

August 27, 2018

**E-PORTAL FILING**

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

**Re: Docket No. 20180054-GU – In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 for Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation.**

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

Attached for filing in the referenced docket, please find the revised Direct Testimony and exhibits of Michael Cassel, the revised Direct Testimony and exhibits of Matthew Dewey, and the Supplemental Direct Testimony of Michael Cassel on behalf of the Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,



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Gregory Munson  
Gunster Law Firm  
215 South Monroe Street  
Suite 601  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

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Before the Florida Public Service Commission

Docket No. 20180054-GU

In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act  
of 2017 for the Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation

Direct Testimony of Michael Cassel

Date of Filing: June 1, 2018

**Revised: August 27, 2018**

**Q. Please state your name and business address.**

A. My name is Michael Cassel. My business address is 1750 South 14<sup>th</sup>  
Street, Suite 200, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.

**Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

A. I am employed by Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPUC") as the  
Director of Regulatory and Governmental Affairs.

**Q. Please describe your educational background and professional  
experience.**

A. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from Delaware  
State University in Dover, Delaware in 1996. I was hired by Chesapeake  
Utilities Corporation ("CUC") as a Senior Regulatory Analyst in March  
2008. As a Senior Regulatory Analyst, I was primarily involved in the  
areas of gas cost recovery, rate of return analysis, and budgeting for  
CUC's Delaware and Maryland natural gas distribution companies. In  
2010, I moved to Florida in the role of Senior Tax Accountant for CUC's

1 Florida business units. Since that time, I have held various management  
2 roles including Manager of the Back Office in 2011, Director of Business  
3 Management in 2012. I am currently the Director of Regulatory and  
4 Governmental Affairs for CUC's Florida business units. In this role, my  
5 responsibilities include directing the regulatory and governmental affairs  
6 for the Company in Florida including regulatory analysis, and reporting  
7 and filings before the Florida Public Service Commission ("FPSC") for  
8 FPUC, FPUC-Indiantown, FPUC-Fort Meade, the Florida Division of  
9 Chesapeake Utilities Corporation d/b/a Central Florida Gas ("CFG"), and  
10 Peninsula Pipeline Company. Prior to joining Chesapeake, I was  
11 employed by J.P. Morgan Chase & Company, Inc. from 2006 to 2008 as  
12 a Financial Manager in their card finance group. My primary  
13 responsibility in this position was the development of client specific  
14 financial models and profit loss statements. I was also employed by  
15 Computer Sciences Corporation as a Senior Finance Manager from  
16 1999 to 2006. In this position, I was responsible for the financial  
17 operation of the company's chemical, oil and natural resources business.  
18 This included forecasting, financial close and reporting responsibility, as  
19 well as representing Computer Sciences Corporation's financial interests  
20 in contract/service negotiations with existing and potential clients. From  
21 1996 to 1999, I was employed by J.P. Morgan, Inc., where I had various  
22 accounting/finance responsibilities for the firm's private banking clientele.

23

24 **Q. Have you ever testified before the FPSC?**

25 A. Yes. I've provided written, pre-filed testimony in a variety of the  
26 Company's annual proceedings, including the Fuel and Purchased

1 Power Cost Recovery Clause for our electric division, Docket No.  
2 20160001-EI, and the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program ("GRIP")  
3 Cost Recovery Factors proceeding, Docket No. 20160199-GU for FPUC  
4 and our sister company, CFG. Most recently, I provided written, pre-filed  
5 testimony in FPUC's electric Limited Proceeding, Docket No. 20170150-  
6 EI.

7

8 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

9 A. I will explain and support CFG's natural gas proposal for disposition of  
10 tax benefits related to the Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 ("2017  
11 Tax Act").

12

13 **Q. Are you sponsoring any exhibits in this case?**

14 A. Yes. I am sponsoring Exhibits CFMC-1 (revised) and CFMC-2, which  
15 provide a summary of CFG's natural gas proposed treatments of the  
16 impacts resulting from the 2017 Tax Act.

17

18 I. CFG's PROPOSAL

19

20 **Q. Is CFG subject to a settlement that includes provisions addressing**  
21 **the 2017 Tax Act?**

22 A. No, CFG is not subject to any settlement including provisions addressing  
23 the 2017 Tax Act. As such, by Order No. PSC-2018-0104-PCO-PU, the  
24 Commission asserted jurisdiction over the subject matter of responsive  
25 tax adjustments effective on the date of the Commission's vote, February  
26 6, 2018 ("Jurisdictional Date").

1 **Q. Could you please identify the components of the 2017 Tax Act**  
2 **being addressed by CFG in this proposal?**

3 A. The components of the 2017 Tax Act being addressed by CFG are: 1)  
4 the federal rate change from 35% to 21%; 2) the Unprotected Deferred  
5 Tax Asset; and 3) the Protected Deferred Tax Liability.

6

7 **Q. What is the impact of the federal income tax rate change from 35%**  
8 **to 21% resulting from the 2017 Tax Act?**

9 A. For CFG, the annual tax savings amount associated with the tax rate  
10 change, based on the 2018 proforma surveillance report, is estimated to  
11 be approximately \$954,499.

12

13 **Q. How does CFG propose that this amount be addressed?**

14 A. At present, the Company is not over-earning and is projected to be  
15 earning at the bottom of its range for the foreseeable future. As such,  
16 the Company should be allowed to retain the annual tax benefit  
17 excluding the portion related to the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program  
18 ("GRIP"), for purposes of addressing ongoing, incremental costs that  
19 have been incurred since the Company's last base rate increase. This  
20 amount is \$630,137. This will enable the Company to earn within, or  
21 near, its allowed range until its next base rate increase while continuing  
22 to make additional investments in infrastructure. The Company does  
23 believe that the tax savings associated with GRIP investments should be

1 returned to customers as discussed in more detail on page seven of my  
2 testimony.

3

4 **Q. What are the different components to the Unprotected Deferred Tax**  
5 **balance and the proposed treatment?**

6 A. CFG has a regulatory asset recorded on its balance sheet for the  
7 Unprotected Deferred Tax at a rate of 35% consistent with the applicable  
8 law prior to the 2017 Tax Act. At the implementation of the new tax rate,  
9 the Company is only required to pay those taxes out at 21%.

10 Exhibit CFMC-1 (revised) provides these calculations.

11 The net Unprotected Deferred Tax Asset has an estimated balance of  
12 \$1,195,541. The Company requests this Deferred Tax Asset be  
13 amortized over 10 years at \$119,554 per year. This annual amortization  
14 detriment could be netted against the annual Protected benefit, as  
15 discussed below, and the Company requests that the net of these  
16 amounts be retained by the Company.

17

18 **Q. What is CFG's proposed resolution for the Protected Deferred Tax**  
19 **savings?**

20 A. CFG has a regulatory liability recorded on its balance sheet for the  
21 Protected Deferred Tax at a rate of 35% consistent with the applicable  
22 law prior to the 2017 Tax Act. As a result of the 2017 Tax Act, the  
23 Company will only be required to pay those taxes out at 21%. The

1 benefit in the Protected Deferred Tax is recorded on CFG's balance  
2 sheet as a grossed-up Deferred Regulatory Tax Liability currently  
3 estimated to be \$9,609,491. This deferred balance will be amortized  
4 using the Internal Revenue Service's prescribed methodology and is  
5 estimated to flow back over 26 years at approximately \$369,596 per  
6 year. Exhibit CFMC-1 (revised) provides the calculation of this amount.  
7 The 2018 Final amounts will not be available until late 2018, as further  
8 explained by CFG's witness Matthew Dewey. CFG proposes retaining  
9 the estimated annual amount of \$369,596 less the Unprotected Deferred  
10 Tax Amortization, as discussed above, of \$119,554 for a net benefit of  
11 \$250,042. This meets the intended goal of the 2017 Tax Act by allowing  
12 the Company to continue making capital investments while potentially  
13 delaying the need for a costly rate proceeding.

14

15 **Q. Is there a direct tax impact to the Company's Gas Reliability**  
16 **Infrastructure Program ("GRIP")?**

17 A. Yes. There are two components of the tax rate change that impact  
18 GRIP. The first component is the amount of tax savings on the 2018  
19 GRIP surcharge from the jurisdictional date until December 31, 2018.  
20 The second component is the change in the ongoing GRIP surcharge  
21 from 2019 and beyond.

22

23 **Q. How does CFG propose treating the tax impact of these two**  
24 **components relative to the GRIP?**

1 A. For the first component, CFG calculates the 2018 tax savings that will  
2 accumulate between the Jurisdictional Date and the date GRIP rates will  
3 be changed on customer bills (1/1/2019) to be \$324,362. Exhibit CFMC-  
4 2 demonstrates this calculation. The Company proposes flowing this  
5 benefit back to customers by incorporating it as an over-recovery in the  
6 2019 GRIP projection. This will have the effect of lowering customer  
7 GRIP surcharges by the amount of the benefit.

8 The second component is the GRIP surcharge rates for periods 2019  
9 and beyond. The Company proposes, incorporating the new, lower  
10 federal tax rate into the 2019 GRIP surcharge projections and future  
11 projections, which will reduce the annual GRIP revenue amount by the  
12 annual tax savings. This is currently estimated to be approximately  
13 \$358,889.

14 These two requests will, if approved, directly pass the benefit of the  
15 lower tax rate on GRIP related revenues created by the 2017 Tax Act  
16 back to CFG's customers.

17

18 **Q. Is CFG's proposal the best approach for your customers?**

19 A. Yes. CFG's proposal provides a fair and reasonable balancing of the  
20 benefits of the 2017 Tax Act. It returns many of the benefits directly to  
21 CFG's customers and does so in a manner that will reduce customer  
22 confusion and promote bill stability by applying those tax benefits to  
23 offset other beneficial system investments that otherwise would  
24 potentially subject our customers to rate increases. CFG's proposal



1 eliminates the inherent confusion of mixed price signals that exist when  
2 individual components of customer bills change in opposite directions.  
3 CFG's proposal also allows CFG to retain a fair portion of the tax benefit  
4 arising from the 2017 Tax Act in a manner that not only allows the  
5 Company to earn close to or within its jurisdictional range, but also  
6 allows the Company to recover costs not currently recovered in base  
7 rates such that the Company may be able to maintain base rates at their  
8 current levels for longer than would otherwise be possible given the  
9 Company's current earnings posture.

10

11 **Q. Does CFG believe this treatment is the most appropriate treatment**  
12 **for the Company?**

13 A. Yes. Adjusting the rates for just one component, such as taxes, of a  
14 customer's bill is akin to single-issue rate-making and is inconsistent with  
15 fundamental regulatory principles. Additionally, this type of rate-making  
16 principle assumes that the Company is currently earning its authorized  
17 Return On Equity ("ROE") and that nothing has changed since the last  
18 rate proceeding. However, CFG is currently under-earning relative to its  
19 authorized ROE so a reduction to its rates based on the authorized ROE  
20 would push the utility's earned ROE even lower on a pro-forma basis,  
21 which is again inconsistent with the objectives and goals of rate-making  
22 and produces an unreasonable result for CFG.

23

1 **Q. Will the impacts of the 2017 Tax Act put CFG into an over-earnings**  
2 **position?**

3 A. No. CFG's proposed treatment of the impacts of the 2017 Tax Act  
4 benefits will not put the Company into an over-earning position.

5

6 II. SUMMARY

7

8 **Q. Please summarize your testimony.**

9 A. CFG's proposal, as outlined above, not only meets the intended goal of  
10 the 2017 Tax Act by encouraging investment in infrastructure, but it does  
11 so in the most efficient, timely and responsible manner possible. CFG's  
12 proposal also allows CFG to retain a fair portion of the tax benefit arising  
13 from the 2017 Tax Act in a manner that allows the Company to earn at or  
14 within its jurisdictional range, ensuring that CFG's customers receive the  
15 dual benefits of direct savings and a financially strong service provider  
16 able to ensure continued system improvements for safe and reliable  
17 service consistent with fundamental regulatory principles.

18

19 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

20 A. Yes.

FLORIDA DIVISION OF CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION  
 Computation of Gas Tax Savings  
 Projected 2018 Test Year

DOCKET NO.: 20180054-GU  
 EXHIBIT NO.: CFMC-1 revised  
 Page 1 of 1

	CF	FC Allocated	Total CF	Annual
<b>ANNUAL TAX SAVINGS FROM RATE CHANGE:</b>				
NOI BEFORE TAX CHANGE	\$ 4,445,528		\$ 4,445,528	
NOI AFTER TAX CHANGE	\$ 5,158,109		\$ 5,158,109	
NET INCOME EFFECT OF TAX CHANGE	\$ 712,581		\$ 712,581	
GROSS UP	\$ 241,918		\$ 241,918	
PRETAX - GROSSED UP SAVINGS (EXPENSE)	\$ 954,499	\$ -	\$ 954,499	\$ 954,499
<b>REGULATORY TAX LIABILITY:</b>				
ESTIMATED PROTECTED GROSSED UP REG TAX LIABILITY	\$ 9,537,104	\$ 72,387	\$ 9,609,491	\$ 369,596 26 YEARS
ESTIMATED UNPROTECTED GROSSED UP REG TAX LIABILITY /(ASSET)	\$ (1,061,527)	\$ (134,014)	\$ (1,195,541)	\$ (119,554) 10 YEARS
NET ESTIMATED REGULATORY TAX LIABILITY	\$ 8,475,577	\$ (61,627)	\$ 8,413,950	\$ 250,042
TOTAL				\$ 1,204,541
As Filed In CFMC-1				\$ 1,254,908
Difference				\$ (50,367)

**Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation**

Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP)  
 Calculation of the Projected Revenue Requirements  
 January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018

DOCKET NO.: 20180054-GU

EXHIBIT NO.: CFMC-2  
 Page 1 of 1

Item	GRIP CALCULATION WITH NEW TAX EXPANSION FACTOR	GRIP CALCULATION WITH 2017 TAX RATE IN EXPANSION FACTOR	DIFFERENCE
	Year End Total/Balance	Year End Total/Balance	
<b>Qualified Investment</b>			
Qualified Investment - Mains - Current 1070 Activity	\$3,069,000	\$3,069,000	\$0
Qualified Investment - Mains - Closed 1070 Activity to Plant	(\$2,915,556)	(\$2,915,556)	\$0
Qualified Investment - Services - Current 1070 Activity	\$231,000	\$231,000	\$0
Qualified Investment - Services - Closed 1070 Activity to Plant	(\$231,000)	(\$231,000)	\$0
Qualified Investment - Mains - Current 1010 Activity	\$2,915,556	\$2,915,556	\$0
Qualified Investment - Services - Current 1010 Activity	\$231,000	\$231,000	\$0
Total Qualified Investment - Mains 1070	\$542,823	\$542,823	\$0
Total Qualified Investment - Services 1070	\$20,780	\$20,780	\$0
Total Qualified Investment - Mains 1010	\$26,038,091	\$26,038,091	\$0
Total Qualified Investment - Services 1010	\$2,296,239	\$2,296,239	\$0
Total Qualified Investment	<u>\$28,897,933</u>	<u>\$28,897,933</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(\$2,292,512)	(\$2,292,512)	\$0
Net Book Value	<u>\$26,605,421</u>	<u>\$26,605,421</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Average Net Qualified Investment			
Depreciation Rates			
Approved Depreciation Rate-Mains	2.60%	2.60%	0.00%
Approved Depreciation Rate-Services	2.70%	2.70%	0.00%
Return on Average Net Qualified Investment			
Equity - Cost of Capital, inclusive of Income Tax Gross-up	6.1570%	7.6740%	-1.52%
Debt - Cost of Capital	1.0800%	1.0800%	0.00%
Equity Component - inclusive of Income Tax Gross-up	\$1,558,305	\$1,917,194	(\$358,889)
Debt Component	\$273,342	\$273,342	\$0
Return Requirement	<u>\$1,831,647</u>	<u>\$2,190,536</u>	<u>(\$358,889)</u>
Investment Expenses			
Depreciation Expense - Mains	\$635,930	\$635,930	\$0
Depreciation Expense - Services	\$58,620	\$58,620	\$0
Property Taxes	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$0
General Public Notice Expense and Customer Notice Expense	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0
Total Expense	<u>\$1,192,550</u>	<u>\$1,192,550</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total Revenue Requirements	<u>\$3,024,197</u>	<u>\$3,383,086</u>	<u>(\$358,889)</u>
Less January 1 to February 6 Amount Revenue Requirement			\$34,527
Net Effect on GRIP of Lower Expansion Factor			<u>(\$324,362)</u>
Less Income Tax			

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Before the Florida Public Service Commission

Docket No. 20180054-GU

In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act  
of 2017 for Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation

Direct Testimony of Matthew Dewey

Date of Filing: June 1, 2018

**Revised: August 27, 2018**

**Q. Please state your name and business address.**

A. My name is Matthew Dewey. My business address is 909 Silver Lake  
Blvd, Dover, DE 19904.

**Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

A. I am employed by Chesapeake Utilities Corporation (“CUC”), of which  
the Florida Division is an operating entity, as an Accounting Director.

**Q. Please describe your educational background and professional  
experience.**

A. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Goldey-Beacom  
College and have been employed with Chesapeake Utilities Corporation  
in various accounting positions since 1987.

**Q. Have you ever testified before the Florida Public Service  
Commission (“FPSC”)?**

A. Yes, I have pre-filed written testimony for the Florida Division of  
Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, which does business as Central

1 Florida Gas Company, in its 2009 base rate case, Docket No. 20090125-  
2 GU.

3

4 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

5 A. I will explain how the tax impacts associated with the Federal Tax Cuts  
6 and Jobs Acts of 2017 (the "2017 Tax Act") were calculated. I will also  
7 explain the methodology used to make these calculations, and how  
8 these tax impacts affected FPUC's balance sheet.

9

10 **Q. Were these calculations of the Deferred Regulatory Liabilities**  
11 **related to the 2017 Tax Act calculations performed by you, or under**  
12 **your direct supervision?**

13 A. These calculations were performed under my direct supervision.

14

15 **Q. Are you sponsoring any exhibits in this case?**

16 A. Yes. I am sponsoring exhibit CFMD-1 (revised) and exhibit CFMD-2  
17 (revised). The exhibit CFMD-1 (revised) shows the Company's  
18 calculations to support the estimated regulatory liabilities of \$8,475,577.  
19 This amount resulted from implementing the reduction in federal tax rate  
20 from 35% to 21% per the 2017 Tax Act. The worksheet lists the  
21 estimated Accumulated Deferred Income Tax ("ADIT") revised account  
22 balances at the blended tax rate, which includes the federal tax rate at  
23 35%. The worksheet also calculates the Company's estimated ADIT  
24 revised account balances at the blended tax rate, which adjusts for

1 reduced federal tax rate of 21% per the 2017 Tax Act. The worksheet  
2 shows the classification of each estimated excess or deficient deferred  
3 income taxes into one of the following classifications: Protected,  
4 Unprotected plant and Unprotected. This classification is required since  
5 protected excess deferred income taxes are required to be flowed back  
6 based on Internal Revenue Service normalization guidelines. To record  
7 the regulatory liability we are required at add back the income tax gross-  
8 up to get to an applicable revenue amount. The worksheet also  
9 calculates the gross-up to record the estimated regulatory liability for  
10 Protected, Unprotected plant and Unprotected. In February 2018 and  
11 March 2018, estimated deferred tax assets were allocated from the  
12 parent, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, to all Chesapeake subsidiaries  
13 and divisions, including the Florida division, at the blended tax rate. I do  
14 not expect these adjustments to re-occur. The net difference between  
15 the 35% and 21% was reported with a net effect of zero to the balance  
16 sheet. The exhibit CFMD-2 (revised) supports the same calculation  
17 described above for the Florida Corporate general ledger. The result is  
18 an estimated regulatory asset of \$354,178 of which \$61,627 or 17.4% is  
19 allocated to Florida division.

20

21 **Q. CFMG-1 is noted as revised. What line items changed between the**  
22 **original filed on June 1, 2018, and the revised CFMD-1?**

23 A. The lines that changed between the filed exhibit CFMD-1 and the revised  
24 exhibit CFMD-1 (revised) are the lines that show "Depreciation", "Cost of

1 Removal", and the "Repairs Deduction" in the "Name" column of the  
2 worksheet: The amounts for "Cost of Removal" and the "Repairs  
3 Deduction" on the original CFMD-1 only contained the ADIT balances  
4 that occurred after the "One Source" tax software was obtained in 2015.  
5 In prior years, this activity was recorded in the ADIT for "Depreciation".  
6 In order to accurately show the balances as protected or unprotected it  
7 was first necessary to separate the portion of ADIT that had been on the  
8 "Depreciation" line which related to the "Cost of Removal" and "Repairs  
9 Deduction" for periods prior to the tax software being obtained. The  
10 beginning balances and the tax change effect have been revised in  
11 CFMD-1 (revised) to the balances as if the prior year's data had been  
12 separated as "Cost of Removal" and the "Repairs Deduction" instead of  
13 being included in the "Depreciation" deferred tax amount.  
14 Once the balances were separated, the tax change related to "Cost of  
15 Removal" was moved from the column titled "Protected" to the column  
16 titled "Unprotected Plant".  
17 Although the "Repairs Deduction" was included in the "Unprotected  
18 Plant" column in the original CFMD-1, the amount related to this  
19 deduction is being decreased because the line now includes the  
20 amounts related prior to the implementation of the tax software in 2015  
21 and the "Depreciation" line is being increased since prior to the tax  
22 software, "Depreciation" was the ADIT account that the deduction was  
23 recorded in. Therefore, the protected regulatory liability is increased and  
24 unprotected decreased.



1

2 **Q. Could you clarify the meaning of a “gross-up” as it pertains to**  
3 **deferred taxes?**

4 A. Yes. The deferred tax impact as a result of the tax rate change is  
5 increased, or “grossed up” for the current tax rate. This balance will then  
6 be amortized and subject to income taxes at the current rate so that the  
7 net income impact equals the amortized tax benefit or detriment.

8

9 **Q. The total net estimated regulatory liability balance of \$8,413,950**  
10 **related to the federal rate change from 35% to 21% per the 2017 Tax**  
11 **Act, is described as an estimated, why?**

12 A. The staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) has  
13 recognized the complexity of reflecting the impacts of the 2017 Tax Act,  
14 and on December 22, 2017 issued guidance in Staff Accounting Bulletin  
15 118, which clarifies accounting for income taxes under ASC 740 if  
16 information is not yet available or complete and provides for up to a one  
17 year period in which to complete the required analyses and accounting.  
18 Therefore, we will complete our measurement and accounting for the  
19 impact of the tax law changes on or before December 22, 2018.

20

21 **Q. Does the Company know of any expected changes which could**  
22 **adjust the regulatory liability?**

23 A. Not at this time. However, once the 2017 federal and state tax returns  
24 are filed, the Company will be adjusting entries based on the differences

1           between the tax returns as filed and the 2017 Tax Act. These  
2           adjustments could affect the ADIT balances as of December 31, 2017.

3

4   **Q.   Does this conclude your testimony?**

5   **A.   Yes.**

CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION  
 Computation of Regulatory Liability Florida Division of Chesapeake Division (CF)

Docket No.: 20180054-GU  
 Exhibit No.: CFMD-1 revised

FL	5.50%	Fed	BEFORE		AFTER												
			35.00%	21.00%	21.00%	Allocation from Parent		3/31/18									
		Blended	38.58%	25.35%													
Seg 3	FERC	Protected/ Unprotected	Code	Name	Beginning Balance See Note A	Rate Change	Protected	UnProtected Plant	UnProtected NonPlant	OTP Adj	12/31/2017 Balance	UnProtected NonPlant	NetAdjust to LT Bonus	Less Q1 Entries	03/31/2018 Balance		
25AF	282	UNNP	25AF	AFUDC	\$ 18,160	\$ (6,228)		\$ (6,228)	\$ -		\$ 11,932			\$ -	\$ 11,932		
25AM	283	UNNP	25AM	Customer Based Intangibles	\$ 288,088	\$ (98,805)			\$ (98,805)		\$ 189,283			\$ (4,535)	\$ 184,748		
25AM	283	UNNP	25AM.01	Amortization Schedules Prior Acquisitions	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -		
25BD	283	UNNP	25BD	Bad Debts	\$ 18,350	\$ (6,294)			\$ (6,294)		\$ 12,056			\$ 1,079	\$ 13,135		
25BN	283	UNNP	25BN.01	Bonus	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -	\$ 71,433	\$ 30,431	\$ -	\$ 101,864		
25CN	283	UNNP	25CN	Conservation	\$ 86,041	\$ (29,509)			\$ (29,509)		\$ 56,532			\$ 18,607	\$ 75,139		
25DP	282	P	25DP.01	Depreciation	\$ (20,819,848)	\$ 7,140,547	\$ 7,140,547		\$ -	\$ 1	\$ (13,679,300)			\$ (65,833)	\$ (13,745,133)		
25DP	282	P	25DP.02	Contribution in Aid of Construction	\$ 93,618	\$ (32,108)	\$ (32,108)		\$ -		\$ 61,510			\$ 15,378	\$ 76,888		
25DP	282	UNNP	25DP.03	Cost of Removal	\$ 1,717,443	\$ (603,786)		\$ (603,786)	\$ -		\$ 1,113,657			\$ (25,724)	\$ 1,087,933		
25DP	282	P	25DP.04	Asset Gain/Loss	\$ (33,491)	\$ 11,486	\$ 11,486		\$ -		\$ (22,005)			\$ (508)	\$ (22,513)		
25DP	282	P	25DP.05	Adjustment for Repairs Depreciation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -		
25DR	283	UNNP	25DR.01	Deferred Revenue (Current)	\$ (12,681)	\$ 4,349			\$ 4,349		\$ (8,332)			\$ (5,104)	\$ (13,436)		
25DR	283	UNNP	25DR.02	Deferred Revenue (Non-Current)	\$ 76,175	\$ (26,126)			\$ (26,126)		\$ 50,049			\$ -	\$ 50,049		
25EN	283	UNNP	25EN	Environmental	\$ 75,996	\$ (26,064)			\$ (26,064)		\$ 49,932			\$ (5,262)	\$ 44,670		
25FR	283	UNNP	25FR	Flex Revenue	\$ 23,802	\$ (8,163)			\$ (8,163)		\$ 15,639			\$ 63	\$ 15,702		
25GP	282	UNNP	25GP	Grip Over Recoveries	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -		
25ID	283	UNNP	25ID	Reserve for Insurance Deductibles	\$ (43,302)	\$ 14,851			\$ 14,851		\$ (28,451)			\$ (33)	\$ (28,484)		
25IT	255	UNNP	25IT	Investment Tax Credit	\$ 1	\$ -			\$ -	\$ (1)	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -		
25OH	283	UNNP	25OH	263A Capitalized Interest/Overhead	\$ 102,635	\$ (35,201)			\$ (35,201)		\$ 67,434			\$ -	\$ 67,434		
25PG	283	UNNP	25PG	Purchased Gas Cots	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -		
25PN	283	UNNP	25PN	Pension	\$ 146,904	\$ (50,383)			\$ (50,383)		\$ 96,521			\$ 1,588	\$ 98,109		
25PR	283	UNNP	25PR	Post Retirement Benefits	\$ 3	\$ (1)			\$ (1)	\$ 1	\$ 3			\$ -	\$ 3		
25PR	283	UNNP	25PR.02	Post Retirement Benefits (Non-Current)	\$ 33,621	\$ (11,531)			\$ (11,531)		\$ 22,090			\$ (401)	\$ 21,689		
25RC	283	UNNP	25RC	Rate Case	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -		
25RE	282	UNNP	25RE	Repairs Deduction	\$ (165,313)	\$ 56,697		\$ 56,697	\$ -		\$ (108,616)			\$ -	\$ (108,616)		
25RP	282	UNNP	25RP	Property Taxes	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -		
25RT	283	UNNP	25RT	Rabbi Trust	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -	\$ 51,192		\$ -	\$ 51,192		
25SR	283	UNNP	25SR.01	SERP (Current)	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 118,336		\$ -	\$ 118,339		
25SD	283	UNNP	25SD	ADIT State Decoupling	\$ 332,256	\$ 166,934			\$ 166,934		\$ 499,190			\$ -	\$ 499,190		
25SI	283	UNNP	25SI.01	Self Insurance (Current)	\$ (74,373)	\$ 25,508			\$ 25,508		\$ (48,865)			\$ 912	\$ (47,953)		
25SI	283	UNNP	25SI.02	Self Insurance (Non-Current)	\$ 49,546	\$ (16,993)			\$ (16,993)		\$ 32,553			\$ -	\$ 32,553		
25SR	283	UNNP	25SR.02	SERP (Non-Current)	\$ 4	\$ (1)			\$ (1)		\$ 3			\$ -	\$ 3		
25SL	283	UNNP	S_NOL_SYS	S_NOL_SYS	\$ 156	\$ 34			\$ 34	\$ (156)	\$ 34			\$ -	\$ 34		
25SL	283	UNNP	S_NOL_SYS - 2014 - D	S_NOL_SYS - 2014 - DE	\$ (486)	\$ (105)			\$ (105)		\$ (591)			\$ -	\$ (591)		
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$ (18,086,695)</b>	<b>\$ 6,469,108</b>	<b>\$ 7,119,925</b>	<b>\$ (553,317)</b>	<b>\$ (97,500)</b>	<b>\$ (152)</b>	<b>\$ (11,617,739)</b>	<b>\$ 240,961</b>	<b>\$ 30,431</b>	<b>\$ (69,773)</b>	<b>\$ (11,416,120)</b>		
					\$ (1)	\$ -											
Protected Gross-up							\$ 2,417,179				\$ 2,417,179				\$ 2,417,179		
UnProtected Plant Gross-up								\$ (187,848)			\$ (187,848)				\$ (187,848)		
UnProtected NonPlant Gross-up									\$ (33,101)		\$ (33,101)	\$ (42,702)	\$ (5,393)		\$ (81,196)		
Unrecorded adjustment to correct grossup calculation at year end											\$ -			\$ -			
25TX	25TX		25TX	Tax Reform 2017 Reg Asset Gross Up			\$ 2,417,179	\$ (187,848)	\$ (33,101)		\$ 2,196,230	\$ (42,702)	\$ (5,393)		\$ 2,148,135		
<b>Total with Gross-up</b>							<b>\$ 9,537,104</b>	<b>\$ (741,165)</b>	<b>\$ (130,601)</b>		<b>\$ (9,421,509)</b>	<b>\$ 198,259</b>	<b>\$ 25,038</b>	<b>\$ (69,773)</b>	<b>\$ (9,267,985)</b>		
							<b>a</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>c</b>								



FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY  
 Computation of Regulatory Liability Common Division (FC)

Docket No.: 20180054-EI  
 Exhibit No.: CFMD-2 revised

			BEFORE		AFTER									
			35.00%	21.00%	21.00%									
			Blended		Allocation from Parent 3/31/18									
			38.58%	25.35%	25.35%									
Seg 3	FERC	Code	Name	Beginning Balance See Note A	Rate Change	Protected	UnProtected Plant	UnProtected NonPlant	OTP Adj	12/31/2017 Balance	UnProtected NonPlant	NetAdjust to LT Bonus	Q1 Entries	03/31/2018 Balance
2500	282	UNNP 2500	ADIT Property LT	\$ 2,791	\$ (957)			\$ (957)		\$ 1,834			\$ -	\$ 1,834
25BN	283	UNNP 25BN.01	Short Term Bonus	\$ 646,396	\$ (221,693)			\$ (221,693)	\$ 43	\$ 424,746			\$ 14,462	\$ 439,208
25BN	283	UNNP 25BN.02	Long Term Bonus	\$ 12,907	\$ (4,427)			\$ (4,427)		\$ 8,480			\$ -	\$ 8,480
25DP	282	P 25DP.01	Depreciation	\$ (888,432)	\$ 304,565	\$ 304,565				\$ (583,867)			\$ (43,664)	\$ (627,531)
25DP	282	P 25DP.04	Asset Gain/Loss	\$ (17,530)	\$ 6,012	\$ 6,012				\$ (11,518)			\$ (2,334)	\$ (13,852)
25DP	282	P 25DP.05	Adjustment for Repairs Depreciation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25EN	283	UNNP 25EN	Environmental	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
25ID	283	UNNP 25ID	Reserve for Insurance Deductibles	\$ (1,421)	\$ 487			\$ 487	\$ (1)	\$ (935)			\$ (1)	\$ (936)
25PN	283	UNNP 25PN	Pension	\$ 1,281,408	\$ (439,482)			\$ (439,482)	\$ 15	\$ 841,941			\$ (5,222)	\$ 836,719
25PR	283	UNNP 25PR	Post Retirement Benefits	\$ (3,007)	\$ 1,031			\$ 1,031	\$ (3,550)	\$ (5,526)			\$ -	\$ (5,526)
25PR	283	UNNP 25PR.02	Post Retirement Benefits (Non-Current)	\$ (7,376)	\$ 2,530			\$ 2,530		\$ (4,846)			\$ -	\$ (4,846)
25RC	283	UNNP 25RC	Rate Case	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25RD	283	UNNP 25RD	Loss on Reacquired Debt	\$ (397,679)	\$ 136,391			\$ 136,391	\$ 33,873	\$ (227,415)			\$ 7,208	\$ (220,207)
25RE	282	UNPP 25RE	Repairs Deduction	\$ 6,003	\$ (1,920)		\$ (1,920)	\$ -	\$ 5	\$ 4,068			\$ (420)	\$ 3,668
25RT	283	UNNP 25RT	Rabbi Trust					\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25SD	283	UNNP 25SD	ADIT State Decoupling					\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25SD	283	UNNP 25SD	ADIT State Decoupling	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25SI	283	UNNP 25SI.01	Self Insurance (Current)	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25SI	283	UNNP 25SI.02	Self Insurance (Non-Current)	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25SL	283	UNNP 25SL	ADIT State NOL	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25VA	283	UNNP 25VA	Vacation	\$ 144,792	\$ (49,659)			\$ (49,659)	\$ 12	\$ 95,145			\$ (1,613)	\$ 93,532
NOL_	283	UNNP NOL_SYS	NOL_SYS	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
25SL	283	UNNP S_NOL_SYS	S_NOL_SYS	\$ (253,510)	\$ (54,602)			\$ (54,602)	\$ (3,104)	\$ (311,216)			\$ -	\$ (311,216)
25SL	283	UNNP S_NOL_SYS - 20	S_NOL_SYS - 2014 - FL	\$ 256,614	\$ 55,271			\$ 55,271		\$ 311,885			\$ -	\$ 311,885
<b>Total</b>				\$ 781,956	\$ (266,453)	\$ 310,577	\$ (1,920)	\$ (575,110)	\$ 27,293	\$ 542,796	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (31,584)	\$ 511,212
				\$ -	\$ -			\$ -		\$ -			\$ -	\$ -
Protected Gross-up						\$ 105,439				\$ 105,439				\$ 105,439
UnProtected Plant Gross-up							\$ (652)			\$ (652)				\$ (652)
UnProtected NonPlant Gross-up								\$ (195,247)		\$ (195,247)	\$ -			\$ (195,247)
Unrecorded adjustment to correct grossup calculation at year end								\$ 2,735		\$ 2,735				\$ 2,735
25TX	25TX		Tax Reform 2017 Reg Asset Gross Up			\$ 105,439	\$ (652)	\$ (192,512)		\$ (87,724)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ (87,724)
<b>Total with Gross-up</b>						\$ 416,016	\$ (2,572)	\$ (767,622)		\$ 455,072	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (31,584)	\$ 423,488
						a	b	c						



1 Before the Florida Public Service Commission

2 Docket No. 20180054-GU

3 In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act  
4 of 2017 for the Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation

5  
6 Supplemental Direct Testimony of Michael Cassel

7 Date of Filing: August 27, 2018

8

9 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

10 A. My name is Michael Cassel. My business address is 1750 South 14<sup>th</sup>  
11 Street, Suite 200, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.

12

13 **Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

14 A. I am employed by Florida Public Utilities Company ("FPUC") as the  
15 Director of Regulatory and Governmental Affairs.

16

17 **Q. Please describe your educational background and professional  
18 experience.**

19 A. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from Delaware  
20 State University in Dover, Delaware in 1996. I was hired by Chesapeake  
21 Utilities Corporation ("CUC" or "the Company") as a Senior Regulatory  
22 Analyst in March 2008. As a Senior Regulatory Analyst, I was primarily  
23 involved in the areas of gas cost recovery, rate of return analysis, and  
24 budgeting for CUC's Delaware and Maryland natural gas distribution  
25 companies. In 2010, I moved to Florida in the role of Senior Tax  
26 Accountant for CUC's Florida business units. Since that time, I have

1 held various management roles including Manager of the Back Office in  
2 2011, Director of Business Management in 2012. I am currently the  
3 Director of Regulatory and Governmental Affairs for CUC's Florida  
4 business units. In this role, my responsibilities include directing the  
5 regulatory and governmental affairs for the Company in Florida including  
6 regulatory analysis, and reporting and filings before the Florida Public  
7 Service Commission ("FPSC") for FPUC, FPUC-Indiantown, FPUC-Fort  
8 Meade, the Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation d/b/a  
9 Central Florida Gas ("CFG"), and Peninsula Pipeline Company. Prior to  
10 joining CFG, I was employed by J.P. Morgan Chase & Company, Inc.  
11 from 2006 to 2008 as a Financial Manager in their card finance group.  
12 My primary responsibility in this position was the development of client  
13 specific financial models and profit loss statements. I was also employed  
14 by Computer Sciences Corporation as a Senior Finance Manager from  
15 1999 to 2006. In this position, I was responsible for the financial  
16 operation of the company's chemical, oil and natural resources business.  
17 This included forecasting, financial close and reporting responsibility, as  
18 well as representing Computer Sciences Corporation's financial interests  
19 in contract/service negotiations with existing and potential clients. From  
20 1996 to 1999, I was employed by J.P. Morgan, Inc., where I had various  
21 accounting/finance responsibilities for the firm's private banking clientele.

22

23 **Q. Have you ever testified before the FPSC?**

24 A. Yes. I've provided written, pre-filed testimony in a variety of the  
25 Company's annual proceedings, including the Fuel and Purchased  
26 Power Cost Recovery Clause for our electric division, Docket No.



1           20160001-EI, and the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (“GRIP”)  
2           Cost Recovery Factors proceeding, Docket No. 20160199-GU for CFG  
3           and our sister Company, FPUC. Most recently, I provided written, pre-  
4           filed testimony in FPUC’s electric Limited Proceeding, Docket No.  
5           20170150-EI, as well as Direct Testimony in this proceeding.

6

7   **Q.    What is the purpose of your supplemental direct testimony?**

8    A.    I will address the Company’s position regarding seeking a Private Letter  
9           Ruling (“PLR”) from the federal Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”).

10

11   **Q.    Are you sponsoring any additional exhibits associated with your  
12           supplemental testimony?**

13   A.    No.

14

15   **Q.    Should CFG be required to seek a PLR from the IRS regarding the  
16           proper classification of Accumulated Deferred Income Tax (“ADIT”)  
17           associated with the cost of removal?**

18   A.    No. CFG believes, for several reasons, that seeking a PLR from the IRS  
19           regarding this issue is not the most prudent action for its ratepayers.  
20           First, CFG believes its revised treatment of this issue, resulting from the  
21           guidance of its tax experts, is consistent with the law. Second, while the  
22           ADIT at issue is unprotected, the Commission has historically allowed  
23           the Company to seek amortization of it in a manner similar to the  
24           protected plant related assets from which it is derived such that any  
25           change in classification is likely to have a minimal impact to CFG and its  
26           ratepayers. Third, the Company estimates a conservative timeframe for

1 the IRS to rule on a PLR to be between three to six months or longer  
2 depending on the complexity of the issue. Fourth, and most importantly  
3 is that retaining the tax expert needed to compile, file and resolve the  
4 PLR issue with the IRS, could potentially have a material financial impact  
5 on the Company. The Company's preliminary estimate to seek a PLR is  
6 somewhere between \$20,000 and \$50,000 to complete. CFG believes  
7 that seeking a PLR adds value in that it may potentially clarify a complex  
8 tax issue for the IRS, but given the historical treatment of amortization  
9 allowed by the Commission, there would be little to no beneficial impact  
10 to CFG and its ratepayers. Rather it would serve to add additional,  
11 unnecessary cost and time to arrive at a similar result.

12

13 **Q. Does the Company know what the cost of obtaining a PLR for this**  
14 **issue will be?**

15 A. The Company is currently working to obtain a more firm estimate of the  
16 cost that will be incurred should a PLR be requested. Should the  
17 Commission determine in this proceeding that the Company must seek a  
18 PLR, the Company would seek to mitigate as much of the cost as  
19 possible. To that end, CFG should be allowed to file a PLR jointly with  
20 the other CUC entities in Florida. Filing individual PLR's on each  
21 company for the same issue would be highly inefficient and expensive, to  
22 the detriment of CFG's ratepayers.

23

1 **Q. If CFG is required to pursue a PLR, should the Company be allowed**  
2 **to recover the costs associated with the process to obtain a PLR?**

3 A. Yes. The Company is pursuing classification of the ADIT in a manner  
4 that it believes is correct and is consistent with the recommendations of  
5 its nationally-recognized tax experts. As such, should the Company be  
6 required to pursue a PLR, it should also be allowed to recover the costs  
7 associated with that process.

8

9 **Q. How does CFG propose that this amount be addressed?**

10 A. At present, the Company is not over-earning and is projected to be  
11 earning at the bottom of its range for the foreseeable future. As such,  
12 the Company is requesting that the Commission allow it to defer the cost  
13 associated with seeking a PLR and to amortize the balance over four  
14 years in a manner consistent with rate case expense.

15

16 **Q. Please summarize your testimony.**

17 A. The Company believes its treatment of this ADIT is consistent with the  
18 law and that it should not be required to seek a PLR. This is a costly and  
19 time-consuming process that likely ends with a similar treatment for the  
20 Company and its ratepayers, except for an additional \$20,000 - \$50,000  
21 in costs to seek a PLR. Should the Commission determine, however,  
22 that the Company should pursue a PLR, then the Company should be  
23 protected from the detrimental impacts associated with the expected high  
24 cost of pursuing guidance from the IRS. As such, if the Company is

1           required to pursue a PLR, the Company should be allowed to do so on a  
2           joint basis with the other Florida natural gas business units of CUC.  
3           Additionally, the cost associated with seeking a PLR was not  
4           contemplated in CFG's current base rates, and therefore CFG should be  
5           allowed to defer its allocated portion of the cost and amortize the balance  
6           over four years.

7

8   **Q.    Does this conclude your testimony?**

9   **A.    Yes.**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing revised Direct Testimony and exhibits of Michael Cassel, the revised Direct Testimony and exhibits of Matthew Dewey, and the Supplemental Direct Testimony of Michael Cassel, on behalf of Florida Division of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, in the referenced docket, have been served by Electronic Mail this 27th day of August, 2018, upon the following:

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