

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: June 29, 2021
TO: Office of Commission Clerk *DM by DA*
FROM: Dale Mailhot, Director, Office of Auditing and Performance Analysis
RE: Docket No.: 20210002-EI
Company Name: Florida Public Utilities Company
Company Code: EI803
Audit Purpose: A3b: Energy Conservation Cost Recovery
Audit Control No: 2021-026-1-2

Attached is the final audit report for the Utility stated above. I am sending the Utility a copy of this memo and the audit report. If the Utility desires to file a response to the audit report, it should send a response to the Office of Commission Clerk. There are no confidential work papers associated with this audit.

/cmm

Attachment: Audit Report

cc: Office of Auditing and Performance Analysis File.

State of Florida



Public Service Commission

Office of Auditing and Performance Analysis
Bureau of Auditing
Tallahassee District Office

Auditor's Report

Florida Public Utilities Company
Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause

Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2020

Docket No. 20210002-EG
Audit Control No. 2021-026-1-2

June 21, 2021

Thomas Wolff
Audit Manager

Marisa Glover
Reviewer

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Purpose

To: Florida Public Service Commission

We have performed the procedures described later in this report to meet the objectives set forth by the Division of Economics in its audit service request dated January 26, 2021. We have applied these procedures to the attached summary exhibit and to several related schedules prepared by Florida Public Utilities Company in support of its 2020 filing for the Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause in Docket No. 20210002-EG.

The report is intended only for internal Commission use.

Objectives and Procedures

General

Definition

Utility refers to the Florida Public Utilities Company.
ECCR refers to the Energy Conservation Cost Recovery Clause.

Revenue

Operating Revenues

Objectives: The objectives were to determine the actual Kilowatt Hours (KWH) sold for the period January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, and whether the Utility applied the Commission approved cost recovery factor to actual KWH sales.

Procedures: We computed revenues using the factors in Order No. PSC-2019-0504-FOF-EG, issued November 25, 2019. We selected a random sample of residential and commercial customers' bills and recalculated each to verify the use of the correct tariff rate. No exceptions were noted.

Expense

Operation and Maintenance Expense

Objectives: The objectives were to verify that Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses listed on the Schedule CT-3 of the Utility's ECCR filing was supported by adequate documentation and that the expenses are appropriately recoverable through the ECCR.

Procedures: We traced expenses in the filing to the general ledger. We judgmentally selected a sample of O&M Expenses (except for payroll) for testing. The source documentation for selected items was reviewed to ensure the expenses were for the current period, charged to the correct accounts, and appropriately recoverable through the ECCR. Payroll was audited for electric and gas conservation programs by scheduling conservation payroll, benefits, and payroll taxes for 2020, and calculating the percentage of benefits and taxes as compared to salaries. We traced conservation program rebates to allowances approved in Order Nos. PSC-2010-0678-PAA-EG and PSC-2015-0326-PAA-EG, issued November 12, 2010 and August 11, 2015, respectively. Advertising expenses were reviewed for compliance with Rule 25-17.015(5), Energy Conservation Cost Recovery, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). No exceptions were noted.

Other Issues

Objectives: The objectives were to verify the number of program participants reported in the Utility's Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (FEECA) filing.

Procedures: We verified the number of program participants reported in the Utility's March 1, 2021 FEECA filing for Residential Energy Survey Program, Commercial Energy Survey Program, Residential Heating & Cooling Upgrade Program, and Commercial Chiller Upgrade Program by reconciling them with the program participants noted in the Utility's 2020 ECCR true-up filing. No exceptions were noted.

True-up

Objective: The objective was to determine if the True-Up and Interest Provision as filed on Schedule CT-3 was properly calculated.

Procedures: We traced the December 31, 2019, True-Up Provision to the Commission Order. We recalculated the True-Up and Interest Provision amounts as of December 31, 2020, using the Commission approved beginning balance as of December 31, 2019, the Non-Financial Commercial Paper rates, and the 2020 ECCR revenues and costs. No exceptions were noted.

Analytical Review

Objective: The objective was to perform an analytical review of the Utility's ECCR Revenues and Expenses to determine if there were any material changes or inconsistencies from the prior year.

Procedures: We compared 2020 to 2019 revenues and expenses. Audit staff determined that the program expenses decreased 9.67% percent overall. Legal and Travel Expenses decreased 76.91% and 76.33%, respectively. Legal expense decreased 76.91% due to the completion of Demand Side Management (DSM) plan process, and travel expenses decreased 76.33% due to travel limitations because of COVID-19. Revenue Net of Taxes increased 28.93% due to a 29.4% increase in the Electric Conservation recovery rate from .00102/KwH in 2019 to .00132/KwH in 2020. No other work was performed.

Audit Findings

None

Exhibit

Exhibit 1: True Up

COMPANY: FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES - CONSOLIDATED ELECTRIC
 CALCULATION OF TRUE-UP AND INTEREST PROVISION
 FOR MONTHS January-20 THROUGH December-20

SCHEDULE CT-3
 PAGE 2 OF 3

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
B. CONSERVATION REVENUES													
1. RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION	(60,033)	(57,679)	(53,711)	(55,755)	(57,090)	(68,233)	(86,682)	(86,735)	(78,081)	(65,724)	(62,087)	(61,473)	(793,283)
2. CONSERVATION ADJ. REVENUES													0
3. TOTAL REVENUES	(60,033)	(57,679)	(53,711)	(55,755)	(57,090)	(68,233)	(86,682)	(86,735)	(78,081)	(65,724)	(62,087)	(61,473)	(793,283)
4. PRIOR PERIOD TRUE-UP ADJ. NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS PERIOD	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,671	16,667	200,048
5. CONSERVATION REVENUE APPLICABLE	(43,362)	(41,008)	(37,040)	(39,084)	(40,419)	(51,562)	(70,011)	(70,064)	(61,410)	(49,053)	(45,416)	(44,806)	(593,235)
6. CONSERVATION EXPENSES (FROM CT-3, PAGE 1, LINE 23)	64,862	117,152	71,808	40,630	86,853	63,111	59,858	61,887	68,103	54,516	47,762	45,451	782,143
7. TRUE-UP THIS PERIOD (LINE 5 - 6)	21,500	76,143	34,768	1,545	46,434	11,549	(10,153)	(8,188)	6,693	5,563	2,346	685	188,907
8. INTEREST PROVISION THIS PERIOD (FROM CT-3, PAGE 3, LINE 10)	268	303	390	245	39	26	23	19	16	16	16	16	1,376
9. TRUE-UP AND INTEREST PROVISION BEGINNING OF MONTH	200,048	205,145	264,921	283,408	268,527	298,329	293,233	266,432	241,612	231,650	220,559	206,260	200,048
9A. DEFERRED TRUE-UP BEGINNING OF PERIOD													
10. PRIOR TRUE-UP COLLECTED (REFUNDED)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,671)	(16,667)	(200,048)
11. TOTAL NET TRUE-UP (LINES 7+8+9+9A+10)	205,145	264,921	283,408	268,527	298,329	293,233	266,432	241,612	231,650	220,559	206,260	190,283	190,283

EXHIBIT NO. _____
 DOCKET NO. 20210002-EG
 FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY
 (CDY-1)
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