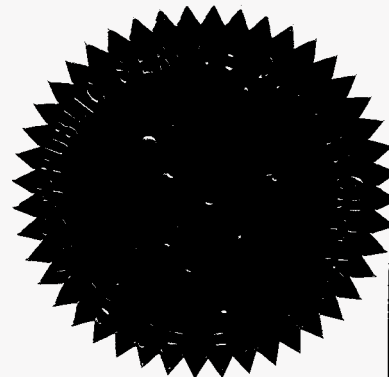


BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 100381-WS

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF
AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE A LATE
PAYMENT FEE OF \$5.25 AND
ESTABLISH MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE
CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH CONNECTION,
RECONNECTION, AND PREMISES VISITS
FOR ITS WASTEWATER OPERATION IN
ORANGE COUNTY BY PLURIS WEDGEFIELD,
INC.



PROCEEDINGS: COMMISSION CONFERENCE AGENDA
ITEM NO. 17

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER LISA POLAK EDGAR
COMMISSIONER NATHAN A. SKOP
COMMISSIONER RONALD A. BRISÉ
COMMISSIONER EDUARDO E. BALBIS

DATE: Tuesday, November 30, 2010

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: LINDA BOLES, RPR, CRR
Official FPSC Reporter
(850) 413-6734

DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE
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P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 **CHAIRMAN GRAHAM:** Item Number 17.

4 **MS. BRUCE:** Good morning, Commissioners.
5 Sonica Bruce on behalf of Commission Staff.

6 Item Number 17, Staff's recommendation is
7 a request for approval by Pluris Wedgefield to
8 include a late payment fee of \$5.25 and establish
9 miscellaneous service charges associated with
10 connections, reconnections and premises visits for
11 its wastewater operation.

12 Staff is prepared to answer any questions
13 that you may have at this time.

14 **CHAIRMAN GRAHAM:** Thank you very much.

15 Mr. Friedman, welcome.

16 **MR. FRIEDMAN:** Thank you. My name is Martin
17 Friedman of the Law Firm of Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley,
18 and we represent Pluris Wedgefield. I'm just here to
19 answer any questions.

20 **CHAIRMAN GRAHAM:** Thank you very much.

21 To the board.

22 Commissioner Skop.

23 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** Thank you. Just to Staff
24 on page 3 of the Staff recommendation, the last sentence
25 states, "The Utility is proposing the expenses

1 associated with connections, reconnections, premises
2 visits during business and after hours is \$21 and \$42,
3 respectively," but on page 4 it shows values of
4 \$20.80 and \$41.50. Are those numbers on page 3 wrong or
5 have they just been rounded upward?

6 **MS. BRUCE:** They have just been rounded
7 upward, Commissioner.

8 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** So we're going to use the
9 rounded upward numbers for the, for the tariff rate?

10 **MS. BRUCE:** Yes.

11 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** Okay. And then a question
12 to Mr. Friedman. On page 4 of the Staff recommendation
13 where it's looking at the after hours charge for labor,
14 I guess this did come up in a, in a previous PAA item
15 before the Commission recently. But I feel compelled
16 to, to ask the question in terms of the labor rate times
17 the time and a half, I can understand that. Where I'm
18 having a little bit more difficult time is understanding
19 the substantial increase in the time to perform a task.
20 And I know not to mix docket with docket, but again I
21 think that it comes down to, you know, justification.
22 And at least for me, not precursory (phonetic) analysis
23 it looks good. But, you know, it's almost as if
24 double-dipping. You're getting the higher labor rate
25 with the time and a half, but there's also almost, you

1 know, effectively almost a doubling of the time to
2 perform, you know, the same task. And I'm trying to get
3 a better feel for why your client feels that's
4 appropriate as it's a, you know, a potential cost driver
5 in the after hours reconnection charge.

6 **MR. FRIEDMAN:** Yeah. I would point out that
7 this is consistent with, as the Staff points out in
8 their, in their recommendation, these numbers are
9 consistent with what the Commission has already approved
10 in the Utility's water tariff. I haven't seen a utility
11 yet that has separate, that has different miscellaneous
12 service charges for water and wastewater, and the
13 purpose of this was just to make it consistent.

14 Now as far as extra time, that's because
15 during business hours you have that employee there
16 at the, at the Utility. After hours you have to
17 bring that employee from another location, and that
18 additional time is the estimate of the additional
19 time it takes to get that employee from wherever he
20 or she is to the service area.

21 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** Okay. And do the
22 employees have to go back to the location of the plant
23 site to get the vehicle or do they have the ability to
24 take the vehicles home with them?

25 **MR. FRIEDMAN:** I couldn't tell you for sure.

1 My guess is they have a vehicle that they drive from,
2 from, from home.

3 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** Okay. And, like I say,
4 I'm not going to debate it, but I think it's a fair
5 question to ask in terms of the, you know, not only the
6 difference in the hourly labor rate but the time
7 element. So thank you for your explanation.

8 **MR. FRIEDMAN:** Okay. Thank you. And I would
9 point out that this, the 5.25 is consistent with what
10 the Commission has found many other times for, for a
11 late payment fee.

12 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** Yeah. And I have no
13 problem with that. And as a matter of fact, I'd ask
14 people to hold that fresh in their memory because we're
15 going to talk about that in a second. So thank you.
16 Thank you.

17 **CHAIRMAN GRAHAM:** Any further discussion? Can
18 I get a motion?

19 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** Move Staff recommendation
20 on Issues 1, 2 and 3.

21 **COMMISSIONER EDGAR:** Mr. Chairman, I will note
22 for the record that it does not curry any favor, but I
23 must note Mr. Friedman's very stylish tie. And I second
24 the motion.

25 **MR. FRIEDMAN:** It's been six years since I had

1 a good Thanksgiving weekend, so I'm taking advantage of
2 it.

3 (Laughter.)

4 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** We can relate to that,
5 huh?

6 **CHAIRMAN GRAHAM:** Let the record show it is an
7 FSU tie that Mr. Friedman is wearing.

8 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** That's all right. We won
9 in basketball.

10 (Laughter.)

11 **CHAIRMAN GRAHAM:** It's been moved and
12 seconded. Any further discussion? Seeing none, all in
13 favor, say aye.

14 (Vote taken.)

15 Those opposed? By your action, you've
16 approved Item Number 17.

17 (Agenda item concluded.)

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STATE OF FLORIDA)
 :
COUNTY OF LEON)

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, LINDA BOLES, RPR, CRR, Official Commission 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' attorneys or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED THIS 3rd day of December, 2010.

Linda Boles
LINDA BOLES, RPR, CRR
FPSC Official Commission Reporter
(850) 413-6734