

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 9

VOTE SHEET

October 3, 2019

FILED 10/3/2019
DOCUMENT NO. 09183-2019
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

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

Issue 1: Should the Commission approve Raintree Waterworks, Inc.’s application for a LARI?

Recommendation: Yes. The Commission should approve Raintree’s application for a LARI in the amount of 20 percent. This equates to an increase of \$9,651. Pursuant to Rule 25-30.457(12), F.A.C., the Utility is required to hold any revenue increase granted subject to refund with interest for a period of 15 months after the filing of its 2019 Annual Report as it is the year the adjustment in rates will be implemented. To ensure overearnings will not occur due to the implementation of this rate increase, the Commission will conduct an earnings review of Raintree’s 2019 Annual Report. If overearnings occur, such overearnings, up to the amount held subject to refund, with interest, must be disposed of for the benefit of the customers. After the increased rates are in effect, pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(6), F.A.C., the Utility must file reports with the Office of Commission Clerk no later than the 20th of every month indicating the monthly and total amount of money subject to refund at the end of the preceding month. The report filed must also indicate the status of the security being used to guarantee repayment of any potential refund.

APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS’ SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING

[Handwritten signatures in blue ink on majority lines]

REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

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Issue 2: What are the appropriate monthly service rates for Raintree Waterworks, Inc.?

Recommendation: The existing service rates for Raintree should be increased by 20 percent in accordance with Rule 25-30.457, F.A.C. The recommended service rates are shown on Schedule No. 1 attached to staff's memorandum dated September 20, 2019. The Utility should file tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice. The Utility should provide proof of the date notice was given no more than 10 days after the date of the notice.

APPROVED

Issue 3: Should the recommended rates be approved for Raintree Waterworks, Inc., on a temporary basis, subject to refund, in the event of a protest filed by a party other than the Utility?

Recommendation: Yes. Pursuant to Rule 25-30.457(15), F.A.C., in the event of a protest of the Proposed Agency Action (PAA) Order by a substantially affected person other than the Utility, Raintree should be authorized to implement the rates established in the LARI PAA Order on a temporary basis subject to refund, upon the Utility filing a SARC application within 21 days of the date the protest is filed.

The Utility should file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The rates should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the temporary rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed notice, and the notice has been received by the customers. If the recommended rates are approved on a temporary basis, the incremental increase collected by the Utility will be subject to the refund provisions outlined in Rule 25-30.360, F.A.C. Pursuant to Rule 25-30.457(17), F.A.C., if the Utility fails to file a SARC application within 21 days in the event there is a protest, the application for a LARI will be deemed withdrawn. (Thurmond)

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Issue 4: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: No. In the event of a protest, Raintree may implement the rates established in the PAA Order on a temporary basis, subject to refund with interest, upon the Utility's filing of a SARC application within 21 days of the date of the protest. If Raintree fails to file a SARC within 21 days, the Utility's petition for a LARI will be deemed withdrawn pursuant to Rule 25-30.457(17), F.A.C. If no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order, a consummating order should be issued. The docket should remain open for staff's verification that the revised tariff sheets, which reflect the Commission-approved rates, and customer notice have been filed by Raintree and approved by staff, and so that staff may conduct an earnings review of the Utility pursuant to Rule 25-30.457(12), F.A.C. Upon staff's approval of the tariff and completion of the earnings review process as set forth in Rule 25-30.457(12)-(14), F.A.C., this docket should be closed administratively.

APPROVED