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BEFORE THE  
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20220026-WU

Application for staff-assisted rate  
case in Marion County, and request  
for interim rate increase, by Leighton  
Estates Utilities, LLC.

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PROCEEDINGS: COMMISSION CONFERENCE AGENDA  
ITEM NO. 12

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

DATE: Tuesday, December 6, 2022

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

REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK  
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: All right. Commissioners, next  
3 we will move into Item No. 12.

4 Mr. Bethea, you are recognized to present your  
5 item when you are ready.

6 MR. BETHEA: Good morning, Commissioners.

7 Terence Bethea on behalf of staff.

8 Item No. 12 is an application for  
9 staff-assisted rate case and a request for interim  
10 rate increase by Leighton Estates Utilities, LLC.

11 Leighton is a Class C water only utility  
12 providing service to approximately 80 residential  
13 customers in Lake County.

14 The Commission-approved interim rates went  
15 into effect on April 12th of 2022. Staff is  
16 recommending the quality of service be considered  
17 satisfactory. Staff is recommending a rate  
18 increase of 105.52 percent.

19 There has been no customer contact in regards  
20 of the rate proceeding. OPC is present. The  
21 utility representative, Michael Smallridge, has  
22 requested to speak. Staff is available for any  
23 questions you may have.

24 CHAIRMAN FAY: All right. Thank you, Mr.  
25 Bethea.

1           Mr. Smallridge, you are recognized to address  
2           the Commission when you are ready. Make sure your  
3           light is on there.

4           MR. SMALLRIDGE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5           Did I understand that staff would be making a  
6           modification to the recommendation? I wanted to  
7           speak on that if there is.

8           CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Let's confirm.

9           Mr. Bethea, item -- I don't see a recom-- a  
10          modification on the recommendation for Item 12, but  
11          let's make sure we are clear on that, if that  
12          exists or not.

13          MR. BETHEA: Staff has not made any  
14          modification or desired to make any modification to  
15          the recommendation.

16          CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great.

17          Mr. Smallridge, at this time, the  
18          recommendation is as drafted. Do you have anything  
19          that you wanted to add for the Commission?

20          MR. SMALLRIDGE: I would like to get it put on  
21          the record just one thing that may seem  
22          insignificant, but to me it's part of the way that  
23          I manage my utilities, and that is, in this docket,  
24          I had asked for some proforma increases. And in  
25          the staff recommendation, they had put in that they

1 wanted to carry it forward in another potential,  
2 another filing that I had had for a limited  
3 assisted -- for a limited assisted rate increase,  
4 and I have no issues with that, but along with  
5 that, I also filed for a rule waiver that I would  
6 like the Commission to consider.

7 And the way -- the way this recommendation is  
8 written now, if my proforma items are carried  
9 forward, and the Commission does not approve the  
10 rule waiver, then it's going to cost my customers  
11 an extra \$500 for the filing fees. So I have no  
12 problem with the --

13 CHAIRMAN FAY: Mr. Smallridge, we will need  
14 you to speak specifically to this item. Any other  
15 dockets, we wouldn't be able to take information  
16 for this decision. So I understand you are trying  
17 to present a broader issue, but just to be clear,  
18 you don't have a recommendation to alter the  
19 recommendation that's in front of us today.

20 MR. SMALLRIDGE: My recommendation is -- I  
21 have no issues with what staff has prepared to this  
22 point.

23 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great. Thank you.

24 Commissioners, with that, do you have any  
25 questions?

1           Mr. Bethea, I will allow you just a response  
2           if there is anything you wanted to add before we  
3           take up a motion on the item.

4           MR. BETHEA: I do not have a response.

5           CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great.

6           Commissioners, with that, we've heard the  
7           item. Mr. Smallridge has provided his comments for  
8           the record. I will entertain a motion on Item No.  
9           12.

10          COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Move staff  
11          recommendation.

12          CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. We have a motion.  
13          Do we have a second?

14          COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Second.

15          CHAIRMAN FAY: We have a motion and a second.  
16          All that approve say aye.

17          (Chorus of ayes.)

18          CHAIRMAN FAY: Showing none opposed, Item 12  
19          passes unanimously.

20          Thank you, Mr. Bethea.

21          Commissioners, with that, that concludes our  
22          Agenda Conference for today. We will start the  
23          hearing for the 01 clause docket at, we will say  
24          10:30 just to give folks time to set up, so we will  
25          see you then.

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Thank you.  
(Agenda item 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 20th day of December, 2022.

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