

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: April 28 2015
TO: Carlotta S. Stauffer, Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk
FROM: Clayton Lewis, Engineering Specialist, Division of Engineering *W CKL*
RE: Docket No. 140219-WU - Application for staff-assisted rate case in Polk County by Alturas Utilities, L.L.C.

Please file the attached in the above mentioned Docket File.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONERS:
ART GRAHAM, CHAIRMAN
LISA POLAK EDGAR
RONALD A. BRISÉ
JULIE I. BROWN
JIMMY PATRONIS

STATE OF FLORIDA



DIVISION OF ENGINEERING
TOM BALLINGER
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6910

Public Service Commission

March 25, 2015

Mr. Leslie Szabo
Alturas Utilities LLC.
P. O. Box 2608
Eaton Park, FL 33840-2608

STAFF'S SECOND DATA REQUEST

Re: Docket 140219-WU -- Application for staff-assisted rate case in Polk County by Alturas Utilities LLC.

Dear Mr. Szabo:

Staff has reviewed Alturas Utilities' (Alturas) case history and its response to Staff's First Data Request. We have some additional questions that will help aid in our evaluation of Alturas' application. Please review the following questions and provide a response to the Commission Clerk, Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850, by **April 20, 2015**.

1. Alturas's response to the first data request indicated it did not have possession of system maps. Rule 25-30.125, System Maps and Records, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), states: Each utility shall maintain on file at its principal office located within the State suitable maps, drawings and/or records of its system and facilities to show size, location, character, date of installation and installed cost of major items of plant and extension of facilities. Please indicate when Alturas will have up to date system maps as required.

Thank you for providing us the System Maps and they are already being printed and enlarged in an up to date version

2. Rule 25-30.265, Periodic Meter Tests, F.A.C., requires each utility to inspect all of its residential meters in service at least once during during a ten-year period (see Attachment 1). Additionally, Rule 25-30.267, Record of Meter Tests, F.A.C., requires each utility to preserve the original records of all meter tests at least until same meter is performed or until the meter is retired by a later test (see Attachment 2).

- A. Has Alturas inspected its residential meters at least once during the past 10 years?
- B. If so, provide copies of your meter test records.
- C. If not, why not?

We have only inspected meters with questionable performance.
The one failed the test we have replaced.

We have also inspected meters for the customer's request to reassure them they are working properly and the reading was correct.

Without making any excuses that we are running the operation on a very tight budget we will implement a program to inspect all the meters within the period of 10 years to comply, when we will have a higher income

3. In reviewing the case history, it was noted in Docket No. 000580-WU that the Utility had purchased a leak detector. Does Alturas still have this equipment? If not, please explain
4. Has Alturas conducted a leak survey of its system? If so, please provide the results of the most recent leak survey. If not, why has a leak survey not been done?

Alturas Utilities, LLC has not done/completed a leak survey on the above Water Utility due to the utility not owning any leak detection equipment, but Sunrise Utilities, LLC is in the process of contacting FRWA and setting up a schedule to have the whole Water System inspected for leaks.

5. In its last rate case (Docket No. 090477), the Utility was granted \$18,800 to replace 48 customer meters within 6 months after issuance of PSC Order No. PSC-10-0380-PAA-WU.
 - A. If so, were all 48 customer meters replaced?
 - B. What was the date that the meter replacements were completed?
 - C. If not, why not?

I have access only for the documentation for the year 2013 and 2014 as all the records for the previous years are not available to me at this time.

Looking at the meters reading standing (mileages) numbers clearly shows most of them has been replaced with the exception of the 5 vacant houses.

Meters Replaced at Alturas 14 New Meters Year 2013 and 2014

| Route # | Name | Address | Date Replaced | New Meter # | Notes | Meter Purchase Date |
|---------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|---------------------|
| 2 | Kenneth Smith | 2580 Oak Dr | 7/10/2013 | 13185422 | | 7/9/2013 |
| 11 | Phylis Talbert | 2635 Oak Dr | 5/25/2013 | 11700256 | | 1/1/2013 |
| 18 | Danny Young | 3158 Central Av | 5/25/2013 | 11700258 | | 1/1/2013 |
| 21 | Yolando Quevevo | 2506 First St | 4/23/2013 | 11652340 | | 3/20/2013 |
| 35 | Annie Richardson | 7828 Alturas Rd | 7/10/2013 | 13185423 | | 7/9/2013 |
| 40 | Dorothy Taylor | 7990 Alturas Rd | 5/25/2013 | 11700260 | | 1/1/2013 |
| 63 | Eddie King | 4605 Central Av | 5/25/2013 | 11700259 | | 1/1/2013 |
| 67 | J.T. King | 3584 Central Av | 5/25/2013 | 11700261 | | 1/1/2013 |
| 4 | Karen Bramble | 2545 Oak Dr | 5/17/2014 | 11785759 | | 5/11/2014 |
| 13 | Mary Smith | 2815 Oak Dr | 7/17/2014 | 14260562 | | 7/9/2014 |
| 23 | David Ramirez | 3400 Centrall Ave | 7/17/2014 | 11044528 | | 7/9/2014 |
| 39 | David & Bob Marsh | 7980 Alturas Road | 11/18/2014 | 71880221 | | 11/13/2014 |
| 42 | Silvia Ramirez | 8010 Alturas Rd S. | 11/18/2014 | 71602915 | | 11/13/2014 |
| 66 | Umma Lee | 3592 Central Ave | 11/18/2014 | 7100161 | | 11/13/2014 |

6. Staff's audit of Alturas' records indicated several line breaks during the test year.
 - A. On what dates and times were the line breaks reported?
 - B. Please include the time it took to repair the line breaks.
 - C. Provide the associated invoices for the repairs?

1. **February** - Power Failure
2. **April 2014** - Broken Water Line
3. **August 2014** - Power Failure

The repairs were completed within the same days or within 2 days.
The approximate cost for the repairs was 4,500.00

Please contact me by phone at (850) 413-6578 or by e-mail at clewis@psc.state.fl.us, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Clayton Lewis
Engineering Specialist
Bureau of Reliability and Resource Planning
Division of Engineering

CKL:tj

cc: Office of Commission Clerk (Docket No. 140219-WU)

25-30.265 Periodic Meter Tests.

Each utility shall inspect and test a representative sample of its meters in service at least once during the intervals set out in this rule.

| Size of Meter | Maximum Interval Between Tests |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5/8" | 10 years |
| 3/4" | 8 years |
| 1" | 6 years |
| 1 1/2" | 4 years |
| 2" | 4 years |
| 3" | 3 years |
| 4" | 2 years |
| 6" | 1 year |

Rulemaking Authority 350.127(2), 367.121 FS. Law Implemented 367.121(1)(a), 367.122 FS. History—New 9-12-74, Formerly 25-10.93, 25-10.093, Amended 11-10-86.

25-30.267 Record of Meter Tests.

(1) Each utility shall preserve the original records of all meter tests at least until same meter is performed or until the meter is retired by a later test.

(2) These records shall include:

(a) Sufficient information to identify the meter;

(b) The reason for the test;

(c) Date of test and reading of the meter;

(d) The computed accuracy before and after the repair; and

(e) Any other data taken at the time of the test which would permit the convenient checking of the test results.

Rulemaking Authority 350.127(2), 367.121 FS. Law Implemented 367.121(1)(a), 367.122 FS. History--New 9-12-74, Formerly 25-10.91, 25-10.091, Amended 11-10-86.