

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 9

VOTE SHEET

August 1, 2023

FILED 8/1/2023
DOCUMENT NO. 04435-2023
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

Docket No. 20230029-GU – Petition for approval of gas utility access and replacement directive, by Florida Public Utilities Company.

Issue 1: Should the Commission approve FPUC's proposed Gas Utility Access and Replacement Directive's (GUARD) program to be implemented on January 1, 2024?

Recommendation: Yes, in part. The Commission should approve FPUC's proposed 10-year GUARD program and its associated components for: (1) replacement of problematic pipes and (2) relocation of mains and facilities from rear lot to front lot easements, to be implemented as an annual surcharge mechanism starting on January 1, 2024. The above two components of the proposed GUARD program should enhance the safety and accessibility of portions of its natural gas distribution system. The Commission should deny inclusion of the proposed reliability program component because they are part of the utility's normal operations and therefore more appropriately addressed through traditional ratemaking processes.

FPUC should be required to file its annual GUARD program petitions to revise the surcharge on or before September 1 of each year and implement the revised surcharge effective January 1 through December 31 of the following year. The first petition should be filed on September 1, 2023, for GUARD factors to be effective January 1 through December 31, 2024. The annual GUARD program petitions should include all calculations to show a final true-up, actual-estimated true-up, projected year investments and associated revenue requirements, and the calculations of the GUARD factors by rate class. The annual petitions should also include a report including the location, date, description, and associated costs of all replacement projects completed and all projects scheduled for the following year. The remaining GRIP total investment of \$5.84 million and any remaining GRIP over- or under-recoveries should be included in the 2024 GUARD cost recovery. In FPUC's next rate case, and any subsequent rate cases, the GUARD revenue requirement should be moved into rate base.

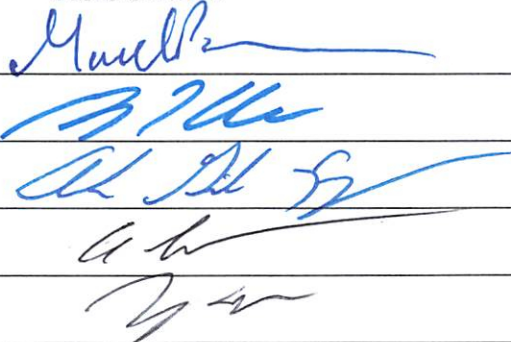
APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING



REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

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Issue 2: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: Yes. If no protest is filed by a person whose substantial interests are affected within 21 days of the issuance of the Order, this docket should be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

APPROVED