

Writer's Direct Dial Number: (850) 521-1706 Writer's E-Mail Address: bkeating@gunster.com

October 17, 2018

E-PORTAL FILING

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

Re: Docket No. 20180051-GU – In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 for Florida Public Utilities Company –Gas.

Attached for filing, please find the Rebuttal Testimony of Michael Cassel on behalf of FPUC-Gas.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing. As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions whatsoever.

Kind regards,

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

MEK

1		Before the Florida Public Service Commission	
2	Docket No. 20180051-GU		
3	In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act		
4		of 2017 for Florida Public Utilities Company	
5			
6		Prepared Rebuttal Testimony of Michael Cassel	
7		Date of Filing: 10/17/2018	
8		*	
9	Q.	Please state your name and business address.	
10	A.	My name is Michael Cassel. My business address is 1750 South 14th	
11		Street, Suite 200, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.	
12			
13	Q.	Have you previously filed direct testimony in this case?	
14	A.	Yes, I have.	
15			
16	Q.	Have you read the testimony of Ralph Smith on behalf of the	
17		Citizens of the State of Florida?	
18	A.	Yes, I have.	
19			
20	Q.	Are you familiar with the Reedy Creek case mentioned by Witness	
21		Smith?	
22	A.	I was not prior to this proceeding, but have since reviewed the case.	
23			
24	Q.	Are the facts in the Reedy Creek case the same as the facts in this	
25		docket?	

DOCKET NO. 20180051-GU

A. No, there are different facts in this docket. As I understand the case, Reedy Creek was in an <u>over earnings</u> position, which FPUC is not. The decision also indicates that when the Commission opened the docket to review the impact of the 1978 tax changes, the Commission had stated that if the tax reduction resulted in revenue to the utilities that exceeded a fair and reasonable return upon their investment, then utilities could be required to refund these revenues to the consumers. FPUC's posture is different. Even if the entire tax benefit is retained by the Company, FPUC would not be in an over-earnings posture. Therefore, the tax changes have not resulted in a "windfall" to the utility, which is the concern upon which the Commission, and the Court, in Reedy Creek, seemed to focus.

- Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?
- 15 A. Yes.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Rebuttal Testimony of Michael Cassel on behalf of the Florida Public Utilities Company - Gas has been served by Electronic Mail this 17th day of October, 2018, upon the following:

Rachael A. Dziechciarz	J.R. Kelly/V. Ponder
Florida Public Service Commission	Office of Public Counsel
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard	c/o The Florida Legislature
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850	111 W. Madison Street, Room 812
RDziechc@psc.state.fl.us	Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400
	kelly.jr@leg.state.fl.us
	Ponder Virginia@leg state flus

By:

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601 Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706



October 17, 2018

E-PORTAL FILING

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

Re: Docket No. 20180052-GU – In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 for Florida Public Utilities Company – Indiantown Division.

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

Attached for filing, please find the Rebuttal Testimony of Michael Cassel on behalf of FPUC-Indiantown Division.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing. As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions whatsoever.

Kind regards,

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 521-1706

MEK

1		Before the Florida Public Service Commission	
2	Docket No. 20180052-GU		
3	In re: Consideration of the tax impacts associated with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act		
4		of 2017 for Florida Public Utilities Company –Indiantown Division	
5			
6		Prepared Rebuttal Testimony of Michael Cassel	
7	Date of Filing: 10/17/2018		
8			
9	Q.	Please state your name and business address.	
10	A.	My name is Michael Cassel. My business address is 1750 South 14th	
11		Street, Suite 200, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.	
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13	Q.	Have you previously filed direct testimony in this case?	
14	A.	Yes, I have.	
15			
16	Q.	Have you read the testimony of Ralph Smith on behalf of the	
17		Citizens of the State of Florida?	
18	A.	Yes, I have.	
19			
20	Q.	Are you familiar with the Reedy Creek case mentioned by Witness	
21		Smith?	
22	A.	I was not prior to this proceeding, but have since reviewed the case.	
23			
24	Q.	Are the facts in the Reedy Creek case the same as the facts in this	
25		docket?	

DOCKET NO. 20180052-GU

1	A.	No, there are different facts in this docket. As I understand the case,
2		Reedy Creek was in an over earnings position, which Indiantown is not.
3		The decision also indicates that when the Commission opened the
4		docket to review the impact of the 1978 tax changes, the Commission
5		had stated that if the tax reduction resulted in revenue to the utilities that
6		exceeded a fair and reasonable return upon their investment, then
7		utilities could be required to refund these revenues to the consumers.
8		Indiantown's posture is different. Even if the entire tax benefit is retained
9		by the Company, Indiantown would not be in an over-earnings posture.
10		Therefore, the tax changes have not resulted in a "windfall" to the utility,
11		which is the concern upon which the Commission, and the Court, in
12		Reedy Creek, seemed to focus.

13

14

Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?

15 A. Yes.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Rebuttal Testimony of Michael Cassel on behalf of the Florida Public Utilities Company – Indiantown Division has been served by Electronic Mail this 17th day of October, 2018, upon the following:

J.R. Kelly/Virginia Ponder Office of Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 W. Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400 ponder.virginia@leg.state.fl.us

By:

Beth Keating

Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. 215 South Monroe St., Suite 601 Tallahassee, FL 32301

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