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BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20230004-GU

In re: Natural gas conservation
cost recovery.

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PROCEEDINGS: PREHEARING CONFERENCE

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: COMMISSIONER MIKE LA ROSA

DATE: Tuesday, October 17, 2023

TIME: Commenced: 9:30 a.m.
Concluded: 10:18 a.m.

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

REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
Court Reporter

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

1 APPEARANCES:

2 BETH KEATING, ESQUIRE, Gunster Law Firm, 215
3 South Monroe Street, Suite 601, Tallahassee, Florida
4 32301; CHRISTOPHER T. WRIGHT, ESQUIRE, 700 Universe
5 Boulevard, Juno Beach, Florida 33408-2863; appearing on
6 behalf of Florida City Gas (FCG).

7 BETH KEATING, ESQUIRE, Gunster Law Firm, 215
8 South Monroe Street, Suite 601, Tallahassee, Florida
9 32301; appearing on behalf of Florida Public Utilities
10 Company, Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC), and on
11 behalf of Sebring Gas System (SEBRING).

12 J. JEFFREY WAHLEN, MALCOLM N. MEANS and
13 VIRGINIA PONDER, ESQUIRES, Ausley Law Firm, Post Office
14 Box 391, Tallahassee, Florida 32302; appearing on behalf
15 of Peoples Gas System, Inc. (PGS).

16 WALT TRIERWEILER, PUBLIC COUNSEL; CHARLES J.
17 REHWINKEL, DEPUTY PUBLIC COUNSEL, PATRICIA A.
18 CHRISTENSEN, MARY A. WESSLING and OCTAVIO PONCE,
19 ESQUIRES, OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL, c/o The Florida
20 Legislature, 111 West Madison Street, Room 812,
21 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400; appearing on behalf of
22 the Citizens of the State of Florida (OPC).

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1 APPEARANCES CONTINUED:

2 TIMOTHY SPARKS and CARLOS MARQUEZ, II,
3 ESQUIRES, FPSC General Counsel's Office, 2540 Shumard
4 Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850,
5 appearing on behalf of the Florida Public Service
6 Commission (Staff).

7 KEITH C. HETRICK, GENERAL COUNSEL; SAMANTHA
8 CIBULA, ESQUIRE, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540
9 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850,
10 Advisor to the Florida Public Service Commission.

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

2 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Okay. Let's exit the
3 03 docket and let's move into the 04.

4 Mr. Sparks, are there any other preliminary
5 matters that need to be addressed before we go into
6 the predraft -- the prehearing order?

7 MR. SPARKS: Yes. Staff notes that St. Joe
8 Natural Gas Company has been excused from the
9 Prehearing Conference in this docket.

10 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Excellent, seeing them
11 excused.

12 Any of the parties have any other preliminary
13 matters? Seeing none.

14 Again, I am going to go through each section
15 quickly so please feel free to jump in.

16 Section 1, Case Background.

17 Section II, Conduct of Proceedings.

18 Section III, Jurisdiction.

19 Section IV, Procedures in Handling
20 Confidential Information.

21 Section V, Prefiled Testimony and Exhibit and
22 Witnesses, staff.

23 MR. SPARKS: Staff suggests for any witness
24 who is not excused, that the summary of their
25 testimony be no longer than three minutes.

1 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: All parties are in
2 agreement with that? Seeing no objection.

3 Order of the witnesses, staff.

4 MS. SPARKMAN: If the parties are willing to
5 excuse witnesses, staff will confirm with each
6 Commissioner that the witnesses can be excused. If
7 no Commissioner has any questions of those
8 witnesses, the witness may be excused from the
9 hearing and his or her testimony and exhibits
10 entered into the record and though read.

11 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Excellent, let's move
12 on now to basic positions. Do the parties have any
13 changes to their basic positions other than what's
14 been noted? Seeing none.

15 Staff, let's move to issues and positions.

16 MR. SPARKS: Staff notes that for issues in
17 which a party has taken no position at this time,
18 if a party does not take a position on these
19 issues, per the Order Establishing Procedure, there
20 position will be changed to no position in the
21 prehearing order.

22 Additionally, per the Order Establishing
23 Procedure, if a party fails to take a position on
24 an issue by the time of the Prehearing Conference,
25 the party waives its opportunity to conduct

1 cross-examination on the issue, as well as file a
2 post-hearing brief on the issue.

3 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Excellent.

4 Parties, anything else that needs to be
5 discussed? Okay, seeing none.

6 Staff, let's move to the exhibit list.

7 MR. SPARKS: Staff will note that we have
8 prepared and circulated a draft comprehensive
9 exhibit list that includes all prefiled exhibits.
10 Staff will check with the parties prior to the
11 hearing to determine if there are any objections to
12 the comprehensive exhibit list.

13 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Okay. Let's move to
14 proposed stipulations.

15 MR. SPARKS: There are no proposed
16 stipulations at this time.

17 MR. ROSEN: Pending motions.

18 MR. SPARKS: There are no pending motions.

19 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Pending confidential
20 motions.

21 MR. SPARKS: There are no pending
22 confidentiality motions.

23 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Let's review the
24 post-hearing procedures.

25 MR. SPARKS: If parties agree to waive briefs,

1 the Commission may make a bench decision for this
2 docket. If there are issues to be briefed, staff
3 recommends post-hearing briefs be no longer than 40
4 pages.

5 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: 40 pages it is, parties
6 agree? I am very excited about that.

7 Rulings, move on to that, staff, please.

8 MR. SPARKS: Staff recommends that you make a
9 ruling that opening statements, if any, should not
10 exceed three minutes per party unless any party
11 chooses to waive its opening statement.

12 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: All right. Three
13 minutes it is, so then let's move on.

14 Are there any other matters to address in this
15 prehearing conference? Seeing none -- staff, is
16 there anything there?

17 MR. SPARKS: There are no other matters staff
18 wishes to address.

19 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Okay. Excellent. Then
20 that will conclude 04. Let's move into 07.

21 (Proceedings concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER


STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DEBRA KRICK, 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 30th day of October, 2023.


DEBRA R. KRICK
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #HH31926
EXPIRES AUGUST 13, 2024