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DIVISION OF ENGINEERING
TOM BALLINGER
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(850)413-6910

Public Service Commission

July 17, 2019

Mr. Gary A. Deremer, President
Raintree Waterworks, Inc.
4939 Cross Bayou Blvd
New Port Richey, FL 34652
gderemer@uswatercorp.net

VIA EMAIL & US MAIL

Re: Docket No. 20190124-WU – Petition for limited alternative rate increase in Lake County by Raintree Waterworks, Inc.

Dear Mr. Deremer:

This letter will confirm that Commission staff will hold a customer meeting on Wednesday, August 7, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. If at all possible, we ask that you or another knowledgeable representative of the Utility attend the meeting in order to answer customer questions. The location of the general meeting will be as follows:

6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 7, 2019
Tavares Civic Center
100 E Caroline St
Tavares, FL 32778

As required by Rule 25-30.458(2), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the Utility must provide, in writing, a customer meeting notice to all customers within its service area, and any other required persons, no less than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to the date of a customer meeting. A draft customer meeting notice is enclosed. Please note the date has been left blank so you can fill in the date that the notice is sent to the customers. Please furnish me with a copy of the notice that is distributed to your customers, together with a cover letter indicating the exact date(s) the notice was mailed or otherwise delivered to the customers.

In addition, please ensure that a copy of the Utility's completed application for a limited alternative rate increase and the customer meeting notice are available for review, pursuant to Rule 25-30.458(3)(d), F.A.C., by all interested persons at the following location:

Tavares Public Library
314 N New Hampshire Ave
Tavares, FL 32778

Mr. Gary A. Deremer

Page 2

July 17, 2019

For your convenience, I also have enclosed a copy of Rule 25-30.458, F.A.C. Should you have any questions about the matters contained herein, please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 413-6127, or Margo DuVal at (850) 413-6076.

Sincerely,



Jefferson Doehling
Engineering Specialist
Florida Public Service Commission
Division of Engineering

JD/jp

cc: Office of Commission Clerk (Docket No. 20190124-WU)

Mr. Troy Rendell, Vice President, Investor Owned Utilities (trendell@uswatercorp.net)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
NOTICE OF CUSTOMER MEETING
TO THE CUSTOMERS OF
RAINTREE WATERWORKS, INC.
AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

RE: DOCKET NO. 20190124-WU
PETITION OF RAINTREE WATERWORKS, INC. FOR LIMITED ALTERNATIVE
RATE INCREASE PURSUANT TO RULE 25-30.458, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
IN LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

DATED: _____

NOTICE is hereby given that the staff of the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) will conduct a customer meeting to discuss the petition of Raintree Waterworks, Inc. (Raintree or utility) for a limited alternative rate increase. The meeting will be held at the following time and place:

6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 7, 2019
Tavares Civic Center
100 E Caroline St
Tavares, FL 32778

All persons who wish to comment are urged to be present at the beginning of the meeting, since the meeting may be adjourned early if no customers are present. One or more of the Commissioners may attend and participate in this meeting. The meeting will begin as scheduled and will continue until all of the customers have been heard.

Any person requiring some accommodation at the customer meeting because of a physical impairment should call the Office of Commission Clerk at (850) 413-6770 at least 5 calendar days prior to the meeting. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

EMERGENCY CANCELLATION OF CUSTOMER MEETING

If a named storm or other disaster requires cancellation of the meeting, Commission staff will attempt to give timely direct notice to the parties. Notice of cancellation of the meeting will also be provided on the Commission's website (<http://www.psc.state.fl.us/>) under the Hot Topics link found on the home page. Cancellation can also be confirmed by calling the Office of the General Counsel at 850-413-6199.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the meeting is to give customers and other interested persons an opportunity to offer comments regarding the proposed rate increase and to ask questions and comment on other issues. Commission staff will be available to address and coordinate customers' comments and to assist members of the public. A representative from the utility may also be in attendance. At the beginning of the meeting, procedures will be established for the order of comments. The Commission staff will have sign-up sheets and customers will be called in the order that they sign up to speak.

HOW TO CONTACT THE COMMISSION

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to staff may do so at the meeting, either orally or in writing. Other written comments regarding the utility and the proposed rates, or requests to be placed on the mailing list for this case, may be directed to this address:

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Or by e-mail to Clerk@psc.state.fl.us

All correspondence should refer to "Docket No. 20190124-WU, Raintree Waterworks, Inc." Your letter will be placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Public Service Commission's toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809 or the Commission's website available at:

<http://floridapsc.com/ConsumerAssistance/ComplaintForm>

If you wish to contact the Commission regarding complaints about service, you may call the Commission's Division of Consumer Assistance and Outreach at the following toll-free number 1-800-342-3552.

BACKGROUND

Raintree is a Class C utility providing water service to approximately 113 residential customers and one general service customer in Lake County. The utility began providing service in 1988 as Raintree Utilities, Inc., and has been under the Commission's jurisdiction since March 10, 1992, when it was granted Certificate No. 539-W. The utility's rates for water service were last set in a staff-assisted rate case on June 30, 2016. According to Raintree's 2018 annual report, the Utility reported operating revenues of \$42,776 and a net operating income (loss) of \$5,847.

On June 6, 2019, Raintree filed its application for a limited alternative rate increase. In its application, pursuant to Rule 25-30.457, F.A.C., the utility is requesting to apply a 20 percent increase to its existing rates.

Copies of the utility's application for a limited alternative rate increase and all attachments are available for inspection by members of the public at the following location:

Tavares Public Library
 314 N New Hampshire Ave
 Tavares, FL 32778

CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATES

The current and proposed rates are listed below. These rates are subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further Commission staff review, and the final decision by the Commissioners.

RAINTREE WATERWORKS, INC.	CURRENT	PROPOSED
MONTHLY WATER RATES	RATES	RATES
<u>Residential and General Service</u>		
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size		
5/8"X 3/4"	\$14.23	\$17.07
3/4"	\$21.35	\$25.61
1"	\$35.58	\$42.68
1-1/2"	\$71.16	\$85.35
2"	\$113.85	\$136.56
3"	\$227.70	\$273.12
4"	\$355.78	\$426.75
6"	\$711.56	\$853.50
Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential Service		
0-3,000 gallons	\$1.71	\$2.05
3,001-8,000 gallons	\$1.81	\$2.17
Over 8,000 gallons	\$2.72	\$3.26
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General Service		
	\$2.24	\$2.68

PROCEDURES AFTER CUSTOMER MEETING

After the customer meeting, Commission staff will prepare a recommendation which is scheduled to be submitted to the Commission on September 20, 2019. The Commission will then vote on staff's recommendation at its October 3, 2019, Commission Conference. The Commission will thereafter issue a proposed agency action (PAA) order containing rates which may be different from those contained in staff's final recommendation. Substantially affected persons have 21 days from the date that the PAA order is issued to protest the Commission's PAA order. Customers are able to obtain a copy of staff's recommendation and all documents filed in this docket under the Clerk's Office tab on the Commission's website (<http://www.floridapsc.com>).

This notice was prepared by the utility and approved by Commission Staff for distribution by the utility to its customers.

25-30.458 Notice of and Public Information for Application for Limited Alternative Rate Increase.

(1) This rule applies to all requests for a limited alternative rate increase.

(2) No less than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to the date of a customer meeting, the utility shall provide, in writing, a customer meeting notice to all customers within its service area and to all persons in the same service area who have filed a written request for service or who have been provided a written estimate for service within the 12 calendar months prior to the month the petition is filed. The customer meeting will be conducted by the Commission staff no less than 21 days prior to Commission action on the application.

(3) The customer meeting notice shall be approved by Commission staff prior to distribution and shall include the following:

(a) The date the notice was issued;

(b) The time, date, location, and purpose of the customer meeting;

(c) A statement that the utility has applied for a limited alternative rate increase and the general reason for doing so;

(d) A statement of the location where copies of the application are available for public inspection during the utility's regular business hours;

(e) A comparison of current rates and charges and the proposed new rates and charges;

(f) The utility's address, telephone number, and regular business hours;

(g) A statement that written comments regarding utility service or the proposed rates and charges should be addressed to the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, and that such comments should identify the docket number assigned to the proceeding;

(h) A statement that complaints regarding service may be made to the Commission's Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach at the following toll-free number: 1(800) 342-3552; and

(i) The docket number assigned by the Commission's Office of Commission Clerk.

(4) The customer meeting notice shall be mailed to the out-of-town address of all customers who have provided the utility with an out-of-town address.

(5) If the Commission issues a proposed agency action (PAA) order granting a limited alternative rate increase, the utility shall notify its customers of the order and any revised rates. The customer notification shall be approved by Commission staff and be distributed no later than with the first bill containing any revised rates.

Rulemaking Authority 350.127(2), 367.0814(9), 367.121(1) FS. Law Implemented 350.123, 367.0814, 367.121 FS. History—New 3-15-05.