

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for grandfather certificate to
operate wastewater utility in Citrus County, by
Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 20240136-SU
ORDER NO. PSC-2026-0075-PAA-SU
ISSUED: March 23, 2026

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO SMITH, Chairman
GARY F. CLARK
MIKE LA ROSA
BOBBY PAYNE
ANA ORTEGA

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER APPROVING TERMS OF PAYMENT AND
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE CHARGES
AND
FINAL ORDER ACKNOWLEDGING GRANDFATHER APPLICATION AND
CONTINUING EXISTING RATES, CHARGES AND DEPOSITS

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature—except with regard to acknowledging the grandfather application and continuing existing rates, charges, and deposits—and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

Background

On May 28, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners of Citrus County (County) adopted Resolution No. 2024-040 (Resolution), transferring regulation of the privately-owned, for profit water and wastewater utilities in Citrus County to us. Effective upon the adoption of the Resolution, all non-exempt water and wastewater systems in Citrus County became subject of the provisions of Chapter 367, Florida Statutes (F.S.). By Order No. PSC-2024-0267-FOF-WS, we acknowledged the Resolution.¹

¹ Order No. PSC-2024-0267-FOF-WS, issued July 25, 2024, in Docket No: 20240095-WS, *In re: Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Citrus County declaring Citrus County subject of the provisions of Sections 367, F.S.*

Pursuant to Section 367.171(2)(b), F.S., each utility engaged in the operation or construction of a system shall be entitled to receive a certificate for the area served by such utility on the day the chapter becomes applicable to the utility. On September 3, 2024, Indian Springs Utilities, Inc. (Indian Springs or Utility) filed an application for a certificate under grandfather rights to provide wastewater service in Citrus County pursuant to Section 367.171(2), F.S., and Rule 25-30.035, F.A.C. Indian Springs' initial application was found to be deficient. Our staff issued six deficiency letters between September 19, 2024 and December 30, 2025. The Utility cured the deficiencies on February 17, 2026, which is considered the official filing date.

Indian Springs was established in 1984 and provides wastewater service to approximately 185 (182 residential and three commercial) customers. Water service is provided by the City of Crystal River. The Utility's service area is located in the Southwest Florida Water Management District. This Order addresses the application for a grandfather wastewater certificate and rates and charges. We have jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.171, F.S.

Decision

I. Acknowledgment of Application for Grandfather Wastewater Certificate

The Utility's application for a certificate under grandfather rights to provide wastewater service in Citrus County is in compliance with Section 367.171(2)(b), F.S., and Rule 25-30.035, F.A.C. An adequate service territory description and system maps were provided. The Utility has its own treatment facility, and the application contains a warranty deed as proof of ownership of the land on which the Utility's facility is located as required by Rule 25-30.035(11), F.A.C. A description of the Utility's territory is provided in Attachment A.

As stated in the Background above, Indian Springs serves approximately 185 wastewater customers. The Utility does not currently have any outstanding citations, violations, or consent orders on file with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The Utility is aware of its obligation to submit its 2025 Annual Report pursuant to Rule 25-30.110, F.A.C., and is also aware of its obligation to pay regulatory assessment fees pursuant to Rule 25-30.120, F.A.C. In addition, the Utility is aware that it must maintain its books and records according to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Uniform System of Accounts.

Based on the foregoing, we hereby grant Indian Springs Certificate No. 588-S to serve the territory described in Attachment A. This Order shall serve as Indian Springs' certificate and shall be retained by the Utility.

II. Rates, Charges, and Deposits

Citrus County Water and Wastewater Authority approved the Utility's current monthly water and wastewater rates by Final Order No. 23-04 on August 14, 2023. The county-approved

final order and existing tariff sheets were provided in support of the Utility's authorized rates. The wastewater rates include a base facility charge and per 1,000 gallonage charge with a 6,000 gallonage cap. Additionally, the Utility's rates also include a fixed bulk rate for multi-residential service. The Utility's charges have been in effect since the Utility was acquired by the existing owner. Indian Springs' charges consist of miscellaneous service and service availability charges, which include a service availability policy. In addition, the Utility has customer deposits. We find that the Utility's current rates and the service availability charges are reasonable, with the exceptions of the miscellaneous service charges. The miscellaneous service charges are not consistent with our rules and are addressed in Section IV of this Order.

We find that of the Utility's rates, charges, and deposits that were in effect when Citrus County transferred jurisdiction to us, only the rates, charges, and initial customer deposits shown in Schedule No. 1, are approved. In addition, the Utility's existing premises visit, late payment, and NSF charges are approved. These charges, as well as the rates, and initial customer deposit shown in Schedule No. 1, shall be effective for services rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. The Utility shall be required to charge the approved rates, charges and deposits until authorized to change them by us in a subsequent proceeding.

III. Current Terms of Payment

The Utility's current wastewater tariff indicates that a customer residing in Florida will become delinquent if their bill is not paid within 16 days, while a non-Florida resident has 21 days to pay their bill before becoming delinquent. However, Rule 25-30.335(6), F.A.C., states that a utility may not consider a customer delinquent in paying his or her bill until the 21st day after the utility has mailed or presented the bill for payment.

Based on the above, we find that the Utility's methodology of billing a customer shall be revised to conform to Rule 25-30.335(6), F.A.C. The Utility shall file revised tariff sheets to reflect the appropriate terms of payment pursuant to Rule 25-30.335(6), F.A.C. The Utility shall also be required to file a proposed customer notice to reflect the revised terms of payment. The approved tariffs shall be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. In addition, the tariff sheets shall be approved upon staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with this Order and that the proposed customer notice is adequate.

IV. Miscellaneous Service Charges

The Utility did not request to revise its existing miscellaneous service charges. Section 367.091, F.S., authorizes us to establish, increase, or change a rate or charge other than monthly rates or service availability charges. We find that some of the Utility's existing charges that are set forth in Table 1, be revised to conform to Rule 25-30.460, F.A.C. As discussed in Section II of this Order, the Utility's existing premises visit, late payment, and NSF charges are approved without modification, but are shown below for illustrative purposes. The Utility's current miscellaneous service charges consist of various charges and are shown on Table 1.

Table 1
Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.
Existing Miscellaneous Service Charges

	<u>Existing Wastewater</u>
Initial Connection Fee	\$15.00
Normal Reconnection Fee	\$45.00
Violation Reconnection Fee	\$45.00
Premises Visit Fee	\$45.00
Late Payment Fee	\$5.00
NSF/Returned Check Fee	Pursuant to Section 68.065(2), F.S.

Source: Utility’s current tariff and response to staff’s deficiencies.

Premises Visit and Violation Reconnection Charge

As shown in Table 1, the Utility’s existing miscellaneous service charges consists of two charges which are obsolete. Rule 25-30.460, F.A.C., does not allow for initial connection and normal reconnection charges.² The initial connection and normal reconnection tasks are subsumed within the definition of the premises visit charge. In addition, pursuant to Rule 25-30.460, F.A.C., violation reconnection charges are at actual cost for wastewater. Based on the above, we find the violation reconnection charge shall be at actual cost for wastewater.

Table 2
Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.
Commission-Approved Miscellaneous Service Charges

	<u>All Hours</u>
Premises Visit	\$45
Violation Reconnection Charge	Actual Cost
NSF Check Charge (Wastewater)	Pursuant to Section 68.065, F.S.
Late Payment Charge	\$5.00

The Utility’s existing premises visit, late payment, and NSF charges remain unchanged and were approved as discussed in Section II of this Order. They are included above for illustrative purposes. The Utility shall be required to file a proposed customer notice to reflect our approved charges. The approved charges shall be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(2), F.A.C. In addition, the tariff sheets shall be approved upon staff’s verification that the tariffs are consistent with our decision and that the proposed customer notice is adequate.

Based on the foregoing, it is

² Order No. PSC-2021-0201-FOF-WS, issued June 4, 2021, in Docket No. 20200240-WS, *In re: Proposed amendment of Rule 25-30.460, F.A.C., Application for Miscellaneous Service Charges.*

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.'s grandfather application is hereby acknowledged and Indian Springs Utilities, Inc. is granted Certificate No. 588-S, effective May 28, 2024, to serve the territory described in Attachment A of this Order. This Order shall serve as Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.'s certificate and shall be retained by Indian Springs Utilities, Inc. It is further

ORDERED that the rates, charges, and initial customer deposits shown on attached Schedule No. 1, attached hereto, are appropriate and approved. In addition, Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.'s existing Violation Reconnection Charge and Premise Visit Charge are approved. These charges, as well as the rates, charges, and initial customer deposits shown in Schedule No. 1, shall be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets. Indian Springs Utilities, Inc. shall charge the approved Violation Reconnection Charge and Premise Visit Charge, as well as the rates, charges, and initial customer deposits shown in Schedule No. 1, until authorized to change them by this Commission in a subsequent proceeding. It is further

ORDERED that the Utility's current terms of payment shall be revised to conform to Rule 25-30.335(6), F.A.C. The Utility shall file revised tariff sheets to reflect the appropriate terms of payment pursuant to Rule 25-30.335(6), F.A.C. The approved tariffs shall be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. In addition, the tariff sheets shall be approved upon Commission staffs verification that the tariffs are consistent with our decision and that the proposed customer notice is adequate. It is further

ORDERED that the miscellaneous service charges shown in Table 2 are hereby approved. Indian Springs Utilities, Inc. shall file a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved charges. The approved charges shall be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475 F.A.C. In addition, the tariff sheets shall be approved upon Commission staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with our decision and that the proposed customer notice is adequate. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order that are issued as proposed agency action shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings or Judicial review" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this Order becomes final, this docket shall remain open for Commission staff's verification that the revised tariff sheets and customer notice were filed by Indian Springs Utilities, Inc. and approved by Commission staff. Once this action is complete, this docket shall be closed administratively.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 23rd day of March, 2026.



ADAM 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.

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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 that is available under Section 120.57, 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 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.

The action proposed herein, except with regard to acknowledging the grandfather application and continuing existing rates, charges, and deposits, is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on April 13, 2026.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request:

- 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or
- 2) judicial review by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Office of Commission Clerk, and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

DESCRIPTION OF TERRITORY SERVED

Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.
Citrus County

Commence at the SW Corner of Section 08, Township 18 South, Section 17 East located in Citrus County, Florida, thence bearing S 86-11-05.95 W a distance of 111.62 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence bearing N 88-9-49.332 E a distance of 1826.781 feet ; thence bearing S 37-30-37.208 E a distance of 122.997 feet ; thence bearing N 88-5-47.017 E a distance of 591.541 feet ; thence bearing S 23-23-13.816 E a distance of 454.000 feet ; thence bearing S 88-3-42.714 W a distance of 494.901 feet ; thence bearing N 33-46-51.633 W a distance of 211.558 feet ; thence bearing S 56-13-17.162 W a distance of 196.351 feet ; thence bearing N 31-31-5.421 W a distance of 252.524 feet ; thence bearing S 88-4-25.771 W a distance of 990.027 feet ; thence bearing S 57-6-7.301 W a distance of 454.794 feet ; thence bearing N 73-22-30.774 W a distance of 236.669 feet ; thence bearing S 51-47-1.643 W a distance of 139.770 feet ; thence bearing S 1-5-0.267 W a distance of 237.875 feet ; thence bearing S 52-39-37.689 W a distance of 311.777 feet ; thence bearing N 64-39-3.616 W a distance of 340.863 feet ; thence bearing S 74-26-13.055 W a distance of 207.438 feet ; thence bearing S 29-35-10.536 W a distance of 367.962 feet ; thence bearing S 89-2-50.672 W a distance of 497.574 feet ; thence bearing N 27-14-7.607 W a distance of 141.737 feet ; thence bearing N 0-5-50.483 W a distance of 952.801 feet ; thence bearing N 89-45-43.572 E a distance of 209.938 feet ; thence bearing N 0-16-35.978 W a distance of 1334.554 feet ; thence bearing N 89-25-45.627 E a distance of 1186.075 feet ; thence bearing N 0-11-11.120 W a distance of 335.100 feet ; thence bearing N 89-25-45.734 E a distance of 129.999 feet ; thence bearing S 0-11-11.309 E a distance of 626.244 feet ; thence bearing N 88-11-28.777 E a distance of 459.929 feet ; thence bearing S 0-5-27.785 E a distance of 380.171 feet ; thence bearing S 88-11-28.683 W a distance of 444.434 feet ; thence along a curve to the LEFT, having a radius of 1551.498 feet, a delta angle of 23° 20' 41.87", and whose long chord bears S 8-0-9.262 W a distance of 627.789 feet to the point of beginning.

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

authorizes
Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.
pursuant to
Certificate Number 588-S

to provide wastewater service in Citrus County in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 367, Florida Statutes, and the Rules, Regulations, and Orders of this Commission in the territory described by the Orders of this Commission. This authorization shall remain in force and effect until superseded, suspended, cancelled or revoked by Order of this Commission.

Order Number	Date Issued	Docket Number	Filing Type
PSC-2026-0075-PAA-SU	03/23/2026	20240136-WS	Grandfather Certificate

**Indian Springs Utilities, Inc.
Existing Monthly Wastewater Rates**

Residential (RS), Multi- Residential (MS), and General Service

Base Facility Charge by Meter Size

5/8" x 3/4"	\$27.13
3/4"	\$40.72
1"	\$67.87
1 1/2"	\$135.74
2"	\$217.19
3"	\$434.38
4"	\$678.72
6"	\$1,357.45

Charge Per 1,000 gallons – Residential (RS), and Multi- Residential (MS)
6,000 Gallon Cap \$4.49

Charge Per 1,000 gallons – General Service
No Gallon Cap

Flat Rate – Bulk \$1,357.45

Miscellaneous Service Charges

Premises Visit Charge	\$45.00
NSF Check Charge	Pursuant to Section 68.065, F.S.
Late Payment Charge	\$5.00

Service Availability Charges

Main Extension Charge	
Residential – Per ERC (GPD)	\$200.00
Plant Capacity Charge	
Residential – Per ERC (GPD)	\$300.00