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BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20240004-GU

In re: Natural gas conservation
cost recovery.
_____ /

PROCEEDINGS: PREHEARING CONFERENCE
COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO
DATE: Thursday, October 24, 2024
TIME: Commenced: 9:30 a.m.
Concluded: 10:11 a.m.
PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida
REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
Court Reporter

PREMIER REPORTING
112 W. 5TH AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
(850) 894-0828

1 APPEARANCES:

2 BETH KEATING, ESQUIRE, Gunster Law Firm, 215
3 South Monroe Street, Suite 601, Tallahassee, Florida
4 32301; CHRISTOPHER T. WRIGHT, ESQUIRE, 700 Universe
5 Boulevard, Juno Beach, Florida 33408-2863; appearing on
6 behalf of Florida Public Utilities Company (FPUC),
7 Florida City Gas (FCG), and Sebring Gas System
8 (SEBRING).

9 J. JEFFREY WAHLEN, MALCOLM N. MEANS and
10 VIRGINIA PONDER, ESQUIRES, Ausley Law Firm, Post Office
11 Box 391, Tallahassee, Florida 32302; appearing on behalf
12 of Peoples Gas System, Inc. (PGS).

13 WALT TRIERWEILER, PUBLIC COUNSEL; CHARLES J.
14 REHWINKEL, DEPUTY PUBLIC COUNSEL; PATRICIA CHRISTENSEN,
15 MARY A. WESSLING OCTAVIO SIMOES-PONCE and AUSTIN
16 WATROUS, ESQUIRES, OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL, c/o The
17 Florida Legislature, 111 West Madison Street, Room 812,
18 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400; appearing on behalf of
19 the Citizens of the State of Florida (OPC).

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1 APPEARANCES CONTINUED:

2 TIMOTHY SPARKS and SAAD FAROOQI, ESQUIRES,
3 FPSC General Counsel's Office, 2540 Shumard Oak
4 Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, appearing on
5 behalf of the Florida Public Service Commission (Staff).

6 KEITH C. HETRICK, GENERAL COUNSEL; SAMANTHA
7 CIBULA, ESQUIRE, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540
8 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850,
9 Advisor to the Florida Public Service Commission.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: We are going to move
3 on to 04.

4 Okay. So, Mr. Sparks, any preliminary matters
5 we need to address before we get to the draft
6 Prehearing Order?

7 MR. SPARKS: Yes. Staff notes that St. Joe
8 Natural Gas Company has been excused from the
9 Prehearing Conference in this docket.

10 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Thank you.

11 Okay. Let's proceed through the draft
12 Prehearing Order. Same as before, just yell out if
13 you have got anything.

14 Section I, Case Background.

15 Section II, Conduct of Proceedings.

16 III, Jurisdiction.

17 IV, Procedure for Handling Confidential
18 Information.

19 V, Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits, staff.

20 MR. SPARKS: Staff suggests for any witness
21 who is not excused, that the summary of their
22 testimony be no longer than three minutes.

23 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: All right. Summaries
24 three minutes, any objection? No -- seeing none.

25 So Section VI, Order of Witnesses.

1 MR. SPARKS: Staff will confirm if the parties
2 are willing to excuse all witnesses. If so, staff
3 will also confirm with each Commissioner that the
4 witness can be excused. If no Commissioner has any
5 questions of those witnesses, the witness may be
6 excused from the hearing and his or her testimony
7 and exhibits entered into the record as though
8 read.

9 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Okay. I think we
10 will probably do the same as what we have talked
11 about before. I think we are going to, you know,
12 work this out in the next couple of days and all
13 that, so --

14 MR. REHWINKEL: And just for the record, we
15 support excusal of witnesses to the extent the
16 issues are stipulated in some form.

17 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Right. Okay. Thank
18 you for that, Mr. Rehwinkel.

19 MS. KEATING: And, Commissioner.

20 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Yes.

21 MS. KEATING: I have the same issue here as in
22 the 02 docket. In the event Witness Craig does not
23 get excused, I will need to submit a notice of
24 substitution of witness.

25 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Okay. We can note

1 that.

2 MS. KEATING: Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: That's no problem.
4 Thank you.

5 Okay. Let's go on to Basic Positions. Do any
6 parties have any changes to their basic positions
7 at this time?

8 Okay. Seeing none, Issues and Positions,
9 staff.

10 MR. SPARKS: Staff notes that some parties did
11 not include Issue A in their prehearing statements,
12 and for these parties, their position is currently
13 listed as no position at this time in the
14 Prehearing Order.

15 Staff also notes that for issues in which a
16 party has taken no position at this time, if a
17 party does not take a position on these issues, per
18 the OEP, the position will be changed to no
19 position in the Prehearing Order.

20 Additionally, per the OEP, if a party fails to
21 take a position on an issue by the time of the
22 Prehearing Conference, the party waives its
23 opportunity to conduct cross-examination on the
24 issue, as well as file a post-hearing brief on the
25 issue.

1 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: So this is the same
2 as the 03. The only parties, again, same as -- oh,
3 actually, I guess Sebring -- yeah, Ms. Keating,
4 Sebring is included here, so for PGS, are you able
5 to take a position?

6 MS. PONDER: We will stay with no position.
7 Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Ms. Keating, Sebring?

9 MS. KEATING: Sebring would change its
10 position to no position.

11 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: And, staff, do you
12 have any comments with respect to St. Joe's
13 position?

14 MR. SPARKS: Yes. Staff contacted St. Joe,
15 and they have no position on Issue A.

16 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Okay. And, parties,
17 any other related matters that need to be addressed
18 in this section?

19 Seeing none, we will move to Exhibit List.

20 MR. DOSE: Staff notes that we have prepared
21 and circulated a draft Comprehensive Exhibit List
22 that includes all prefiled exhibits. Staff will
23 check with the parties prior to the hearing to
24 determine if there are any objections to the
25 Comprehensive Exhibit List.

1 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Okay. Section X,
2 Proposed Stipulations.

3 MS. SPARKMAN: There are none at this time.

4 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Are there any pending
5 motions?

6 MR. SPARKS: There are no pending motions.

7 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Any pending
8 confidentiality motions?

9 MR. SPARKS: There are none.

10 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Post-Hearing
11 Procedures.

12 MR. SPARKS: If parties agree to waive briefs,
13 the Commission may make a bench decision for this
14 docket. If there are issues to be briefed, staff
15 recommends post-hearing briefs be no longer than 40
16 pages.

17 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Objections, any --
18 for this? Okay.

19 All right. So Rulings.

20 MR. SPARKS: Staff recommends that opening
21 statements, if any, should not compete three
22 minutes per party unless a party chooses to waive
23 its opening statement.

24 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Objections to this?

25 All right. Seeing none, opening statements

1 shall be limited to three minutes per party.

2 Are there any other matters that we need to
3 address in this Prehearing Conference?

4 MR. SPARKS: There are no other matters staff
5 wishes to address.

6 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: From the parties?

7 Okay. So with that this concludes the
8 Prehearing of the 04 docket. We are going to move
9 on to the 07 docket.

10 (Proceedings concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DEBRA KRICK, Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the time and place herein stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 5th day of November, 2024.



DEBRA R. KRICK
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #HH575054
EXPIRES AUGUST 13, 2028