

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for staff-assisted rate case in
Brevard County by Aquarina Utilities, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 20150010-WS
ORDER NO. PSC-2017-0485-FOF-WS
ISSUED: December 22, 2017

ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME TO
COMPLETE PRO FORMA PROJECTS

BY THE COMMISSION:

Background

Aquarina Utilities, Inc., (Aquarina or Utility) is a Class B utility providing service to approximately 296 water and 311 wastewater customers in Brevard County. Aquarina also provides non-potable water for irrigation to approximately 107 customers.

The Utility filed its application for a staff-assisted rate case on January 2, 2015. By Order No. PSC-16-0583-PAA-WS, issued December 29, 2016, in this docket, we approved a Phase I revenue requirement and rates. The order further stated that implementation of Phase II rates is conditioned upon Aquarina completing certain pro forma plant items within 12 months of the issuance of a consummating order in this docket. Consummating Order No. PSC-17-0031-CO-WS was issued on January 23, 2017. Therefore, the pro forma plant items were to be completed before January 23, 2018.

The pro forma plant items consisted of the replacement of the water treatment plant's reverse osmosis skid; the wastewater treatment plant's catwalks, blowers, and sand filters; and developing a geographical information system mapping of the distribution and collection systems. Order No. PSC-16-0583-PAA-WS provided that if Aquarina encounters any unforeseen events that will impede the completion of the pro forma plant items, it shall immediately notify this Commission in writing.

On November 9, 2017, the Utility notified us that it would not be able to meet the deadline for completing the Phase II pro forma plant items. The Utility requested that it be granted an extension until March 1, 2018, to complete the Phase II pro forma plant items. We have jurisdiction pursuant to Sections 367.081, 367.0814, and 367.121, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Decision

As discussed in the case background, Aquarina was given until January 23, 2018, to complete Phase II pro forma plant items. The Utility is required to submit a copy of the final invoices and cancelled checks for the Phase II pro forma plant items. Once the pro forma plant items are completed, and documentation provided, our staff will be able to verify that the pro forma improvements have been made.

By e-mail dated November 8, 2017, Aquarina identified numerous operational issues that have impacted the Utility's ability to complete the pro forma plant items identified in the previously discussed order. The Utility additionally indicated that the reverse osmosis skid has more installation issues than anticipated. By e-mail dated November 9, 2017, Aquarina stated that all items should be completed by March 1, 2018. We believe that the events impeding completion of the pro forma plant items were not reasonably foreseeable, and accordingly approve Aquarina's request for an extension of time to complete its required Phase II pro forma plant items. This docket shall remain open for a decision by us on the appropriate Phase II revenue requirement and rates.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Aquarina's request for an extension of time to complete its required Phase II pro forma plant items before March 1, 2018, is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open for a decision by this Commission on the appropriate Phase II revenue requirement and rates.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 22nd day of December, 2017.



HONG WANG

Chief Deputy Commission Clerk
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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request:

- 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or
- 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Office of Commission Clerk, and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.