#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for approval of gas utility access and replacement directive cost recovery factors for January 2026 through December 2026, by Florida Public Utilities Company. DOCKET NO. 20250109-GU ORDER NO. PSC-2025-0392-PCO-GU ISSUED: October 22, 2025

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

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

### ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF

BY THE COMMISSION:

## Background

On September 2, 2025, Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC) filed a petition for approval of its Gas Utility Access and Replacement Directive (GUARD Program) cost recovery factors for the period January through December 2026. By Order No. PSC-2023-0235-PAA-GU (2023 Order), we approved FPUC's 10-year GUARD program, consisting of (1) replacement of problematic pipes and facilities and (2) relocation of mains and service lines located in rear easement and other difficult to access areas to the front lot easements. The 2023 Order allows FPUC to recover the revenue requirements of expedited programs to replace problematic pipes and facilities and enhance the safety and accessibility of portions of FPUC's natural gas distribution system through a monthly surcharge on customers' bills.

We further ordered FPUC to: (1) include all calculations to show a final true-up, actualestimated true-up, projected year investments and associated revenue requirements, and the calculations of the GUARD factors by rate class; (2) provide a report including the location, date, description, and associated costs of all replacement projects completed and all projects scheduled for the following year; and (3) include any remaining gas reliability infrastructure program over- or under-recovery in the GUARD cost recovery. FPUC has complied with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Order No. PSC-2023-0235-PAA-GU, issued August 15, 2023, amended by Order No. PSC-2023-0235A-PAA-GU, issued August 18, 2023, in Docket No. 20230029-GU, *In re: Petition for approval of gas utility access and replacement directive, by Florida Public Utilities Company.* 

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2023 Order directives stated above. We approved FPUC's 2025 GUARD factors in Order No. PSC-2024-0504-TRF-GU.<sup>2</sup>

This order is to suspend the proposed tariffs for 2026 GUARD factors. We have jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 366.04, 366.05, and 366.06, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

# Discussion of Issues

We find that FPUC's proposed GUARD cost recovery factors and associated tariff for the period January to December 2026 shall be suspended to allow our staff sufficient time to review the petition and gather all pertinent information in order to present us with an informed recommendation on the proposed tariff modifications.

Pursuant to Section 366.06(3), F.S., we may withhold consent to the operation of all or any portion of the new rate schedules, delivering to the utility requesting such a change a reason or written statement of a good cause for doing so within 60 days. We find that the reason stated above is a 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 GUARD cost recovery factors and associated tariff for the period January to December 2026 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 proposed tariff modification. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open pending our decision on Florida Public Utilities Company's GUARD cost recovery factors and associated revised tariffs to implement the 2026 GUARD factors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Order No. PSC-2024-0504-TRF-GU, issued December 17, 2024 in Docket No. 20240137-GU, *In re: Petition for approval of GUARD cost recovery factors, by Florida Public Utilities Company.* 

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 22nd day of October, 2025.

ADAM J. THITZMAN

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.

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# 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.