#: 211236 Account: 81324119 Service: Electric Service Provider: COOP Provided Electric Service Customer Nbr: Srv Loc Nbr: 96079794 Cycle: 15 Taken By: Date Taken: 11/02/2023 Needed On: 11/02/2023 Home Phone: Work Phone: Service Address: NONE LISTED Mobile Phone: Service Desc: HOUSE/PUMP/WELL Subdivision: Mailing Address: Service: Block: Lot: Line Srv Area: District: SECO - Sumterville Equip Map Loc: 3337 C1 29882 71197 Line Sect: Substation: Feeder: County: Sumter City: Bushnell Outage Priority: Medical Necessity: \*\*EQUIPMENT TO BE SERVICED\*\* **Equipment Type** Activity Equipment Nbr Position Nbr Service Map Location Qty Meter # Secondary Rate Dials Lock Ring LV Rdg LVR Date KWH Rdg KW Rdg Date Mult G00106369 93826034 GS 5 1490 10/24/2023 Phase Bank # Load Mgt Serial # Rate Cd LM Stat Trans# Secondary Size Load Type Stat Rem Device # Description Status Map Location Type Con/Repair/Dis/Rem **General Comments:** RLO FROM CURRENT SPOT TO HOME 11/2/23 THIS HOME WAS SITE VISITED IN JUNE ALONG WITH HOME, WE ALSO RECIEVED A RELEASE FOR THIS HOME FROM CITY OF BUSHNELL IN JULY 2023, BUILDER IS , THIS IS AN EXISTING OH AG METER FOR WELL, HOME IS 3029 SQ FT WITH 200 AMP SERVICE AND 5 TON A/C, WO PACKET READY FOR APPROVAL, Service Comments: WO 211236 RECD IN SDO 11/9/23 TO SCHEDULE SCANNED TO IVY AND PIKE 11/10/23 UG SCHEDULED WITH IVY SMITH 3 FOR WEEK ENDING 12/01/23 OH SCHEDULED WITH PIKE1 FOR WEEK ENDING 12/08/23 AG METER COPY TO HARLEY/PIKE 11/22/23 WO COMPLETED BY PIKE AND IVY - NEW METER WAS ALREADY INSTALLED - RETIRED METER G00106369 **Handheld Notes:** POLE DOWN LANE L AT END

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METERING INFO: 200 AMP SINGLE PHASE

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DEPOSIT AMOUNT: N/A

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June 5, 2023

### Via e-mail MEastburn@CityofBushnellFL.com

Mike Eastburn City of Bushnell 117 E. Joe P. Strickland Jr. Avenue Bushnell, Florida 33513

Re: Sumter Electric Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a SECO Energy ("SECO") and the City of Bushnell ("City") Territorial Agreement Amendment for Sumter County Parcels N14-013 and N14-015

Dear Mr. Eastburn,

Pursuant to Section 3.1 of the Territorial Agreement between SECO and the City, the parties may agree in writing to amend the territorial boundary line, subject to the Commission's approval. At the City's request, SECO hereby agrees to permanently provide service to Sumter County Parcels N014-013 and N014-015, subject to the City amending the Territorial Agreement to reflect this change within a reasonable time frame and at the City's sole cost and expense.

Should the City agree the terms outlined herein, please sign below and return a signed copy to tracy.delemos@secoenergy.com.

Sincerely,

Tracy M. de Lemos, Esq.

Duy de Jems

Vice President, Corporate General Counsel

**SECO Energy** 

tracy.delemos@secoenergy.com

cc:

John LaSelva

Kristin Greene

Accepted and agreed to on this <u>23</u> day of <u>June</u>, 2023:

The City of Bushnell, Florida



