

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request by County-Wide Utility Company for approval of new customer classifications in tariff for two 1.5" meters and 6" fire line in Marion County.

DOCKET NO. 050859-WU  
ORDER NO. PSC-06-0056-TRF-WU  
ISSUED: January 23, 2006

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

LISA POLAK EDGAR, Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
ISILIO ARRIAGA  
MATTHEW M. CARTER II  
KATRINA J. TEW

ORDER APPROVING RATES FOR NEW SERVICE

BY THE COMMISSION:

County-Wide Utility Company (County-Wide) is a Class C utility located in Marion County. According to its 2004 Annual Report, County-Wide provides water service to approximately 482 water customers. County-Wide reported revenues for 2004 of \$109,074 and an operating income of \$947. On October 31, 2005, County-Wide began providing 1-1/2 inch meter service and private fire protection service to one customer. Shortly thereafter, on November 9, 2005, County-Wide filed for approval of its Third Revised Tariff Sheet No. 12.0 containing a new customer classification for a 1-1/2 inch meter service, and Original Tariff Sheet No. 12.1 for private fire protection service. We have jurisdiction pursuant to section 367.091, Florida Statutes.

County-Wide has calculated the proposed service rate for the 1-1/2 inch meter by using the 5/8" x 3/4" size meter as a foundation and then applying the American Water Works Association's (AWWA's) meter equivalent factor for the usage characteristics on the foundation (5 times the 5/8" x 3/4" meter charge). County-Wide's proposed service rates for the private fire protection is one-twelfth of the product of the 5/8" x 3/4" meter and the AWWA meter equivalent of the fire line. Pursuant to Rule 25-30.465, Florida Administrative Code, the rate for private fire protection service shall be one-twelfth the current base facility charge of the utility's meter sizes, unless otherwise supported by the utility. We find that the methodology County-Wide used to set the new rates is reasonable, and the service rates for the 1-1/2 inch meter and private fire protection are justified.

Section 367.091(4), Florida Statutes, provides that if any request for service of a utility shall be for a new class of service not previously approved, the utility may furnish the new class of service and fix and charge just, reasonable, and compensatory rates or charges therefore. The statute provides that the Commission may approve such other rates or charges for the new class of service that it finds just, reasonable and compensatory. Section 367.091(4) also provides that

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

00608 JAN 23 06

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

a utility must file a schedule of the rates with the Commission within 10 days after the service is furnished. County-Wide began providing the 1-1/2 inch meter and private fire protection to one customer on October 31, 2005. We received the filing on November 9, 2005, and therefore the filing was timely under the statute.

Pursuant to Rule 25-9.005, Florida Administrative Code, a utility that files a new or additional service classification or rate schedule must provide the estimated annual revenues to be derived from the service and the estimated number of customers to be served. County-Wide expects that the revenue derived from the 1-1/2 inch meter service and private fire protection for one customer will be \$250 per month, resulting in annual revenues of \$3,000. County-Wide has indicated that there may be three or four more customers over the next few years that may request these services.

Based on the above we approve County-Wide's proposed service rates for the 1-1/2 inch meter service and private fire protection. County-Wide shall file a proposed customer notice to reflect the approved rates. The rates shall be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date of the tariffs, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), Florida Administrative Code, provided that our staff has approved the customer notice. Within 10 days of the date this Order is final, County-Wide shall be required to provide notice of the new tariff rates to all customers. County-Wide shall provide proof that the customers have received notice within 10 days after the date that the notice was sent.

It is therefore

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the Request by County-Wide Utility Company for approval of new customer classifications in its tariff is approved. It is further

ORDERED that County-Wide shall file a proposed customer notice to reflect the approved rates. The rates shall be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date of the tariffs, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), Florida Administrative Code, provided that our staff has approved the customer notice. Within 10 days of the date this Order is final, County-Wide shall be required to provide notice of the new tariff rates to all customers. County-Wide shall provide proof that the customers have received notice within 10 days after the date that the notice was sent. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed within 21 days of issuance of the Order, the tariff shall remain in effect with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 23rd day of January, 2006.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of the Commission Clerk  
and Administrative Services

By: Kay Flynn  
Kay Flynn, Chief  
Bureau of Records

( S E A L )

MCB

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

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.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on February 13, 2006.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.