

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: August 23, 2022

TO: Office of the Commission Clerk

FROM: Todd M. Brown, Chief of Auditing, Office of Auditing and Performance Analysis 

RE: Docket No.: 20220003-GU
Company Name: Florida Public Utilities Company
Company Code: GU603
Audit Purpose: A3c: Purchased Gas Adjustment
Audit Control No.: 2022-011-1-1

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 the Commission Clerk. There are no confidential work papers associated with this audit.

TMB/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
Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Clause

Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2021

Docket No. 20220003-GU
Audit Control No. 2022-011-1-1
August 22, 2022

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Demetrius Jones".

Demetrius Jones
Audit Manager

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donna D. Brown".

Donna D. Brown
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 11, 2022. 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 2021 filing for the Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Clause in Docket No. 20220003-GU.

The report is intended only for internal Commission use.

Objectives and Procedures

General

Definition

Utility refers to the Florida Public Utilities Company.
PGA refers to the Purchased Gas Cost Recovery Clause.

Revenue

Operating Revenues

Objectives: The objectives were to determine the terms sold for the period January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, and whether the Utility applied the Commission-approved cost recovery factor to actual therm sales.

Procedures: We reconciled the 2021 filing to the Utility's general ledger and the monthly revenue reports. We selected a judgmental sample of residential and commercial customers' bills and recalculated each to verify the use of the correct tariff rate. This work was performed jointly with the revenue portions of the other clause audits of the Utility. The work product is contained in Docket No. 20220004-GU, Audit Control No. 2022-024-1-1. No exceptions were noted.

Expense

Operation and Maintenance Expense

Objectives: The objectives were to verify that the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expense listed on the A-2 Schedule of the Utility's filing was supported by adequate documentation and that the expenses were appropriately recoverable through the PGA.

Procedures: We traced expenses in the filing to the general ledger. We traced a random sample of O&M expenses to source documentation to ensure the expenses were supported by sufficient documentation and that the expenses were appropriately recoverable through the PGA. No exceptions were noted.

True-up

Objective: The objective was to determine if the True-Up and Interest Provision as filed on Schedule A-2 was properly calculated.

Procedures: We traced the December 31, 2020, True-Up Provision to the Commission Order. We recalculated the True-Up and Interest Provision amounts as of December 31, 2021, using the Commission-approved beginning balance as of December 31, 2020, the Non-financial Commercial Paper rates, and the 2021 PGA revenues and costs. No exceptions were noted.

Analytical Review

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

Procedures: We compared 2016 through 2021 revenues and expenses. Total fuel revenues increased by 27.66% as a result of a \$6 million dollar variance in swing service, a commodity usage difference of \$2 million, a PGA rate variance of \$0.9 million, and a pool manager variance of \$0.6 million. Purchased gas costs increased by 49.89% due to an 111% increase in the weighted average cost of gas per therm. No further work performed.

Audit Findings

None

Exhibit

Exhibit 1: True Up

COMPANY: FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMPANY			CALCULATION OF TRUE-UP AND INTEREST PROVISION				SCHEDULE A-2			
FOR THE PERIOD OF: JANUARY 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 2021										
CURRENT MONTH: DECEMBER										
TRUE-UP CALCULATION			ACTUAL	ESTIMATE	DIFFERENCE		ACTUAL	ESTIMATE	DIFFERENCE	
					AMOUNT	%			AMOUNT	%
1	PURCHASED GAS COST	Sch. A-1 Line 4, Estimate include Sch. A-1 Line 10	2,881,239	\$ 1,705,384	\$ (1,175,875)	(69.0)	11,889,920	\$ 15,554,703	\$ 3,664,777	23.6
2	TRANSPORTATION COST	Sch. A-1 Lines 1, 2, 3, 5, 6	3,020,367	\$ 1,798,861	\$ (1,221,506)	(67.9)	33,008,891	\$ 18,629,897	\$ (14,378,994)	(77.2)
3	TOTAL COST		5,901,606	\$ 3,604,228	\$ (2,397,381)	(68.4)	44,898,887	\$ 34,184,600	\$ (10,714,287)	(31.3)
4	FUEL REVENUES (NET OF REVENUE TAX)		4,024,688	\$ 3,503,625	\$ (521,043)	(14.9)	43,847,851	\$ 34,178,600	\$ (9,669,251)	(28.3)
5	TRUE-UP - (COLLECTED) OR REFUNDED *		151,948	\$ 151,948	\$ -	0.0	1,823,357	\$ 1,823,357	\$ -	0.0
6	FUEL REVENUE APPLICABLE TO PERIOD	Add Lines 4 - 5	4,176,614	\$ 3,655,571	\$ (521,043)	(14.3)	45,671,208	\$ 36,001,957	\$ (9,669,251)	(26.9)
7	TRUE-UP - OVER(UUNDER) - THIS PERIOD	Line 6 - Line 5	(1,724,992)	\$ 151,346	\$ 1,876,338	1239.8	772,321	\$ 1,817,357	\$ 1,045,038	57.5
8	INTEREST PROVISION -THIS PERIOD	Line 21	(74)	\$ (131)	\$ (57)	43.5	455	\$ (1,384)	\$ (1,819)	133.4
9	BEGINNING OF PERIOD TRUE-UP AND INTEREST: over/(under)		(549,350)	\$ (2,625,259)	\$ (2,075,909)	79.1	(1,375,781)	\$ (2,618,026)	\$ (1,242,845)	47.5
10	TRUE-UP COLLECTED OR (REFUNDED)	Reverse of Line 5	(151,946)	\$ (151,946)	\$ -	0.0	(1,823,357)	\$ (1,823,357)	\$ -	0.0
10a	FLEX RATE REFUND (if applicable)		-	\$ -	\$ -	0.0	-	\$ -	\$ -	0.0
11	TOTAL ACTUAL/ESTIMATED TRUE-UP: over/(under)	Add Lines 7 - 9 + 9 + 10 - 10a	(2,426,362)	\$ (2,625,990)	\$ (199,628)	7.6	(2,426,362)	\$ (2,625,990)	\$ (199,628)	7.6
MEMO: Unbilled Over-recovery			1,048,603							
Over/(under)-recovery Book Balance			(1,378,659)							
INTEREST PROVISION										
12	BEGINNING TRUE-UP AND INTEREST	Line 9	\$ (549,350)	\$ (2,625,259)	\$ (2,075,909)	79.1				
13	ENDING TRUE-UP BEFORE INTEREST	Add Lines 12 + 7 + 5	\$ (2,426,288)	\$ (2,625,859)	\$ (199,571)	7.6				
14	TOTAL (12+13)	Add Lines 12 + 13	\$ (2,975,639)	\$ (5,251,118)	\$ (2,275,480)	43.3				
15	AVERAGE	50% of Line 14	\$ (1,487,819)	\$ (2,625,559)	\$ (1,137,740)	43.3				
16	INTEREST RATE - FIRST DAY OF MONTH		0.00070	0.00070	-	0.0				
17	INTEREST RATE - FIRST DAY OF SUBSEQUENT MONTH		0.00050	0.00050	-	0.0				
18	TOTAL	Add Lines 16 + 17	0.00120	0.00120	-	0.0				
19	AVERAGE	50% of Line 18	0.00060	0.00060	-	0.0				
20	MONTHLY AVERAGE	Line 19 / 12 mos.	0.00005	0.00005	-	0.0				
21	INTEREST PROVISION	Line 15 x Line 20	\$ (74)	\$ (131)	\$ (57)	43.5				

Beginning of period True-up & Interest (Line 9) comes from the most recently filed E-4. If we do not file down, the beginning of the period True-up & Interest (Line 9) comes from the prior periods end of period net true-up. The prior period write-off will be the estimated over/under recovery estimated on Schedule E-4 regardless if we file down.