

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

February 26, 2024

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

**Re: Docket No. 20230071-WU - Application for staff-assisted rate case in Polk County by Pinecrest Utilities, LLC.**

Dear Commission Clerk:

The Following is company response to Staff's Ninth Data Request.

1. Please refer to the Pumping and Purchased Water Statistics tables in the Utility's 2013 through 2022 Annual Reports. It appears water sold has declined slightly over the period, with the last five years (2018-2022) averaging 92.8 percent of 2013 gallons sold, compared to the prior five years (2013-2017) averaging 101.1 percent of 2013 gallons sold. However, gallons pumped appear to have increased over the period, with the last five years (2018-2022) averaging 209.1 percent of 2013 gallons pumped, compared to the prior five years (2013-2017) averaging 109.4 percent of 2013 gallons pumped. Similarly, accounted for losses through flushing appear to have increased to an average of 55.5 percent of water pumped within the last five-year period (2018-2022), up from the prior five-year period (2013-2017) average of 2.5 percent of water pumped.
  - a. Please verify if the values above are accurate, and if not, provide corrected values.
  - b. If the reason for the increase in gallons pumped versus the gallons sold in the last five-year period is known, please explain why. As part of this explanation, please describe what efforts, if any, the Utility took to identify the cause of this increase, what solutions, if any, the Utility plans to or has implemented to address the differential, and if applicable, what solutions developed were not deemed economically feasible.

**Company Response- The only thing I can think of would be the water meters. My solution for this problem is to do a total meter replacement. We have already replaced the flow meter at the well and will begin customer meter replacement soon.**

- c. If the reason for the increase in gallons pumped versus the gallons sold in the last five-year period is unknown, please explain whether the Utility has investigated the increase, and what the results of that investigation were. If the Utility has not investigated, please explain why not.

**Company Response- We learned an increasing number of dead meters. At the time we learned the flow meter wasn't working we did some random customer meter bucket tests and decided to go forward for asking for a meter replacement program.**

- d. Please explain what changes in Recorded Accounted for Line Flushing, Etc. (column (c) of the Utility's Annual Reports) have occurred over the last five-year period (2018-2022) compared to the prior five-year period (2013-2017). As part of this explanation, discuss what caused this increase, and what efforts, if any, the Utility has taken to reduce or control the rate of growth of water usage in this area.

**Company Response- With increased customers comes increased flushing. Water quality mostly accounts for water flushing.**

2. Please refer to the Utility's response to Staff's Fifth Data Request, No. 2(a), and the Utility's Supplemental Response to Staff's Seventh Data Request.<sup>1,2</sup> Please provide flushing calculations for the Star Terrace 1" blow off valve in the format provided in the Utility's Supplemental Response to Staff's Seventh Data Request.

**Company response- See attached.**

On behalf of the utility,



Mike Smallridge

## Hydrant or Pipe Flush Flow Calculator

Diameter of Hydrant Nozzle Opening or Pipe (in inches):

1

Horizontal Distance from the end of the Nozzle or Pipe Opening to the upper or outermost edge of the water where it hits the ground (keep ruler or yardstick level, extending out from the upper edge of the nozzle or pipe) (in inches):

6

Vertical Distance from the top rim of Nozzle or Pipe to the ground (in inches):

36

**Estimated Flow from this Hydrant or Pipe in gallons per minute (GPM) is :**

**2.56**

**This flow translates into the following quantities:**

**153.6 Gal / Hour**

**3,686.4 Gal / Day**

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STAR TERR  
Dead End Line  
Flushing Valve.