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Public Service Commission

March 5, 2018

Chairman John Meeks
Board of County Commissioners of Levy County
Levy County, Florida
P.O. Box 310
Bronson, FL 32621

Re: FPSC Docket No. 20170147-WS – Application for staff-assisted rate case in Levy County by FIMC Hideaway, Inc.

Dear Chairman Meeks:

Thank you for your letter dated February 9, 2018, regarding the rate case application filed by FIMC Hideaway, Inc. The Florida Public Service Commission always welcomes timely public comment concerning matters that come before it.

FIMC Hideaway filed its rate application as a staff-assisted rate case, which is governed by Section 367.0814, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-30.455, Florida Administrative Code. Staff-assisted rate cases allow utilities to keep rate case expense low, which is important because utility customers are responsible for paying reasonable and prudent rate case expense. For staff-assisted rate cases, our practice is to send Commission staff to the utility's service territory to hear directly from customers and elected officials about the utility and its service. If anyone attending the meeting does not wish to speak, our staff encourages them to submit written comments.

As acknowledged in your letter, on February 1, 2018, our staff conducted a well-attended customer meeting in Chiefland, Florida, for FIMC Hideaway's customers. The meeting was videotaped and the recording uploaded to the Commission's website. Commissioners have access to this live recording; thus, they can listen to the comments and any complaints voiced by customers at the meeting. Prior to voting, the Commissioners also have available for their review written comments submitted to the Commission.

The FIMC Hideaway, Inc. docket is currently scheduled to be heard and voted on by the Commission at the April 20, 2018 Commission Agenda Conference. The Agenda Conference is a noticed public meeting where the Commission addresses matters that are ripe for decision. These meetings are open to the public and streamed live on the Commission website.

Board of County Commissioners of Levy County
March 5, 2018
Page 2

Commission staff will submit their written recommendation prior to the meeting. FIMC Hideaway customers are welcome to speak at the Agenda Conference before the Commission votes on the rate application. Unfortunately, the Commission does not have the resources to conduct a separate decision-making meeting for each docketed matter in the affected service area.

Customers and their elected representatives are also encouraged to provide written comments regarding the utility and the proposed rates. Written comments as well as requests to be placed on the mailing list for this case should be directed to:

Director, Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
In re: Docket No. 20170147-WS

Customers may also submit comments through the Commission's website at www.floridapsc.com, by selecting the Clerk's Office tab and Electronic Filing Web Form. If customers wish to contact the Florida Public Service Commission regarding specific complaints about service, they should call the Commission's Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach using the toll-free number, which is 1-800-342-3552.

The Office of Public Counsel is also available to assist consumers. The Office of Public Counsel is independent from any regulatory authority and provides legal representation to the citizens of Florida in utility related matters. J.R. Kelly and Virginia Ponder are assigned to this case and are available to assist consumers with any questions, concerns, or comments. They can be reached at (850) 488-9330 or www.floridaopc.gov.

Thank you for your interest in the staff-assisted rate case for FIMC Hideaway, Inc. If you need additional information or if I can otherwise be of assistance, please feel free to contact me at (850) 413-6199.

Respectfully,



Keith C. Hetrick
General Counsel

cc:

Chairman Art Graham
Commissioner Julie I. Brown
Commissioner Donald J. Polmann
Commissioner Gary F. Clark
Commissioner Andrew Giles Fay

J.R. Kelly, Public Counsel
Wilbur Dean, Levy County Coordinator
Robert McBride, FIMC Hideaway, Inc.
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