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January 31, 2024

BY E-PORTAL

Mr. Adam Teitzman, Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

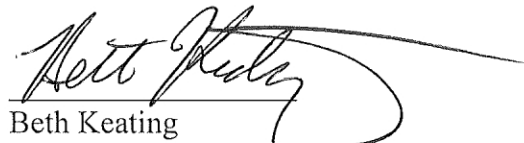
**Re: Docket No. 20230136-PU - Petition for approval of revisions to budget billing tariffs, by
Florida Public Utilities Company.**

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Attached for filing in the above-referenced docket, please find Florida Public Utilities Company's Responses to Staff's First Data Requests, along with a corrected version of First Revised Sheet No. 41.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing. As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions whatsoever.

Sincerely,


Beth Keating
Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A.
215 South Monroe St., Suite 601
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 521-1706

MEK

FLORIDA PUBLIC UTILITIES
DOCKET NO. 20230136-PU
STAFF'S FIRST DATA REQUEST
FILED: JANUARY 31, 2024

Natural Gas:

- 1) FPUC's Customer Information and Billing System (CIS) is transferring from ECIS to 1CX system, which is expected to be implemented in August 2024. Please state if FPUC anticipates requesting recovery of the costs to implement the 1CX system, in the next rate case.

Company Response:

At this time, FPUC has not determined the timing or mechanism for recovery of the costs associated with the implementation of the 1CX system.

- 2) Please state the number of customers currently enrolled in the optional Budget Billing Program/tariffs for electric and for natural gas.

Company Response:

There are 258 electric and 194 natural gas customers currently enrolled in the Budget Billing Program.

- 3) With reference to the proposed First Revised Sheet No. 6.253, subsection b., please describe the circumstances that would result in FPUC recalculating the monthly budgeted amount from time to time.

Company Response:

The circumstances that would result in FPUC recalculating the monthly budgeted amount include changes in rates, taxes, and/or load which impacts a customer's usage (i.e., installation of a pool heater).

- 4) With reference to the proposed First Revised Sheet No. 6.253, subsection b., please explain why the monthly 10 percent payment variable margin is being deleted.

Company Response:

The new system updates the customer's budget billing amount based upon the factors that necessitate the recalculation or annually. Removing the 10% variable margin limitation allows the system to make the calculation based upon the factors necessitating the change, which produces a more accurate

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budget billing amount. It also allows the system to address the recalculation without manual interference to apply the 10% limitation.

Electric:

- 1) Proposed First Revised Sheet No. 41, subsection a., states that “Residential Customers and may elect to ...” It appears that the word “and” is in error. If so, please provide a revised proposed First Revised Sheet No. 41.

Company Response:

The word “and” is in error. Please see the attached corrected First Revised Sheet No. 41.

- 2) With reference to the First Revised Sheet No. 41, subsection b., please describe the circumstances that would result in FPUC recalculating the monthly budgeted amount from time to time.

Company Response:

The circumstances that would result in FPUC recalculating the monthly budgeted amount include changes in rates, taxes, and/or load which impacts a customer’s usage (i.e., installation of a pool heater).

- 3) With reference to the First Revised Sheet No. 42, please describe the circumstances that would result in FPUC recalculating the monthly amount, other than the anniversary of the customer’s election of Budget Billing Program.

Company Response:

Please see response to #2 above.

*RATE SCHEDULE RS
RESIDENTIAL SERVICE*

(Continued from Sheet No. 40)

Purchased Power Costs

See Sheet Nos. 65 & 66.

Conservation Costs

See Sheet Nos. 65 & 66.

Franchise Fee Adjustment

Customers taking service within franchise areas shall pay a franchise fee adjustment in the form of a percentage to be added to their bills prior to the application of any appropriate taxes. This percentage shall reflect the customer's pro rata share of the amount the Company is required to pay under the franchise agreement with the specific governmental body in which the customer is located.

Budget Billing Program (optional)

- a. Residential Customers may elect to make budgeted monthly payments of amounts due the Company to help stabilize monthly payments. To qualify for the Budget Billing Program, a Customer must be a year-round Customer with twelve (12) Months of consecutive bills and have zero balance owing when the Customer elects to participate in the Program. The Company may waive the zero balance requirement on a not-unduly discriminatory basis.
- b. If a Customer requests to make budgeted monthly payments, the initial budgeted monthly payment amount will be based on an average of the previous twelve (12) months bills due the Company, including all applicable fees and taxes (excluding service charges and additional fees). The Company reserves the right to estimate increases or decreases over historical amounts in rate components (including taxes) to the account.

After the Customer's budgeted monthly payment amount has been initially established, the Company may recalculate the budgeted monthly payment from time to time. If the recalculated budgeted monthly payment varies from the budgeted monthly payment amount then in effect, the Company may begin charging the recalculated amount on Customer's next successive bill.

(Continued on Sheet No. 42)

*RATE SCHEDULE RS
RESIDENTIAL SERVICE*

(Continued from Sheet No. 40)

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(Continued on Sheet No. 42)