

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Item 7

VOTE SHEET

October 13, 2015

FILED OCT 13, 2015  
DOCUMENT NO. 06481-15  
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

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

**Issue 1:** Should Marion’s request to amend its miscellaneous service charges be approved?

**Recommendation:** Yes. Marion’s request to amend its miscellaneous service charges should be approved. Marion should be required to file a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved charges. The approved charges should be effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). In addition, the approved charges should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice. The utility should provide proof of the date notice was given no less than 10 days after the date of the notice.

**APPROVED**

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS’ SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING

*Jimmy Pat*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

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**REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:**

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**Issue 2:** What are the appropriate initial customer deposits for Marion Utilities, Inc.?

**Recommendation:** The appropriate initial customer deposits for water and wastewater should be \$55 for the residential 5/8" x 3/4" meter size. The initial customer deposit for all other residential meter sizes and all general service meter sizes should be two times the average estimated bill. The utility should file revised tariff sheets consistent with the Commission's vote. The approved customer deposits should be effective for connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. The utility should be required to collect the approved initial customer deposits until authorized to change them by the Commission in a subsequent proceeding.

**APPROVED**

**Issue 3:** Should the utility's requested meter tampering charge be approved?

**Recommendation:** Yes. Marion's request to implement a \$50 meter tampering charge should be approved. The charge should be effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. In addition, the approved charge should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. The utility should provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

**APPROVED**

**Issue 4:** Should the Commission approve Marion's request to implement a convenience charge for customers who opt to pay their water or wastewater bill by debit or credit card?

**Recommendation:** Yes. Marion's request to implement a convenience charge of \$2.50 for customers who opt to pay their water or wastewater bill by debit or credit card should be approved. The charge should be effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, F.A.C. In addition, the approved charge should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. The utility should provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

**APPROVED**

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**Issue 5:** Should Marion be authorized to collect Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) charges?

**Recommendation:** Yes. Marion should be authorized to collect NSF charges. Staff recommends that Marion revise its tariffs to reflect the NSF charges currently set forth in Sections 68.065 and 832.08(5), F.S. The NSF charges should be effective on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. Furthermore, the charges should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice. The utility should provide proof of the date the notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

**APPROVED**

**Issue 6:** Should this docket be closed?

**Recommendation:** No. The docket should remain open pending staff's verification that the revised tariff sheets and customer notice have been filed by the utility and approved by staff. If a protest is filed within 21 days of the issuance date of the Order, the tariff should remain in effect with the charge held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. If no timely protest is filed, a consummating order should be issued and, once staff verifies that the notice of the charge has been given to customers, the docket should be administratively closed.

**APPROVED**