BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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| --- | --- |
| In re: Application for limited proceeding rate increase in Brevard County, by Aquarina Utilities, Inc. | DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS  ORDER NO. PSC-2020-0158-PAA-WS  ISSUED: May 15, 2020 |

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

GARY F. CLARK, Chairman

ART GRAHAM

JULIE I. BROWN

DONALD J. POLMANN

ANDREW GILES FAY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER

APPROVING RATE INCREASE FOR AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.

AND PROCEDURAL AGENCY ACTION ORDER

ON RATE CASE EXPENSE AND TEMPORARY RATES

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) that the actions discussed herein, except for (1) the reduction of rates after four years based upon the recovery of rate case expense, and (2) the granting of temporary rates in the event of protest, are preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The reduction of rates after four years, and the granting of temporary rates in the event of protest are procedural agency actions and subject to reconsideration and appeal as described below under the heading, “NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW.”

Case Background

Aquarina Utilities, Inc., (Aquarina or Utility) is a Class B utility providing water and wastewater services in Brevard County to 320 potable water, 119 non-potable water, and 342 wastewater customers. In its 2019 Annual Report, Aquarina reported operating revenues of $192,312 for potable water, $256,822 for non-potable water, and $190,777 for wastewater service. The Utility’s rates were last set in 2019.[[1]](#footnote-1)

On April 1, 2019, Aquarina filed a request for a limited proceeding rate increase. The minimum filing requirements were met, and the official filing date was established as July 31, 2019. Aquarina is seeking to recover the revenue it lost as a result of Aquarina Golf, Inc., an irrigation customer, leaving the system in August 2019. In addition, the Utility is seeking recognition of capital improvements that have taken place since the last rate case.

A customer meeting was scheduled for March 26, 2020, in Melbourne Beach, Florida. However, due to travel restrictions implemented by the Department of Management Services (DMS), the customer meeting was cancelled. All customers were notified of the meeting cancellation and were advised that they could provide comments via letter, email, phone, fax, or through the Commission’s website. Customers also received a form for mailing in written comments and the Rate Case Overview that would have been distributed at the customer meeting. Of the eighteen customers who submitted comments, as of April 16, 2020, sixteen expressed concern regarding the proposed rate increase.

On April 3, 2020, the Office of Public Counsel (OPC) filed a Motion to Reschedule the Customer Meeting and Continue the Docket (Motion). In its Motion, OPC asked us to reschedule all remaining docket dates until a customer meeting could be held, or in the alternative, to reschedule the customer meeting to occur via videoconference. On April 6, 2020, Aquarina filed its Response in Opposition of OPC’s Motion. By Order No. PSC-2020-0109-PCO-WS, issued April 16, 2020, the Prehearing Officer denied OPC’s Motion.

This order addresses Aquarina’s requested water and wastewater rates. We have jurisdiction pursuant to Sections 367.081 and 367.0822, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

**Review and Decision**

**1. Limited Proceeding**

Limited proceedings generally address specific or significant changes that would adversely affect the normal operating income of the utility and are usually narrow in scope. We find that Aquarina’s case is sufficiently narrow in scope to qualify for a limited proceeding. Aquarina has met all minimum filing requirements as set forth in Rule 25-30.445, F.A.C.

***Secondary Water Quality Standards***

Pursuant to Rule 25-30.445(4)(o), F.A.C., utilities are required to provide this Commission with a copy of all customer complaints received by the utility regarding the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) secondary water quality standards for the past five years as well as a copy of its most recent secondary water quality standards test results. In the past five years, Aquarina received four complaints concerning grey discolored water. The Utility responded to these complaints stating the discoloration was due to a “slight increase in chlorine residual in the system.” Test results provided by Aquarina, dated October 24, 2018, indicated that the Utility is meeting the DEP’s secondary standards.

We also reviewed complaints received by this Commission and the DEP for the same five-year period. None of the complaints received by us concerned the DEP’s secondary water quality standards. However, the DEP received two complaints in February 2016, regarding secondary standards. The first of these complaints concerned cloudy water, which Aquarina stated was caused by air in the water. The second complaint raised concerns which were addressed in the prior rate case. The DEP conducted a sanitary survey on November 1, 2019, and determined the system to be in compliance with the DEP’s rules and regulations.

As discussed in the Case Background, a customer meeting was scheduled for March 26, 2020, in Melbourne Beach, Florida, but was cancelled due to travel restrictions implemented by the DMS. Customers received instructions on how to provide comments via letter, email, phone, fax, or through the Commission’s website. Of the eighteen customers that submitted comments, as of April 16, 2020, sixteen expressed concern regarding the proposed rate increase and not water quality.

Aquarina has provided the necessary information to comply with Rule 25-30.445(4)(o), F.A.C. Based on review of the information provided by the Utility, as well as supplemental information gathered throughout the course of this docket, we find that no action needs to be taken with respect to secondary standards.

***Rate Base***

Since its last rate case, the Utility made capital improvements to its potable and non-potable water systems, and to its wastewater system; the Utility has asked that these costs be included in rate base as a part of this proceeding. The plant additions, approved adjustments to accumulated depreciation, depreciation expense, non-used and useful (U&U),[[2]](#footnote-2) and taxes other than income (TOTI) are reflected below. Because Aquarina no longer provides service to the golf course, an adjustment is necessary for the “forced abandonment” of plant dedicated solely to the golf course.[[3]](#footnote-3) Additionally, as a result of approved changes to operating expenses, the Utility’s working capital allowance shall be updated. Our calculations are reflected below.

Plant Additions

*Potable Water System*

Aquarina provided an invoice in the amount of $16,500 for replacement of the water treatment plant’s roof. The Utility stated that the roof was in disrepair and needed to be replaced. The Utility noted that the old roof was installed in 2004 and that flat asphalt roofs do not last long on the island. We approve the request and the resulting net addition is $4,125 after retirement.

In the prior rate case, we approved Aquarina’s request to replace its reverse osmosis (RO) water treatment equipment due to the age and unavailability of parts for its existing equipment. Prior to the installation of the new RO equipment in December 2018, the RO service pump required a repair in June 2017 and was subsequently replaced in October 2017. The Utility provided invoices for the repair of the pump and associated fittings, along with the invoice for the new pump. We find that the purchases were prudent and note that these additions were not included in the prior rate case. The total requested was $12,976, resulting in a net addition of $6,121 after retirements.

*Non-Potable Water System*

The Utility provided invoices in the amount of $26,013 for repairs and replacement of pumps that primarily served the golf course. A review of the invoices shows the costs were incurred in 2017. We find that these costs were prudent as they were incurred before the golf course discontinued service in August 2019. As discussed below, the plant additions dedicated solely to the golf course shall be considered a forced abandonment and amortized. We find that the remaining purchases were prudent, resulting in a net addition of $1,248 after retirements.

*Wastewater System*

The Utility submitted invoices totaling $19,369 for repairs and replacements of two electrical panels, electrical equipment, and pump. These repairs were needed due to rust and corrosion. The Utility noted that the lift station is on a barrier island and is exposed to corrosive elements. We find that the costs were prudent, resulting in a net addition of $4,842 after retirements.

*Plant Additions Summary*

In total, we approve a net increase of $10,246 ($4,125 + $6,121) for potable water system additions, $1,248 for non-potable water system additions, and $4,842 for wastewater system additions. The Utility submitted final invoices only for the requested additions. No other bids were obtained due to the limited availability of local vendors. The adjustments for the additions and associated retirements are reflected in Schedule No. 1-D. The non-potable water system additions are discussed in the Forced Abandonment section below.

Based on the approved plant additions, the following corresponding adjustments shall also be made.

**Corresponding Adjustments**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **System** | **Accumulated Depreciation** | **Depreciation Expense** | **Non-U&U** | **TOTI** |
| Potable Water | $18,233 | $349 | ($1,757) | $134 |
| Non-Potable Water | $3,555 | $62 | $0 | $20 |
| Wastewater | $13,720 | $269 | $0 | $78 |

Our adjustments to accumulated depreciation and non-U&U are shown in Schedule No. 1-D, and adjustments for depreciation expense and TOTI are shown in Schedule No. 3-D. The approved potable water TOTI balance of $134 consists of two adjustments, an increase of $165 to recognize additional property taxes, and a decrease of $31 to recognize the application of non-U&U to TOTI.

Forced Abandonment

As discussed above, Aquarina requested $10,384 in plant additions for the non-potable water system, of which $1,248 is included as pro forma in the approved rate base. While the remaining non-potable water additions were prudent at this time, they were associated exclusively with the golf course that the Utility is no longer serving. These plant additions shall be considered a forced abandonment because the Utility is no longer serving the golf course; the associated costs shall be amortized as described below. Adjustments are necessary to recognize additional depreciation because it has been two years since the plant additions were put into service. We made an adjustment to reduce the plant additions by $456, to account for an additional year of accumulated depreciation.

Aquarina reviewed its records and concluded that no additional plant items were dedicated solely to the golf course. Because additional plant items cannot be attributed to the golf course, we find that the total amount of plant to be used in the calculation of the loss on abandonment is $8,679 ($10,384 - $1,248 - $456).

Rule 25-30.433(10), F.A.C., prescribes the calculation for determining the appropriate amortization period of forced abandonment or the prudent retirement of plant assets prior to the end of their depreciable life. We calculated the amortization period and expense as established in the rule. We approve an annual amortization expense of $774 over 11.21 years. To calculate the amortization period, we divided the net book value of $8,679 by the annual amortization expense of $774. Our calculations are summarized in the table below.

**Forced Abandonment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Net Book Value | $8,679 |
|  |  |
| Rate of Return | 3.66% |
|  |  |
| Return on Net Book Value | $318 |
| Depreciation Expense | $456 |
| Annual Amortization Expense | $774 |
|  |  |
| Annual Amortization Period | 11.21 Years |

Working Capital Allowance

Working capital is the short-term, investor-supplied funds that are necessary to meet operating expenses of the utility. Following the same methodology used in the last rate case, we calculated increases of $122 for potable water, $123 for non-potable water, and $122 for wastewater. Thus, we approve a working capital allowance of $15,661 for potable water, $23,914 for non-potable water, and $19,058 for wastewater.

Rate Base Summary

Based on the foregoing, the approved rate base is $249,211 for potable water, $177,513 for non-potable water, and $63,569 for wastewater. Rate base is shown on Schedule Nos. 1-A, 1-B, and 1-C, and the related adjustments are shown on Schedule No. 1-D.

***Rate of Return***

The capital structure used to determine the cost of capital in this docket is consistent with the capital structure used in the Utility’s last rate case. Rule 25-30.445(4)(e), F.A.C., requires that the weighted average cost of capital be calculated based on the most recent 12-month period and include all the appropriate capital structure components. We used the equity cost rate of 10.55 percent from the Utility’s last rate case. The capital structure reflects a negative retained earnings balance of $505,064. In the Utility’s last rate case, we identified negative retained earnings and removed the negative balance from our calculations. Consistent with the last rate case, we have removed the negative retained earnings balance of $505,064 for purposes of calculating the Utility’s rate of return.

The Utility’s capital structure has been reconciled with the approved rate base. We approve a return on equity of 10.55 percent, with a range of 9.55 percent to 11.55 percent, and an overall rate of return of 3.66 percent. The return on equity and overall rate of return are shown on Schedule No. 2.

***Operating Expenses***

The Utility has requested recovery of rate case expense. We adjusted TOTI. Our adjustments are discussed below.

Rate Case Expense

Aquarina initially submitted $28,296 in rate case expense, with an annual amortization expense of $7,074. The Utility provided updated rate case expenses. The updates reflected actual expenses of $4,841 for legal and $3,518 for the Utility’s rate case consultant through December 2019, with an additional $10,443 in estimated rate case expense. The breakdown of fees is shown below.

**Rate Case Expense**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expense** | **Utility Actual** | **Utility Estimated** | **Total Actual & Est. Rate Case Expense** |
| Legal Services & Fees  (Dean Mead) | $4,841 | $9,163 | $14,004 |
| Consulting Services  (OCBOA) | 3,518 | 380 | 3,898 |
| Noticing | 0 | 900 | 900 |
| Total | $8,359 | $10,443 | $18,802 |

Pursuant to Section 376.081(7), F.S., we must determine the reasonableness of rate case expense and disallow all expenses determined to be unreasonable. We examined the requested actual expenses, supporting documentation, and estimated expenses for the current case. Based on our review, adjustments are necessary to the Utility’s proposed rate case expense.

*Legal Services*

Aquarina requested $14,004 in legal fees and costs. This amount included a $1,200 filing fee. The Utility provided invoices from Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozarth, P.A. (Dean Mead) through December 2019, showing actual expenses associated with the rate case totaling $4,841, and estimated an additional $9,163 to complete. According to invoices, Dean Mead identified and billed the Utility $532 related to the correction of deficiencies. The Commission has previously disallowed rate case expense associated with correcting deficiencies, as it is duplicative of costs included in the filing fees. As such, we shall reduce actual legal fees by $532.

By letter dated March 13, 2020, our staff informed the Utility that its customer meeting had been cancelled. Dean Mead’s estimate to complete included six hours for travel time and attendance of the customer meeting. Because the customer meeting was cancelled, six hours, or $2,280 ($380 x 6) shall be removed from the estimate to complete. Dean Mead’s estimate to complete also included 10 hours for travel time and attendance at the Commission Conference. The Commission Conference was changed to a teleconference format in response to COVID-19, and all public participation was telephonic or by written comment. Thus, we find four hours to be a more appropriate amount of time to prepare and participate in the Commission Conference telephonically. As such, we reduce the request by an additional six hours, or $2,280, to remove travel time. Dean Mead included $658 in travel expenses for the firm to attend the customer meeting and Commission Conference, as well as $525 for Utility expenses to attend the Commission Conference. These expenses also shall be removed. Accordingly, we find that the appropriate amount of legal fees is $7,729, which represents a total reduction of $6,275 ($532 + $2,280 + $2,280 + $658 + $525).

*Consulting Services*

The Utility requested actual consulting services expense of $3,518 for services rendered by OCBOA Consulting, LLC through December 2019, and an additional $380 in estimated costs to complete. However, we only received invoices supporting $2,710 of actual costs incurred. As such, there shall be a reduction of $808 to actual consulting fees but find that the additional $380 for the estimated costs to complete is appropriate. Accordingly, we find that the appropriate amount of consulting services fees is $3,090.

*Noticing Costs*

Aquarina included estimated noticing costs of $900 in its request for rate case expense. The Utility is required by Rule 25-30.446, F.A.C., to provide notices of the customer meeting and of final rates in this case to its customers. The Utility is also required to provide notice to its customers when its rates are reduced to remove the amortized rate case expense. We have reviewed the Utility’s estimated costs and find the estimate to be reasonable. Accordingly, we approve noticing costs of $900.

*Rate Case Expense Summary*

Based on the foregoing, Aquarina’s total rate case expense shall be decreased by $7,083 ($6,275 + $808). With these adjustments, the appropriate rate case expense is $11,719; it shall be amortized over a four-year period at $2,930 per year, pursuant to Section 367.081(8), F.S. Consistent with the last rate case, we have allocated one-third of the annual rate case expense to each of the following: potable water; non-potable water; and wastewater. This results in annual rate case expense of $977 for potable water, non-potable water, and wastewater. A breakdown of rate case expense is shown below.

**Rate Case Expense**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expense** | **Utility Actual and Est.** | **Adjustments** | **Total Rate Case Expense** |
| Legal Services & Fees  (Dean Mead) | $14,004 | ($6,275) | $7,729 |
| Consulting Services (OCBOA) | 3,898 | (808) | 3,090 |
| Noticing | 900 | 0 | 900 |
| Total | $18,802 | ($7,083) | $11,719 |

Taxes Other Than Income

As discussed above, we made adjustments of $134 for potable water, $20 for non-potable water, and $78 for wastewater related to an increase of property taxes for pro forma plant. In addition we made adjustments to regulatory assessment fees (RAFs) to reflect the changes in revenue discussed below. As such, RAFs shall be increased by $115 for potable water, $95 for non-potable water, and $62 for wastewater, to reflect RAFs of 4.5 percent on the change in revenues. Based on these adjustments, we approve TOTI expenses of $21,205 for potable water, $26,026 for non-potable water, and $23,072 wastewater.

Operating Expense Summary

Our adjustments result in operating expenses of $159,246 for potable water, $242,394 for non-potable water, and $172,015 for wastewater. Operating expenses are shown on Schedule Nos. 3-A, 3-B, and 3-C. The adjustments are shown on Schedule No. 3-D.

***Revenue Requirement***

The appropriate revenue requirement for potable water is $168,365, resulting in an annual increase of $2,560, or 1.54 percent. The appropriate revenue requirement for non-potable water is $248,891, resulting in an annual increase of $2,108, or 0.85 percent.

In the last rate case the operating ratio methodology was applied to the wastewater system. Aquarina was granted an increase of $10,000. Our practice was to allow an operating margin of 10 percent, with increases capped at $10,000. Consistent with that decision, we have calculated a revenue requirement of $182,016 for wastewater, resulting in an annual increase of $1,387, or 0.77 percent. Our revenue requirement calculations are shown in the tables below.

**Potable Water Revenue Requirement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Adjusted Rate Base | $249,211 |
| Rate of Return | x 3.66% |
| Return on Rate Base | $9,119 |
| Adjusted O&M Expense | 125,287 |
| Net Depreciation Expense | 12,754 |
| Taxes Other Than Income | 21,205 |
| Revenue Requirement | $168,365 |
| Less Adjusted Test Year Revenues | 165,805 |
| Annual Increase | $2,560 |
| Percent Increase | 1.54% |

**Non-Potable Water Revenue Requirement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Adjusted Rate Base | $177,513 |
| Rate of Return | x 3.66% |
| Return on Rate Base | $6,497 |
| Adjusted O&M Expense | 191,309 |
| Net Depreciation Expense | 24,285 |
| Amortization | 774 |
| Taxes Other Than Income | 26,026 |
| Revenue Requirement | $248,891 |
| Less Adjusted Test Year Revenues | 246,783 |
| Annual Increase | $2,108 |
| Percent Increase | 0.85% |

**Wastewater Revenue Requirement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Adjusted O&M | $152,466 |
| Operating Margin (%) | x 6.56% |
| Operating Margin ($10,000 Cap) | $10,000 |
| Adjusted O&M Expense | 152,466 |
| Net Depreciation Expense | (3,523) |
| Taxes Other Than Income | 23,072 |
| Revenue Requirement | $182,016 |
| Less Adjusted Test Year Revenues | 180,628 |
| Annual Increase | $1,387 |
| Percent Increase | 0.77% |

**1. Rates**

***Non-Potable Water Rates***

The Utility’s non-potable system provides water for irrigation and for fire hydrants located throughout the Utility’s service area. In its 2015 rate case, the Utility was concerned that the non-potable water rates were set too high and would contribute to customers seeking an alternative water supply for irrigation. In addition, the Utility indicated that the Commission-approved non-potable water rates for irrigation, which are based on a separate revenue requirement, did not reflect that the non-potable system provides water to fire hydrants. In 2019, the golf course constructed its own source of water for irrigation and disconnected from the Utility’s non-potable water system. Because the fire protection benefits all customers, the Utility indicated that some of the non-potable water revenues should be shifted to the other services. The Utility is seeking to recover lost non-potable water revenues due to the loss of the golf course irrigation customer.

We recognize that the additional burden will be placed on the remaining non-potable water customers because of the loss of the golf course as a customer. We also recognize the Utility’s ongoing concern about the level of non-potable water rates. However, as discussed above, the non-potable water system is also the fire flow system. We have determined in prior dockets that the non-potable water distribution system is first and foremost a fire protection system and benefits all customers.[[4]](#footnote-4) If customers were to continue leaving the non-potable water system and find other irrigation sources, then the purpose of the non-potable water system would be just for fire flow and the cost would be ultimately borne by the general body of ratepayers.

It is important to find a balance in terms of cost recovery for the non-potable water system. Because the system functions as fire protection and benefits the general body of ratepayers, we find it appropriate to allocate a portion of the non-potable water revenue requirement to the other services. Moreover, the non-potable water rates must be restructured to account for the loss of the golf course and associated billing determinants.

The approved non-potable water revenue requirement is $248,891, which is an incremental increase above the Phase II revenue requirement approved in the Utility’s last rate case. The incremental increase represents pro forma items and rate case expense for the instant docket. However, subsequent to approval of the Phase II revenue requirement, the Utility had a price index increase in 2018 for the non-potable water system, which is not accounted for in the approved revenue requirement. In past dockets relating to rate restructuring because of a loss in billing determinants, we approved restructured rates that allowed a utility to recover a prior approved revenue requirement and any additional revenue increases as a result of an index or pass-through adjustment.[[5]](#footnote-5) The incremental increase for the 2018 price index was $2,457. Therefore, the non-potable water revenue requirement for purposes of restructuring the non-potable water rates shall be adjusted to $251,348 ($248,891 + $2,457).

The appropriate billing determinants for restructuring the non-potable water rates are the 2019 billing determinants, which are 5,160 equivalent residential connections (based on the number of metered irrigation customers) and 86,496,944 gallons. Based on 2019 billing determinants, excluding the golf course, the existing rates, and 2019 miscellaneous revenues of $769, we find non-potable water revenues to be $194,852. This is $56,496 ($251,348 - $194,852) less than the adjusted revenue requirement for restructuring the non-potable water rates. The non-potable water rates shall be restructured with revenues of $194,852, excluding miscellaneous revenues. The revenue difference of $56,496 shall be equally distributed between the potable water and wastewater services to recognize that the non-potable water system benefits all customers because of fire flow and to try to minimize any additional customer loss due to the level of non-potable water rates.

***Potable Water and Wastewater Rates***

As discussed above, the approved revenue requirements are incremental increases to the Commission-approved Phase II revenue requirements. Subsequent to the implementation of Phase II rates, the Utility had a price index adjustment for the potable water and wastewater systems, which is not reflected in the Phase II revenue requirement calculations. As a result, the Phase II rates shall be used as the basis for determining the incremental increase to be added to the Utility’s current rates. Since the implementation of Phase I rates, the Utility’s potable water system has been overearning and being netted against the wastewater system’s revenues.

When there are overearnings for a water and wastewater system, it has been our practice to avoid decreasing water rates by netting the revenues of the water and wastewater systems if the customer bases are similar. Decreasing the potable water rates undermines conservation efforts. Because there is a minimal difference between potable water and wastewater customers, we approved netting the potable water overearnings with the wastewater system increase in order to avoid decreasing potable water rates. Therefore, for Phase I, the potable water rates remained unchanged. The netting was also done with the Phase II revenues since the potable water was still overearning, but not as much as with Phase I. When Phase II rates were designed, some of the wastewater revenues that were netted with the potable water system in Phase I were shifted back to the wastewater system.

As discussed above, potable water and wastewater revenues shall each be increased by revenues of $28,248 ($56,496/2) to reflect the reallocation of non-potable water revenues. The approved revenue requirement of $168,365 for potable water is less than the revenues of $170,848 generated by the Phase II potable water rates. With the reallocation of non-potable water revenues, the potable water system has an increase of $25,765 ($28,248 - $2,483) and does not show an overearnings or a need for netting revenues with the wastewater system. For the wastewater system, the increase shall be $34,679, which is the $5,043 returned from the potable water system, the $1,387 for the limited proceeding incremental increase, and the $28,248 allocated from the non-potable water system. The Table below reflects the revenues we used to design rates.

**Approved Phase II and**

**Approved Revenue Requirements for Rate Setting**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Phase II** | | **Limited Proceeding** | |
|  |  | Potable Water | Wastewater | Potable Water | Wastewater |
| A | Commission-Approved/Staff Recommended Revenue Requirement | $165,805 | $180,628 | $168,365 | $182,016 |
| B | Revenue generated from rates | $170,848 | $167,070 | $170,848 | $175,585 |
| C | Revenue Increase/Decrease (A - B) | ($5,043) | $13,558 | ($2,483) | $6,431 |
| D | Netting | $5,043 | ($5,043) | -- | -- |
| E | Reallocation of Non-Potable Revenues | -- | -- | $28,248 | $28,248 |
| F | Total Revenue Increase (C + E) | $0 | $8,515 | $25,765 | $34,679 |
| G | Percent Increase to Rates (F / B) | 0% | 5.10% | 15.08% | 19.75% |
| H | Revenue Requirement for Rate Setting (B + F) | $170,848 | $175,585 | $196,613 | $210,264 |

For the limited proceeding, an allocation of non-potable water revenues to the potable water system results in an increase of 15.08 percent for the potable water system. The revenue increase of $25,765, excluding miscellaneous revenues of $3,413, results in 15.39 percent increase. For wastewater rates, an allocation of non-potable water revenues and return of revenues from potable water system results in an increase of 19.75 percent for the wastewater system. The revenue increase of $34,679, excluding miscellaneous revenues of $655, results in a 19.82 percent increase. The 15.39 percent increase for potable water and the 19.82 percent for wastewater shall be applied as an across-the-board increase to the Phase II rates (excluding the 2018 index).

Subsequent to the implementation of the Phase II rates, the Utility was approved for a 2019 price index increase effective August 9, 2019. In order to maintain the price index increase, the incremental difference between the Phase II (excluding the 2018 index) and limited proceeding rates shall be added to the Utility’s current potable water and wastewater rates.

The appropriate rates for Aquarina are shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B. The Utility shall file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the approved rates. The approved rates shall be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the approved rates shall not be implemented until our staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. The Utility shall provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

**2. Initial Customer Deposits**

Rule 25-30.311, F.A.C., provides the criteria for collecting, administering, and refunding customer deposits. Customer deposits are designed to minimize the exposure of bad debt expense for the Utility and, ultimately, the general body of ratepayers. An initial customer deposit ensures that the cost of providing service is recovered from the cost causer. Historically, we have set initial customer deposits equal to two times the average estimated bill. Currently, the Utility’s initial deposit for residential water is $68 for the 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter size and two times the estimated bill for the general service meter sizes. For wastewater, the Utility’s initial deposit for residential wastewater is $62 for the 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter size and two times the estimated bill for the general service meter sizes. However, these amounts do not cover two months’ average bills based on the approved rates. The Utility’s average monthly residential water usage is 2,236 gallons per customer. The Utility’s average monthly residential wastewater usage is 2,217 gallons per customer. Therefore, the average residential monthly bill based on the approved rates is approximately $41.20 for water and $43.65 for wastewater.

Thus, the initial customer deposits for the residential 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter shall be $82 for water and $87 for wastewater. The initial customer deposits for all other residential meter sizes and all general service meter sizes shall be two times the average estimated bill for water and wastewater. The approved initial customer deposits shall be effective for services rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. The Utility shall collect the approved deposits until authorized to change them in a subsequent proceeding.

**4. Removal of the Amortized Rate Case Expense** (Procedural Agency Action)

The water rates shall be reduced, as shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B, to remove the annual amortization of rate case expense grossed-up for RAFs. The decrease in rates shall become effective immediately following the expiration of the rate case expense recovery period, pursuant to Section 367.081(8), F.S. Aquarina shall file revised tariffs and a proposed customer notice setting forth the lower rates and the reason for the reduction no later than one month prior to the actual date of the required rate reduction. If the Utility files this reduction in conjunction with a price index or pass-through rate adjustment, separate data shall be filed for the price index and/or pass-through increase or decrease and the reduction in the rates due to the amortized rate case expense.

**3. Temporary Rates** (Procedural Agency Action)

By this order the Commission proposes an increase in rates. A timely protest might delay what may be a justified rate increase resulting in an unrecoverable loss of revenue to the Utility. Therefore, pursuant to Section 367.081(2), F.S., which requires this Commission to “fix rates which are just, reasonable, compensatory, and not unfairly discriminatory,” and consistent with prior Commission orders, in the event of a protest filed by a party other than the Utility, the approved rates shall be approved as temporary rates. The Utility shall file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates shall be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the temporary rates shall not be implemented until our staff has approved the proposed notice, and the notice has been received by the customers. The approved rates collected by the Utility shall be subject to the refund provisions discussed below.

The Utility shall be authorized to collect the temporary rates upon our staff’s approval of an appropriate security for the potential refund and the proposed customer notice. Security shall be in the form of a bond or letter of credit in the amount of $4,915. Alternatively, the Utility could establish an escrow agreement with an independent financial institution.

If the Utility chooses a bond as security, the bond shall contain wording to the effect that it will be terminated only under the following conditions:

1. The Commission approves the rate increase; or,
2. If the Commission denies the increase, the utility shall refund the amount collected that is attributable to the increase.

If the utility chooses a letter of credit as a security, it shall contain the following conditions:

1. The letter of credit is irrevocable for the period it is in effect.
2. The letter of credit will be in effect until a final Commission order is rendered, either approving or denying the rate increase.

If security is provided through an escrow agreement, the following conditions shall be part of the agreement:

1. The Commission Clerk, or his or her designee, must be a signatory to the escrow agreement.
2. No money in the escrow account may be withdrawn by the Utility without the prior written authorization of the Commission Clerk, or his or her designee.
3. The escrow account shall be an interest-bearing account.
4. If a refund to the customers is required, all interest earned by the escrow account shall be distributed to the customers.
5. If a refund to the customers is not required, the interest earned by the escrow account shall revert to the Utility.
6. All information on the escrow account shall be available from the holder of the escrow account to a Commission representative at all times.
7. The amount of revenue subject to refund shall be deposited in the escrow account within seven days of receipt.
8. This escrow account is established by the direction of the Florida Public Service Commission for the purpose(s) set forth in its order requiring such account. Pursuant to *Cosentino v. Elson*, 263 So. 2d 253 (Fla. 3d DCA 1972), escrow accounts are not subject to garnishments.
9. The account must specify by whom and on whose behalf such monies were paid.

In no instance shall the maintenance and administrative costs associated with the refund be borne by the customers. These costs are the responsibility of, and shall be borne by, the Utility. Without respect to the form of security chosen by the Utility, an account of all money received as a result of the rate increase shall be maintained by the Utility. If a refund is ultimately required, it shall be paid with interest calculated pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(4), F.A.C.

The Utility shall maintain a record of the amount of the bond, and the amount of revenues that are subject to refund. In addition, after the increased rates are in effect, pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(6), F.A.C., the Utility shall file reports with the Office of Commission Clerk no later than the 20th of every month indicating the monthly and total amount of money subject to refund at the end of the preceding month. The report filed shall also indicate the status of the security being used to guarantee repayment of any potential refund.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Aquarina Utilities, Inc.’s request for a limited proceeding rate increase is approved as modified. An annual increase of $2,560 or 1.54 percent, is approved for potable water, resulting in an adjusted revenue requirement of $168,365. An annual increase of $2,108, or 0.85 percent, is approved for non-potable water, resulting in an adjusted revenue requirement of $248,891. An annual increase of $1,387, or 0.77 percent, is approved for wastewater resulting in an adjusted revenue requirement of $182,016. The adjusted revenue requirements are reflected on Schedule Nos. 3-A, 3-B, and 3-C. It is further

ORDERED that the approved rates for Aquarina Utilities, Inc. are shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B. The Utility shall file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the approved rates. The approved rates shall be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the approved rates shall not be implemented until our staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. Aquarina Utilities, Inc. shall provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice. It is further,

ORDERED that the initial customer deposits for the residential 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter shall be $82 for water and $87 for wastewater. The initial customer deposits for all other residential meter sizes and all general service meter sizes shall be two times the average estimated bill for water and wastewater. The approved initial customer deposits shall be effective for services rendered, or connections made, on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. Aquarina Utilities, Inc. shall collect the approved deposits until authorized to change them in a subsequent proceeding. It is further

ORDERED that the water rates shall be reduced, as shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B, to remove the annual amortization of rate case expense grossed-up for RAFs. The decrease in rates shall become effective immediately following the expiration of the rate case expense recovery period. Aquarina Utilities, Inc. shall file revised tariffs and a proposed customer notice setting forth the lower rates and the reason for the reduction no later than one month prior to the actual date of the required rate reduction. If Aquarina Utilities, Inc. files this reduction in conjunction with a price index or pass-through rate adjustment, separate data shall be filed for the price index and/or pass-through increase or decrease and the reduction in the rates due to the amortized rate case expense. ***(Procedural Agency Action)*** It is further

ORDERED that, in the event of a protest filed by a substantially affected person or party, the approved rates shall be approved for the Utility on a temporary basis, subject to refund. Aquarina shall file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates shall be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the temporary rates shall not be implemented until our staff has approved the proposed notice, and the notice has been received by the customers. Prior to implementation of any temporary rates, the Utility shall provide appropriate security. If the approved rates are approved on a temporary basis, the rates collected by Aquarina shall be subject to the refund as set forth in the body of this order. In addition, after the increased rates are in effect, pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(6), F.A.C., the Utility shall file reports with the Commission Clerk’s office no later than the 20th of every month indicating the monthly and total amount of money subject to refund at the end of the preceding month. The report filed shall also indicate the status of the security being used to guarantee repayment of any potential refund. ***(Procedural Agency Action)*** It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the “Notice of Further Proceedings” attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that in the event this order becomes final, this docket shall remain open for our staff’s verification that the revised tariff sheets and customer notice have been filed by the Utility and approved by our staff. Once these actions are complete, this docket shall be closed administratively.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 15th day of May, 2020.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | /s/ Adam J. Teitzman |
|  | ADAM J. TEITZMAN  Commission Clerk |

Florida Public Service Commission

2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard

Tallahassee, Florida 32399

(850) 413‑6770

www.floridapsc.com

Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

CWM

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

As identified in the body of this order, our actions are preliminary in nature, except for (1) the reduction of rates after four years based upon the recovery of rate case expense, and (2) the granting of temporary rates in the event of protest. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Office of Commission Clerk, at 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on June 5, 2020. If such a petition is filed, mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing. In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become effective and final upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's procedural action in this matter may request: (1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Office of Commission Clerk, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or (2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Office of Commission Clerk and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

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| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | | | **SCHEDULE NO. 1-A** | |
| **SCHEDULE OF POTABLE WATER RATE BASE** | | | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **BALANCE** |  | **BALANCE** |
|  |  | **PER** | **ADJUSTMENTS** |  |
|  | **DESCRIPTION** | **2015 SARC Phase II** | **TO UTIL. BAL.** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE | $1,462,628 | $10,246 | $1,472,874 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | LAND & LAND RIGHTS | 37,582 | 0 | 37,582 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | NON-USED AND USEFUL COMPONENT | (68,910) | (1,757) | (70,667) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION | (1,035,947) | 18,233 | (1,017,714) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | CIAC | (337,868) | 0 | (337,868) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | AMORTIZATION OF CIAC | 149,343 | 0 | 149,343 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | WORKING CAPITAL ALLOWANCE | 15,539 | 122 | 15,661 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | WATER RATE BASE | $222,367 | $26,844 | $249,211 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

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| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | |  | **SCHEDULE NO. 1-B** | |
| **SCHEDULE OF NON-POTABLE WATER RATE BASE** | | | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **BALANCE** |  | **BALANCE** |
|  |  | **PER** | **ADJUSTMENTS** |  |
|  | **DESCRIPTION** | **2015 SARC Phase II** | **TO UTIL. BAL.** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE | $945,345 | $1,248 | $946,593 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | LAND & LAND RIGHTS | 24,498 | 0 | 24,498 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | NON-USED AND USEFUL COMPONENT | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION | (805,374) | 3,555 | (801,818) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | CIAC | (35,785) | 0 | (35,785) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | AMORTIZATION OF CIAC | 20,111 | 0 | 20,111 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | WORKING CAPITAL ALLOWANCE | 23,791 | 123 | 23,914 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | WATER RATE BASE | $172,587 | $4,926 | $177,513 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

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| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | |  | **SCHEDULE NO. 1-C** | |
| **SCHEDULE OF WASTEWATER RATE BASE** | | | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **BALANCE** | **STAFF** | **BALANCE** |
|  |  | **PER** | **ADJUSTMENTS** | **PER** |
|  | **DESCRIPTION** | **2015 SARC Phase II** | **TO UTIL. BAL.** | **STAFF** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE | $1,625,299 | $4,842 | $1,630,142 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | LAND & LAND RIGHTS | 33,680 | 0 | 33,680 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | NON-USED AND USEFUL COMPONENT | (65,542) | 0 | (65,542) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION | (1,320,255) | 13,720 | (1,306,535) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | CIAC | (597,343) | 0 | (597,343) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | AMORTIZATION OF CIAC | 350,109 | 0 | 350,109 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | WORKING CAPITAL ALLOWANCE | 18,936 | 122 | 19,058 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | WASTEWATER RATE BASE | $44,885 | $18,684 | $63,569 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

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| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | | **SCHEDULE NO. 1-D** | | |
| **ADJUSTMENTS TO RATE BASE** | | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **POTABLE WATER** | **NON-POTABLE WATER** | **WASTEWATER** |
|  | **UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE** |  |  |  |
| 1. | To reflect appropriate pro forma plant additions. | $29,476 | $4,990 | $19,369 |
| 2. | To reflect retirement associated with pro forma plant additions. | (19,230) | (3,743) | (14,527) |
|  | Total | $10,246 | $1,248 | $4,842 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION** |  |  |  |
| 1. | To reflect pro forma plant additions. | ($997) | ($187) | ($807) |
| 2. | To reflect retirement associated with pro forma plant additions. | 19,230 | 3,743 | 14,527 |
|  | Total | $18,233 | $3,555 | $13,720 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **NON-USED AND USEFUL** |  |  |  |
| 1. | To reflect the appropriate Non-U&U UPIS. | ($1,947) | $0 | $0 |
| 2. | To reflect the appropriate Non-U&U Accumulated Depreciation. | 189 | 0 | 0 |
|  | Total | ($1,757) | $0 | $0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **WORKING CAPITAL ALLOWANCE** |  |  |  |
|  | To reflect 1/8 of test year O & M expenses. | $122 | $123 | $122 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | | | | |  | **SCHEDULE NO. 2** | | | |
| **SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE** | | | |  |  | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | **TEST YEAR** | **ADJUSTMENTS** | **RECONCILED** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | **BALANCE** | **TO** | **CAPITAL** | **PERCENT** |  |  |
|  |  | **PER** | **ADJUST-** |  | **RECONCILE** | **STRUCTURE** | **OF** |  | **WEIGHTED** |
|  | **CAPITAL COMPONENT** | **UTILITY** | **MENTS** |  | **TO RATE BASE** |  | **TOTAL** | **COST** | **COST** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | COMMON STOCK | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| 2. | CAPITAL STOCK | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| 3. | RETAINED EARNINGS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| 4. | OTHER PAID IN CAPITAL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| 5. | OTHER COMMON EQUITY | (505,064) | 505,064 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 10.55% | 0.00% |
|  | TOTAL COMMON EQUITY | ($505,064) | $505,064 | $0 | $0 | $0 | 0.00% | 10.55% | 0.00% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | LONG-TERM DEBT | $446,751 | $0 | $446,751 | $43,381 | $490,132 | 99.97% | 3.66% | 3.66% |
| 7. | SHORT-TERM DEBT | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| 8. | PREFERRED STOCK | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
|  | TOTAL DEBT | $446,751 | $0 | $446,751 | $43,381 | $490,132 | 99.97% | 3.66% | 3.66% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. | CUSTOMER DEPOSITS | 161 | 0 | 161 | 0 | 161 | 0.03% | 2.00% | 0.00% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. | TOTAL | ($58,152) | $505,064 | $446,912 | $43,381 | $490,293 | 100.00% |  | 3.66% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | **RANGE OF REASONABLENESS** | |  | **LOW** | **HIGH** |  |
|  |  |  |  | RETURN ON EQUITY | |  | 9.55% | 11.55% |  |
|  |  |  |  | OVERALL RATE OF RETURN | |  | 3.66% | 3.66% |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | |  |  |  | **SCHEDULE NO. 3-A** | |
| **SCHEDULE OF POTABLE WATER OPERATING INCOME** | | | |  | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **APPROVED** |  | **STAFF** | **ADJUST.** |  |
|  |  | **IN 2015** | **STAFF** | **ADJUSTED** | **FOR** | **REVENUE** |
|  |  | **SARC Phase II** | **ADJUSTMENTS** | **TEST YEAR** | **INCREASE** | **REQUIREMENT** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | **OPERATING REVENUES** | $165,805 | $0 | $165,805 | $2,560 | $168,365 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1.54% |  |
|  | **OPERATING EXPENSES:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | OPERATION & MAINTENANCE | $124,310 | $977 | $125,287 | $0 | $125,287 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | DEPRECIATION | 12,405 | 349 | 12,754 | 0 | 12,754 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | AMORTIZATION | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME | 20,956 | 134 | 21,090 | 115 | 21,205 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | INCOME TAXES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | **TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** | $157,670 | $1,461 | $159,130 | $115 | $159,246 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | **OPERATING INCOME** | $8,135 |  | $6,674 |  | $9,119 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. | **WATER RATE BASE** | $222,367 |  | $249,211 |  | $249,211 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. | **RATE OF RETURN** | 3.66% |  |  |  | 3.66% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | |  |  |  | **SCHEDULE NO. 3-B** | |
| **SCHEDULE OF NON-POTABLE WATER OPERATING INCOME** | | | |  | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **APPROVED** |  | **STAFF** | **ADJUST.** |  |
|  |  | **IN 2015** | **STAFF** | **ADJUSTED** | **FOR** | **REVENUE** |
|  |  | **SARC Phase II** | **ADJUSTMENTS** | **TEST YEAR** | **INCREASE** | **REQUIREMENT** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | **OPERATING REVENUES** | $246,783 | $0 | $246,783 | $2,108 | $248,891 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 0.85% |  |
|  | **OPERATING EXPENSES:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | OPERATION & MAINTENANCE | $190,332 | $977 | $191,309 | $0 | $191,309 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | DEPRECIATION | 24,222 | 62 | 24,285 | 0 | 24,285 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | AMORTIZATION | 0 | 774 | 774 | 0 | 774 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME | 25,911 | 20 | 25,931 | 95 | 26,026 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | INCOME TAXES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | **TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** | $240,466 | $1,834 | $242,299 | $95 | $242,394 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | **OPERATING INCOME** | $6,317 |  | $4,483 |  | $6,497 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. | **WATER RATE BASE** | $172,587 |  | $177,513 |  | $177,513 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. | **RATE OF RETURN** | 3.66% |  |  |  | 3.66% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | |  |  |  | **SCHEDULE NO. 3-C** | |
| **SCHEDULE OF WASTEWATER OPERATING INCOME** | | |  |  | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **APPROVED** |  | **STAFF** | **ADJUST.** |  |
|  |  | **IN 2015** | **STAFF** | **ADJUSTED** | **FOR** | **REVENUE** |
|  |  | **SARC Phase II** | **ADJUSTMENTS** | **TEST YEAR** | **INCREASE** | **REQUIREMENT** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | **OPERATING REVENUES** | $180,628 | $0 | $180,628 | $1,387 | $182,016 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 0.77% |  |
|  | **OPERATING EXPENSES:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | OPERATION & MAINTENANCE | $151,489 | $977 | $152,466 | $0 | $152,466 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | DEPRECIATION (NET) | (3,792) | 269 | (3,523) | 0 | (3,523) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | AMORTIZATION | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME | 22,932 | 78 | 23,010 | 62 | 23,072 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | INCOME TAXES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | **TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** | $170,628 | $1,324 | $171,953 | $62 | $172,015 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | **OPERATING INCOME** | $10,000 |  | $8,676 |  | $10,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. | **WASTEWATER OPERATING EXPENSES** | $151,489 |  | $63,569 |  | $152,466 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. | **OPERATING MARGIN** | 10.00% |  | 13.65% |  | 6.56% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AQUARINA UTILITIES, INC.** | | **Schedule No. 3-D** | | |
| **ADJUSTMENTS TO OPERATING INCOME** | | **DOCKET NO. 20190080-WS** | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **WATER** | **NP WATER** | **WASTEWATER** |
|  | **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES** |  |  |  |
|  | Regulatory Commission Expense (665/765) |  |  |  |
|  | To reflect appropriate amortized rate case expense. | $977 | $977 | $977 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **TOTAL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE ADJUSTMENTS** | $977 | $977 | $977 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **DEPRECIATION EXPENSE** |  |  |  |
| 1. | To reflect net depreciation expense associated with pro forma plant additions. | $431 | $62 | $269 |
| 2. | To reflect the appropriate Non-U&U | (82) | 0 | 0 |
|  | Total | $349 | $62 | $269 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **AMORTIZATION EXPENSE** |  |  |  |
| 1. | To reflect loss on early abandonment | $0 | $774 | $0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME** |  |  |  |
| 1. | To reflect appropriate taxes associated with pro forma plant additions. | $165 | $20 | $78 |
| 2. | To reflect the appropriate Non-U&U | (31) | 0 | 0 |
|  | Total | $134 | $20 | $78 |
|  |  |  |  |  |





1. Order No. PSC-2019-0139-PAA-WS, issued April 22, 2019, in Docket No. 20150010-WS, *In re: Application for staff-assisted rate case in Brevard County by Aquarina Utilities, Inc.,* approving Phase II rates for potable water and wastewater. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Aquarina’s U&U percentages were set in Order No. PSC 16-0583-PAA-WS, issued December 29, 2016, in Docket No. 20150010-WS, *In re: Application for staff-assisted rate case in Brevard County by Aquarina Utilities, Inc.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The concept of forced abandonment is discussed in more detail below under a separate heading. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Order Nos. PSC-03-1342-PAA-WS, issued November 24, 2003, in Docket No, 20021228-WS, *In re: Application for staff-assisted rate case by Service Management Systems, Inc.,* p. 20;and PSC-95-1417-FOF-WS, issued November 21, 1995, in Docket No. 19941234-WS*, In re: Application for staff-assisted rate case in Brevard County by Aquarina Developments, Inc.*, p. 22. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Order Nos. PSC-17-0108-PAA-WU, issued March 27, 2017, in Docket No. 20160145-WU, *In re: Application for limited proceeding in St. Johns County, by Camachee Island Company, Inc. d/b/a Camachee Cove Yacht Harbor Utility*.; and PSC- 13-0647-PAA-WU, issued December 5, 2013, in Docket No. 20130155-WU, *In re: Application for limited proceeding increase in rates in Escambia county by Peoples Water Service Company of Florida, Inc.* [↑](#footnote-ref-5)