

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

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COMMISSION
CLERK

DATE: April 23, 2015

TO: Office of Commission Clerk (Stauffer)

FROM: Division of Economics (Ortega, Hudson) *SH*
Office of the General Counsel (Janjic) *JSC* *to PR J.W.D.*

RE: Docket No. 150092-WS – Request for approval of amendment to tariff for miscellaneous service charges by Marion Utilities, Inc.

AGENDA: 05/05/15 – Regular Agenda – Tariff Filing – Interested Persons May Participate

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

PREHEARING OFFICER: Administrative

CRITICAL DATES: 05/22/15 (60-Day Suspension Date)

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: None

Case Background

Marion Utilities, Inc. (Marion or Utility) is a Class A utility, which provides service in Marion County to approximately 6,158 water and 136 wastewater customers. The Utility's 2013 annual report shows a combined water and wastewater annual operating revenue of \$1,540,976, and a total utility operating income of \$145,619. On March 23, 2015, the Utility filed an application for changes and additions to Tariff Sheet Nos. 13.0 and 15.1. These changes include increasing its miscellaneous service charges and initial customer deposit, adding a meter tampering charge, and adding a convenience charge for the processing of credit and debit card payments. This recommendation addresses the suspension of Marion's proposed tariff sheets. The Commission has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.091(6), Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Discussion of Issues

Issue 1: Should the Commission suspend the Utility's request to amend Tariff Sheet Nos. 13.0 and 15.1?

Recommendation: Yes. The Utility's request to amend Tariff Sheet Nos. 13.0 and 15.1 should be suspended. (Ortega, Hudson)

Staff Analysis: Pursuant to Section 367.091(6), F.S., the Commission may withhold consent to operation of any or all portions of new rate schedules by a vote to that effect within 60 days, giving a reason or statement of good cause for withholding its consent. Staff is recommending that the tariff be suspended to allow sufficient time to review the application and gather pertinent information in order to present the Commission with an informed recommendation on the proposed tariffs. Staff believes that this reason is a good cause consistent with the requirements of Section 367.091(6), F.S. In addition, while staff is in receipt of the Utility's responses to Staff's First Data Request, staff believes additional requests may be necessary to process this case. Based on the above, staff recommends that the Utility's proposed Tariff Sheet Nos. 13.0 and 15.1 should be suspended.

Issue 2: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: No. The docket should remain open pending the Commission's final action on the Utility's requested approval of amendment to Tariff Sheet Nos. 13.0 and 15.1. (Janjic)

Staff Analysis: The docket should remain open pending the Commission's final action on the Utility's requested approval of amendment to Tariff Sheet Nos. 13.0 and 15.1.