

STATE OF FLORIDA

ART GRAHAM
CHAIRMAN



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Public Service Commission

January 31, 2019

Mr. Martin S. Friedman
Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth,
Capouano & Bozarth, P.A.
420 South Orange Avenue, Suite 700
P.O. Box 2346
Orlando, Florida 32802-2346

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2019 JAN 31 PM 3:08
COMMISSION
CLERK

Re: Docket No. 20190031-WU - Application for increase in water rates in Highlands County by Placid Lakes Utilities, Inc.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

The Florida Public Service Commission received your letter on January 25, 2019 regarding a proposed rate case by Placid Lakes Utilities, Inc. (Placid Lakes or Utility). In that letter, Placid Lakes requested to use a historic test year ended December 31, 2018, for establishing final rates and to file its application using the Proposed Agency Action provision set forth in Section 367.081(8), Florida Statutes (F.S.).

Pursuant to Rule 25-30.430, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Placid Lakes test year request as outlined above is hereby approved for purposes of filing its Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs). Docket No. 20190031-WU has been assigned to the forthcoming case. Your petition will be deemed filed on the date the Office of Commission Clerk receives the complete petition, the MFRs, and the filing fee. To process this case expeditiously, we request that you file the above no later than June 30, 2019.

Pursuant to Section 367.083, F.S., the official filing date will be the date that complete corrections to any deficiencies, if any, are filed. Please note that many schedules included in the MFRs are designed with a column titled "Balance Per Books." This column must reflect the balances on the general ledger and be reconciled with the balances reported in the Utility's Annual Report on file with the Commission. This requirement is applicable to all primary account balances as required by the NARUC Uniform System of Accounts. Pursuant to Rule 25-30.110(2), F.A.C., all data the Commission requests and requires to be submitted in determining a utility's rates "shall be consistent with and reconcilable with the utility's annual report to the Commission."

In addition, Placid Lakes should satisfactorily document that it has recorded all adjustments to the Utility's general ledger and accounts that have been ordered by the Commission in any prior proceeding relating to this system. If adjustments were ordered for prior periods that impact subsequent years, the related adjustments shall also be made to reflect the impact for the appropriate period up to and including the approved test year. Further, Placid Lakes should be prepared to justify its requested test year operation and maintenance expenses, particularly those expenses which have increased above the level of customer growth and inflation since the test year utilized in the last rate case.

The Utility is instructed to file all information it wishes the Commission to consider when arriving at a decision on its rate case application with its original filing. Because of the time limitations contained in Section 367.081, F.S., and the lengthy auditing and investigation required, the Commission may disregard any information not filed with the original application. Approval of the test year for filing purposes does not mean that an issue regarding the appropriateness of the test period could not be raised at any time during the proceeding. If you have any questions, please contact Bart Fletcher at (850) 413-7017 or bart.fletcher@psc.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,



Art Graham
Chairman

AG/bf

cc: Mr. J. R. Kelly, Office of Public Counsel
Mr. Braulio Baez, Executive Director
Mr. Mark Futrell, Deputy Executive Director - Technical
Mr. Keith Hetrick, General Counsel
Mr. Adam Teitzman, Commission Clerk