

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 9

VOTE SHEET

FILED 12/6/2022
DOCUMENT NO. 11884-2022
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

December 6, 2022

Docket No. 20220088-WS – Application for certificates to provide water and wastewater service and approval of initial rates and charges in Sumter County, by Middleton Utility Company, LLC.

Issue 1: Should the application for water and wastewater certificates by Middleton Utility Company, LLC be approved?

Recommendation: Yes. The Commission should grant Middleton Certificate Nos. 681-W and 581-S to serve the territory described in Attachment A of staff’s memorandum dated November 22, 2022, effective the date of the Commission’s vote. The resultant order should serve as Middleton’s water and wastewater certificates and it should be retained by the Utility.

APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS’ SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING

[Handwritten signatures in blue ink]

REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

Docket No. 20220088-WS – Application for certificates to provide water and wastewater service and approval of initial rates and charges in Sumter County, by Middleton Utility Company, LLC.

(Continued from previous page)

Issue 2: What are the appropriate water and wastewater rates and return on investment for Middleton Utility Company, LLC?

Recommendation: Staff's recommended water and wastewater rates, shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B of staff's memorandum dated November 22, 2022, are reasonable and should be approved. The overall cost of capital should be set at 7.77 percent. A return on equity (ROE) of 7.84 percent with a range of plus or minus 100 basis points should also be approved. The approved rates should be effective for services rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. The Utility should be required to charge the approved rates until authorized to change them by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Issue 3: Should Middleton Utility Company, LLC's requested initial customer deposits be approved?

Recommendation: No. The appropriate initial customer deposits are \$78 for water and \$207 for wastewater service for the residential 5/8" x 3/4" meter size. The initial customer deposits for all other residential meter sizes and all general service meter sizes should be two times the average estimated bill. The approved customer deposits should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. The Utility should be required to collect the approved deposits until authorized to change them by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Issue 4: Should the temporary meter deposit requested by Middleton Utility Company, LLC be approved?

Recommendation: Yes. The Utility's requested temporary meter deposit for general service customers at actual cost pursuant to Rules 25-30.315 and 25-30.345, F.A.C., is reasonable and should be approved. The approved deposit should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. Middleton should be required to collect the approved deposit, which covers the anticipated costs of installing and removing facilities and materials for temporary service, until authorized to change it by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Docket No. 20220088-WS – Application for certificates to provide water and wastewater service and approval of initial rates and charges in Sumter County, by Middleton Utility Company, LLC.

(Continued from previous page)

Issue 5: Should the collection device cleaning charge requested by Middleton Utility Company, LLC be approved?

Recommendation: Yes. The Utility’s requested collection device cleaning charge at actual cost for general service customers should be approved. The approved charge should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. Middleton should be required to charge the approved charge until authorized to change it by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Issue 6: What are the appropriate miscellaneous service charges for Middleton Utility Company, LLC?

Recommendation: The appropriate miscellaneous service charges are shown on Table 6-4 of staff’s memorandum dated November 22, 2022 and should be approved. The Utility should file revised tariff sheets to reflect the Commission-approved charges. The approved charges 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. Middleton should be required to charge the approved miscellaneous service charges until authorized to change them by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Issue 7: Should the meter tampering charge requested by Middleton Utility Company, LLC be approved?

Recommendation: Yes. The Utility’s requested meter tampering charge of actual cost should be approved. The approved charge should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. Middleton should be required to charge the approved charge until authorized to change it by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Docket No. 20220088-WS – Application for certificates to provide water and wastewater service and approval of initial rates and charges in Sumter County, by Middleton Utility Company, LLC.

(Continued from previous page)

Issue 8: Should Middleton Utility Company, LLC’s request to implement a backflow prevention assembly testing charge be approved?

Recommendation: Yes. The Utility’s requested backflow prevention assembly testing charge for general service customers at actual cost should be approved. The approved charge should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. Middleton should be required to charge the approved charge until authorized to change it by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Issue 9: What are the appropriate service availability charges for Middleton Utility Company, LLC?

Recommendation: The appropriate service availability charges are a meter installation charge of \$571.50 for the residential 5/8” x 3/4” meter size and actual cost for all other residential and general service meter sizes. The main extension charge of \$2,222 per equivalent residential connection (ERC) and plant capacity charge of \$1,224 per ERC for the Utility’s water system should be approved. Additionally, a main extension charge of \$2,298 per ERC and a plant capacity charge of \$2,530 per ERC for the Utility’s wastewater system should be approved. The recommended main extension and plant capacity charges should be based on 225 gallons per day (gpd). The approved charges should be effective for connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. The Utility should be required to charge the approved charges until authorized to change them by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

APPROVED

Issue 10: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: No. If no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency actions in Issues 2 through 9 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 have been filed by the Utility and approved by staff. Once these actions are complete, this docket should be closed administratively.

APPROVED