FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

VOTE SHEET

November 25, 2014

Item 10
FILED NOV 25, 2014
DOCUMENT NO. 06500-14
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

Docket No. 140106-SU – Application for limited proceeding rate increase in Polk County by West Lakeland Wastewater, Inc.

<u>Issue 1:</u> What is the appropriate increase in revenues for this utility? <u>Recommendation:</u> The appropriate revenue increase is \$2,379 for wastewater.

APPROVED

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COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED:

Brisé, Balbis, Brown

COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY	DISSENTING

REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

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Issue 2: What are the appropriate wastewater rates for West Lakeland?

Recommendation: The appropriate monthly wastewater rates are shown on Schedule No. 1 of staff's memorandum dated November 13, 2014. The recommended rates should be designed to produce additional service revenues of \$2,379 or a 1.98 percent increase. The percent increase should be applied as an across-the-board increase to the existing rates. The Utility should file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C). In addition, the approved rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. The Utility should provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

APPROVED

<u>Issue 3:</u> Should the recommended rates be approved for West Lakeland on a temporary basis, subject to refund, in the event of a protest filed by a substantially affected person?

Recommendation: Yes. The recommended rates should be approved for the Utility on a temporary basis, subject to refund, in the event of a protest filed by a substantially affected person. Prior to implementation of any temporary rates, the Utility should provide appropriate security. If the recommended rates are approved on a temporary basis, the rates collected by the Utility should be subject to the refund provisions discussed in the analysis portion of staff's memorandum dated November 13, 2014. In addition, after the increased rates are in effect, pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(6), F.A.C., the Utility should file reports with the Commission's Clerk's Office no later than the 20th of each month indicating the monthly and total amount of money subject to refund at the end of the preceding month. Should a refund be required, the refund should be with interest and undertaken in accordance with Rule 25-30.360, F.A.C.

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Issue 4: What is the appropriate amount by which rates should be reduced four years after the established effective date to reflect the removal of the amortized rate case expense as required by Section 367.0816, F.S.? Recommendation: The wastewater rates should be reduced as shown on Schedule No. 1 of staff's memorandum dated November 13, 2014, to remove rate case expense grossed up for regulatory assessment fees and amortized over a four-year period. The decrease in rates should become effective immediately following the expiration of the four-year rate case expense recovery period, pursuant to Section 367.0816, F.S. West Lakeland should be required to file revised tariffs and a proposed customer notice setting forth the lower rates and the reason for the reduction no later than one month prior to the actual date of the required rate reduction. If the Utility files this reduction in conjunction with a price index or pass-through rate adjustment, separate data should be filed for the price index and/or pass-through increase or decrease and the reduction in the rates due to the amortized rate case expense.

APPROVED

Issue 5: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: No. If no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order, a consummating order should be issued. The docket should remain open for staff's verification that the revised tariff sheets and customer notice have been filed by the Utility and approved by staff. Once these actions are complete, this docket should be closed administratively.

APPROVED