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BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20210122-WS

Proposed amendment of Rules
25-30.025, 25-30.4345, 25-30.445,
25-30.446, 25-30.455, 25-30.456,
and 25-30.565, F.A.C., related to
water and wastewater utilities.

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PROCEEDINGS: COMMISSION CONFERENCE AGENDA
ITEM NO. 2

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN ANDREW GILES FAY
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER GARY CLARK
COMMISSIONER MIKE LA ROSA
COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

DATE: Tuesday, April 5, 2022

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: DANA W. REEVES
Court Reporter and
Notary Public in and for
the State of Florida at Large

PREMIER REPORTING
112 W. 5TH AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
(850) 894-0828

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: Commissioners, we will next
3 move to Item 2 for discussion. I'll give everyone
4 a minute just to get their seats and settled in,
5 then we'll take up Item 2.

6 All right. Ms. Cowdery, good to see you
7 again.

8 MS. COWDERY: Good morning.

9 CHAIRMAN FAY: You're recognized to present
10 the item.

11 MS. COWDERY: Item 2 is a continuation of the
12 rulemaking process for proposed Rule 25-30.445,
13 general information and instructions required of
14 water and wastewater utilities in an application
15 for a limited proceeding. The purpose of this item
16 is for the Commission to decide whether to make
17 changes to the limited proceeding rule as it was
18 proposed on October 14th, 2021.

19 Mr. Chairman, would you like me to go back
20 over sort of the procedure we've gone through or
21 continue on with recognizing participants --

22 CHAIRMAN FAY: Ms. Cowdery, if you could, just
23 give us a quick summary, because I think we're in
24 the posture of the Commission already accepting the
25 proposed, and so the changes presented here would

1 be arguably made to the original proposal.

2 MS. COWDERY: I think you've just done it.

3 That's where we are.

4 CHAIRMAN FAY: All right. Well, that's where
5 we are then.

6 With that, I'll recognize OPC, Ms. Wessling,
7 and then Mr. Deason, if you'd like to make any
8 comments. You're recognized.

9 MS. WESSLING: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ali
10 Wessling for the Office of Public Counsel. And
11 just wanted to be here to, first of all, express
12 our appreciation for all the opportunities for
13 discussion and analysis that's been done on this
14 rule. Our concerns remain the same, both -- you've
15 heard them all before. I won't, you know,
16 reiterate them, but we would renew those same
17 concerns and ask that if you are inclined to change
18 this rule, that you only raise the project limit
19 for either Class B and C, or SARC-eligible
20 companies, as we've previously suggested. We do --
21 we would like to see the limited proceedings remain
22 limited, and we feel that this rule amendment does
23 unnecessarily expand the parameters of the limited
24 proceeding rule. But, again, we do appreciate all
25 the consideration and discussion that's gone into

1 this. And we're available for any questions that
2 you all may have.

3 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you, Ms.
4 Wessling. Mr. Deason, you're welcome to provide a
5 response if you'd like to.

6 MR. DEASON: Yes, if you don't mind.

7 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yes. Go ahead.

8 MR. DEASON: Jared Deason with Sunshine Water
9 Services. Yeah, I just want to say that I support
10 staff's recommendation. I think it's a step in the
11 right direction. It is taking advantage of
12 efficiencies that are being gained in the limited
13 proceeding method of ratemaking. Just speaking for
14 my company, usually we file a fully-litigated rate
15 case, and those are extremely time-intensive and
16 expensive, expensive for customers. The last two
17 rate cases averaged right around a million dollars
18 in rate case expense. Limited proceedings are much
19 more efficient, they're much more cost-effective.
20 And by expanding from four to six projects makes
21 them much -- a much more viable option for water
22 companies. And, in the end, I think it's not only
23 a win for water companies, but it's also a win for
24 customers, as well, through reduced rate case
25 expense. Thanks.

1 CHAIRMAN FAY: Thank you. And I just want to
2 say I think the interested persons on this issue
3 did a good job of articulating your sides and the
4 potential changes that could be made by the
5 Commission as presented.

6 So, with that, Commissioners, I'd be happy to
7 open up any discussion on the item, if there --
8 I'll also entertain a motion. Commissioner Clark,
9 I'll recognize you for discussion.

10 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
11 Let me say thank you to the staff for the work that
12 they did on this proposed rule, particularly for
13 digging into those concerns that both Commissioner
14 Graham and I had addressed at our last hearing.
15 Last time we heard this, I think I was looking for
16 us to be able to find some sort of place of
17 compromise where we could agree that -- agree on
18 that particular portion of this rule, but sometimes
19 not everybody's able to get there, and I think the
20 rule that was originally proposed was a good rule.
21 It continues to be a good rule. It's a sound rule,
22 even if it's not exactly what everybody's looking
23 for. I know we're going to have a chance to deal
24 with the specific merits of each case as they come
25 before the Commission, and we'll deal with those on

1 a case-by-case basis at that particular time.

2 And, with that, Mr. Chairman, I can support
3 staff's recommendation on this rule.

4 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you, Commissioner
5 Clark. I will take that as a motion, but first
6 just want to make sure that Commissioners don't
7 have any other comments?

8 With that, we have a motion for approval on
9 staff recommendation.

10 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN FAY: We have a second. All that
12 approve, say aye.

13 (Chorus of ayes.)

14 CHAIRMAN FAY: None opposed. With that, Item
15 2 passes unanimously. Thank you.

16 (Agenda item concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

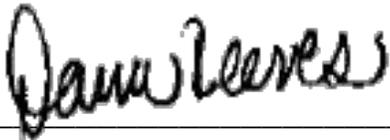
STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DANA W. REEVES, Professional Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the time and place herein stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED THIS 15th day of April, 2022.



DANA W. REEVES
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #GG970595
EXPIRES MARCH 22, 2024