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VOTE SHEET

December 6, 2016

Docket No. 160005-WS - Annual reestablishment of price increase or decrease index of major categories of operating costs incurred by water and wastewater utilities pursuant to Section 367.081(4)(a), F.S.

Issue 1: Which index should be used to determine price level adjustments?

Recommendation: The Gross Domestic Product Implicit Price Deflator Index is recommended for use in calculating price level adjustments. Staff recommends calculating the 2017 price index by using a fiscal year, four quarter comparison of the Implicit Price Deflator Index ending with the third quarter of 2016.

APPROVED

<u>Issue 2:</u> What rate should be used by water and wastewater utilities for the 2017 Price Index? Recommendation: The 2017 Price Index for water and wastewater utilities should be 1.51 percent.

APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED:

REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

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<u>Issue 3:</u> How should the utilities be informed of the indexing requirements?

Recommendation: Pursuant to Rule 25-30.420(1), F.A.C., the Office of Commission Clerk, after the expiration of the Proposed Agency Action (PAA) protest period, should mail each regulated water and wastewater utility a copy of the PAA order establishing the index containing the information presented in Form PSC/ECR 15 (4/99) and Appendix A (Attachment 1 of staff's memorandum dated November 22, 2016). A cover letter from the Director of the Division of Accounting and Finance should be included with the mailing of the order (Attachment 2 of staff's memorandum dated November 22, 2016). The entire package will also be made available on the Commission's website.

APPROVED

Issue 4: Should this docket be closed?

<u>Recommendation:</u> No. Upon expiration of the 14-day protest period, if a timely protest is not received, the decision should become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order. Any party filing a protest should be required to prefile testimony with the protest. However, this docket should remain open through the end of the year and be closed upon the establishment of the new docket on January 3, 2017.

APPROVED