FLORIDA UTILITY SERVICES 1, LLC 5911 TROUBLE CREEK RD. NEW PORT RICHEY, FL. 34652 863-904-5574

April 21, 2025

ŀ

Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL. 32399

Re: Docket No. 20240105-SU - Application for staff-assisted rate case in Polk County, by West Lakeland Wastewater, LLC.

Dear Commission Clerk

Following is the company response to Staff's Sixth Data Request for the above Docket file.

- 1. A. The services for which FUS1 would have to hire an outside contractor that could be accomplished in house would mainly come from the operator of that particular system. Some tasks might include various pump maintenance and or replacement, chemical deliveries and calibrations. For West Lakeland because this is a sewer only system, these tasks include but are not limited to, lift station maintenance and electrical panels and blowers at the treatment plant. The whole point is, if I had an extra field tech, I would not have to depend on the operator which is more expensive or pay so much in over-time hours.
 - B. Invoices will be sent in a separate package. I have highlighted on the copies of the invoices the tasks for which I had an outside contractor that could have been done in house if I had the man power.

2. The total number of FUS1 field techs would be 4 with one Supervisor, totaling 5.

You have to look at this request from a whole company view. The new entry level employee may or may not fill in any gaps in West Lakeland particularly, as my other field techs don't exclusively work at one particular utility but in all utilities as a whole. This is why the salaries are spread among all utilities in the FUS1 family. The same applies to the supervisor position. This person would supervise all field techs as they perform various tasks at all utilities.

At West Lakeland, the entry level tech responsibilities may include but are not limited to:

Weekly Lift Station maintenance, spray field sprinkler maintenance, perk ponds maintenance, mowing grass at the sewer plant, lift stations and spray field, 811 tickets, bar screen cleaning and digestor tanks skimming. Handling of maintenance items such as tree trimming, hurricane season prep and things that might happen during an emergency event such as running generators, sludge hauling and clean up from a spill or sewage overflow.

3.

A. There will only be one operation supervisor for all of the FUS1 systems which includes, but is not limited to, West Lakeland.

In regards to West Lakeland, the operations supervisor would over see tasks like chlorine and other chemical deliveries, sludge hauling and clean up from a spill or overflows, hurricane season events, coordinating with any outside contractors on projects we are not able to do in house, back flow testing, DEP log book entries, purchasing items as needed.

- b. The Operations Supervisor would be available to fill in if field tech is sick or on vacation etc.
- C. The Salary of the New Operation Supervisor will be \$ 65, 031. The new field tech (hopefully) can be hired at around \$19-\$22 an hour.
- D. Currently I do this job along with everything else. I feel having a full-time operations supervisor will allow this company to operate more efficiently, lowering overtime costs and allowing a more proactive approach as opposed to a reactionary approach that always costs more money.

On behalf of the Utility,

Mike Smallridge