

Writer's E-Mail Address: bkeating@gunster.com

August 8, 2014

### BY E-PORTAL FILING

Ms. Carlotta Stauffer Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 140025-EI -Application for rate increase by Florida Public Utilities Company.

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

Attached for electronic filing on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company/Electric Division (FPU) in the above-referenced docket, please find a Notice of Service of Revised Rebuttal Exhibit CMM-9 and corrected pages to the Rebuttal Testimonies of Jeffry M. Householder and Cheryl M. Martin, witnesses on behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company in this proceeding. Also attached to the referenced Notice and included for filing are the Revised Exhibit CMM-9 and the identified corrected testimony pages.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions whatsoever regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

Cc:/Service List (Docket 140025-EI)

## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for Rate Increase by Florida | DOCKET NO. 140025-EI

Public Utilities Company.

DATED: August 8, 2014

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF CORRECTED REBUTTAL EXHIBIT CMM-9 AND CORRESPONDING TESTIMONY PAGES IN THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF WITNESS MARTIN AND THE REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF WITNESS HOUSEHOLDER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Florida Public Utilities Company ("Company"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby serves and provides notice of filing corrected Rebuttal Exhibit CMM-9 to the Rebuttal Testimony of Witness Cheryl M. Martin. The original was filed with the Company's Rebuttal Testimony of Cheryl Martin on August 5, 2014. Errors in that Exhibit have since been identified, and it differs from the actual, final June 2014 surveillance report filed with the Commission. As such, to correct this known error, the Company is submitting a Revised Exhibit CMM-9. As a result of corrections to this Exhibit, the Company also submits the following revised pages from the Rebuttal Testimonies of Witnesses Martin and Householder. The corrections are as follows:

- o Rebuttal Testimony of Jeffrey M. Householder, page 6, line 15 change referenced June 2014 ROE from 3.60% to 4.07%.
- Rebuttal Testimony of Cheryl Martin, page 5, line 8 change referenced June 2014 ROR from 3.34% to 3.56%
- Rebuttal Testimony of Cheryl Martin, page 5, line 12 change referenced \$4,010,097 to \$3,760,129

We apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused.

WHEREFORE, Florida Public Utilities Company asks that the Commission accept Revised Exhibit CMM-9 and the revised pages of rebuttal testimony referenced above for filing in this docket.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

Attorneys for Florida Public Utilities

Company

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by Electronic Mail to the following parties of record this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014:

Patricia A. Christensen, Esquire Office of the Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison St., Rm 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Suzanne Brownless, Esquire Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

By:

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY ELECTRIC RATE OF RETURN REPORT SUMMARY June 30, 2014 DOCKET NO.: 140025-EI

| DOCKET NO.: 140025-E  |  |                     |  |  |  |                       |
|---|--|---------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|
|   | (1)<br>ACTUAL  | (2)                 | (3)  |  | (4)  | (5)                   |
| I. AVERAGE RATE OF RETURN (JURISDICTIONAL)  | PER BOOKS  | FPSC<br>ADJUSTMENTS | ADJUSTED                                     |  | O FORMA<br>USTMENTS  | PRO FORMA<br>ADJUSTED |
| NET OPERATING INCOME  | \$ 1,904,752   | \$85,613            | \$1,990,365                                  | - constant   | \$0  | \$1,990,365           |
| AVERAGE RATE BASE   | \$56,786,778   | (\$802,652)         | \$55,984,127                                 | Marine Company of the | \$0  | \$55,984,127          |
| AVERAGE RATE OF RETURN  | 3.35%  |                     | 3.56%  |  |  | 3.56%                 |
| II. YEAR-END RATE OF RETURN (JURISDICTIONAL)  |  |                     |  |  |  |                       |
| NET OPERATING INCOME  | \$1,904,752  | \$57,836            | \$1,962,588                                  | <del></del>  | \$0  | \$1,962,588           |
| YEAR-END RATE BASE  | \$62,092,336   | (\$2,697,711)       | \$59,394,624                                 |  | \$0  | \$59,394,624          |
| YEAR-END RATE OF RETURN   | 3.07%  |                     | 3.30%  |  |  | 3.30%                 |
| III. REQUIRED RATES OF RETURN   |  | IV. Fìnan           | ICIAL INTEGRITY INDICATORS                   |  | and the state of t |                       |
| AVERAGE CAPITAL STRUCTURE<br>(FPSC ADJUSTED BASIS)  |  |                     | TH AFUDC                                     | 3.86<br>3.86   |  |                       |
| LOW   | 6.24%  |                     | B. TIE WITHOUT AFUDC  C. AFUDC TO NET INCOME |  |  |                       |
| MIDPOINT  | 6.69%  |                     | D. INTERNALLY GENERATED FUNDS                |  |  |                       |
| HIGH  | 7.14%  | E. LTD TO           | TOTAL INVESTOR FUNDS                         | 24.50  |  |                       |
|   |  | F. STD TO           | TOTAL INVESTOR FUNDS                         | 17.75  |  |                       |
| Lam aware that Service 927.00 Florida St.   |  | G. RETUR            | N ON COMMON EQUITY                           | 4.07   |  |                       |
| I am aware that Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, pro<br>Whoever knowingly makes a false s<br>intent to mislead a public servant in<br>duty shall be guilty of a misdemean<br>as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083 | statement in writing with the<br>the performence of his official<br>or of the second degree punishable |                     |  |  |  |                       |
| Cheryl M. Martin<br>Director-Regulatory Affairs   |  | Signature           |  |  | Date   |                       |
|   |  |                     |  |  |  |                       |

#### FULL REVENUE REQUIREMENTS INCREASE REQUESTED

Page 2 of 2 Revised 8/7/14

|            |   | EXPLANATION: | Provide the calculation of the requested full revenue requirements increase. | Type of Data Shown:<br>Year Ended 06/30/2014 |
|------------|---|--------------|--|--|
|            | d Electric Division                           |              |  | Witness: Cheryl Martin                       |
| Line<br>No | Description                                   |              | Source   | Amount                                       |
| 1.         | Jurisdictional Adjusted Rate Base             |              |  | \$ 59,394,624                                |
| 2.         | Rate of Return on Rate Base Requested         |              |  | 7.18%  |
| 3.         | Jurisdictional Net Operating Income Requested |              | Line 1 x Line 2  | \$ 4,264,534                                 |
| 4.         | Jurisdictional Adjusted Net Operating Income  |              |  | \$ 1,962,588                                 |
| 5.         | Net Operating Income Deficiency (Excess)      |              | Line 3 - Line 4  | \$ 2,301,946                                 |
| 6.         | Earned Rate of Return                         |              | Line 4/Line 1  | 3,30%  |
| 7.         | Net Operating Income Multiplier               |              |  | 1.6335                                       |
| 8.         | Revenue increase (Decrease) Requested         |              | Line 5 x Line 7  | \$ 3,760,129                                 |

## Rebuttal Testimony of Jeffry M. Householder

The Company's commitments to physical system improvements and expenses that strengthen our service capabilities in the face of a weak economy have steadily reduced returns. In fact, the Company has under-earned every year since the 2008 rate case. So, while FPUC's customers have not suffered, FPUC's investors have suffered.

Year 2014 will be the sixth year that the Company will have earned below the level the Commission last determined was fair for FPUC. So, for six years, while customers have enjoyed increased reliability and benefitted from the Company continuing to add investment to serve them, the investors who have provided the equity funds necessary to improve customer reliability and service have increasingly earned lower and lower returns. All those returns are unfair under the Commission's last rate determination. This failure to achieve a return that is fair to investors cannot continue. Eventually, it will affect our ability to serve customers.

At the end of June 2014, FPU's average return on equity had dropped to 4.07%. The forecast return on equity without rate relief by the end of the projected test year is negative (-) 1.46%. If anything, the OPC recommended base rate increases would only marginally improve that result, but they would fall far short of a fair and reasonable return level. It is past time for our investors to be treated as fairly as our customers. If they are not, then they will decline to continue financing or charge us

# Docket No. 140025-EI – Corrected Page Rebuttal Testimony of Cheryl Martin

| 1   |    | financial viability of the Company in a manner that will ensure it is able to                                      |
|-----|----|--|
| 2 3 | A. | provide service to its customers?  No, not at all. To the contrary, based on our most recent earnings surveillance |
| 4   |    | report at June 30, 2014, the Company is clearly in need of rate relief and is                                      |
| 5   |    | earning well below the allowable rate of return, see Exhibit CMM-9, Surveillance                                   |
| 6   |    | Report June 30, 2014 and Revenue Deficiency at June 30, 2014. As of June 30,                                       |
| 7   |    | 2014, the Florida Public Utilities Company Electric Operations is earning an                                       |
| 8   |    | Average Rate of Return of 3.56%. The midpoint allowable rate of return is  |
| 9   |    | 6.69%. Using the net operating income multiplier and allowable ROR in our  |
| 10  |    | MFR filing (Schedule A-1), as updated for the rate base and NOI from our actual                                    |
| 11  |    | year-end Surveillance Report, the revenue deficiency at June 30, 2014, is  |
| 12  |    | \$3,760,129. This indicates that the Company continues to earn a return well                                       |
| 13  |    | below its allowable rate of return. For the projected test year ending September                                   |
| 14  |    | 30, 2015, the Company will be even further below its allowable rate of return as it                                |
| 15  |    | continues to decline.  |
| 16  |    |  |
| 17  | 2. | eCIS Project in CWIP   |
| 18  | Q. | Does the Company agree with the conclusion of OPC witness Ramas, as  |
| 19  | ,  | discussed on Pages 5 and 6 of her testimony, that the Company has failed to  |
| 20  |    | demonstrate that the appropriate eCIS project estimate is \$13.6 million, not                                      |
| 21  |    | the \$8.5 million that was a prior estimate?   |
| 22  |    | A. No. As also explained in the Company's responses to the OPC's   |
| 23  |    | Interrogatories Nos. 94 and 96, the eCIS project team revised its estimates of the                                 |
| 24  |    | total project costs, to include any costs beyond 2014. The newest, most accurate                                   |