

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request for tariff filing revisions for water system in Okaloosa County, by North Florida Community Water Systems.

DOCKET NO. 20240058-WU
ORDER NO. PSC-2024-0220-TRF-WU
ISSUED: June 27, 2024

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

MIKE LA ROSA, Chairman
ART GRAHAM
GARY F. CLARK
ANDREW GILES FAY
GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

ORDER APPROVING NORTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS, INC.'S
REQUEST FOR PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION RATES

BY THE COMMISSION:

Background

North Florida Community Water Systems, Inc. (NFCWS or utility) provides water and wastewater service to several counties including a system in Okaloosa County. The utility's Okaloosa County system provides water service to approximately 342 residential customers and 7 general service customers.¹ The utility has never had a rate case, but the rates were amended by a price index rate adjustment in 2023.

On April 5, 2024, pursuant to Section 367.091(5), Florida Statutes (F.S.), NFCWS filed a request to provide private fire protection (PFP) charges and meter installation charges for meter sizes larger than 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch for the Okaloosa water system. According to the utility's current tariff, the utility has a meter installation charge for a 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter size. The utility's current meter installation charge was approved in Docket No. 20200155-WU.² The utility indicated in its application that it had a request by a general service customer to install two one-inch meter sizes in the Okaloosa County water system. On April 10, 2024, the utility waived the 60-day statutory deadline which allowed us to address this case at the June 18, 2024 Agenda Conference.

This order addresses the utility's request for PFP rates and meter installation charges for meter sizes larger than 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter sizes. We have jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.091, F.S.

¹ Number of customers as reported in 2023 Annual Report ending December 31, 2023.

² Order No. PSC-2020-0402-PAA-WU, issued October 26, 2020, in Docket No. 20200155-WU, *In re: Application for certificate to operate water utility in Okaloosa County and application for pass through increase of regulatory fees, by Okaloosa Waterworks, Inc.*

DecisionI. Private Fire Protection Rates

Currently, NFCWS does not have PFP rates. Therefore, the utility is requesting PFP rates for meter sizes of three inch to six inch. Pursuant to Rule 25-30.465, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the rate shall be one-twelfth of the utility's current base facility charge (BFC) for each meter size. The requested PFP rates are shown below in Table 1.

Table 1
NFCWS's Current BFCs and Proposed PFP Rates

Meter Size	Current BFC	Private Fire Protection Rate (1/12)
3"	\$541.76	\$45.15
4"	\$846.50	\$70.54
6"	\$1,693.00	\$141.08

Since the utility's request aligns with Rule 25-30.465, F.A.C., we approve NFCWS's request to establish a new class of service for a PFP rate. The utility's revised proposed tariff sheet shown in Attachment A to this order is approved as filed. The approved tariff is effective as of June 18, 2024. Since there are no current customers affected by the tariff revision, no customer notices are required.

II. Meter Installation Charges

In its application, NFCWS is requesting meter installation charges for all meter sizes larger than 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch at actual cost. The utility indicated that it had an inquiry by a customer to install two one-inch meters. The utility's existing meter installation charge for the 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meter was approved in 2020.³ We have previously approved meter installation charges at actual cost for meter sizes larger than 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch.⁴ The utility's proposed meter installation charge of actual cost for all meter sizes larger than 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch meters is reasonable.

Based on the above, NFCWS's request to implement meter installation charges of actual cost for meter sizes larger than 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch is approved and the utility's revised proposed tariff shown in Attachment A is approved as filed. The approved charges are effective for connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the approved charge shall not be implemented until Commission staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by customers. The utility shall provide notice to potential customers who have requested service within 12 calendar months prior to the month the application was filed and up until this order becomes

³Order No. PSC-2020-0402-PAA-WU, issued October 26, 2020, in Docket No. 20200155-WU, *In re: Application for certificate to operate water utility in Okaloosa County and application for pass through increase of regulatory assessment fees, by Okaloosa Waterworks, Inc.*

⁴Order No. PSC-2024-0127-PAA-WS, issued April 23, 2024, in Docket No. 20230114-WS, *In re: Application for certificate to provide water utility in Volusia County, by Applegate Utility, LLC.*

final. The utility shall provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that North Florida Community Water System, Inc.'s request to establish a new class of service for private fire protection rates is hereby approved. The utility's revised proposed tariff sheet shown in Attachment A is approved as filed. The approved tariff shall be effective on the date of our vote, June 18, 2024. Since there are no current customers affected by the tariff revision, no customer notices are required. It is further

ORDERED that NFCWS's request to implement meter installation charges of actual cost for meter sizes larger than 5/8 inch x 3/4 inch is approved. The utility's revised proposed tariff shown in Attachment A to this order is approved as filed. The approved charges shall be effective for connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the approved charge shall not be implemented until Commission staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by customers. The utility shall provide notice to potential customers who have requested service within 12 calendar months prior to the month the application was filed and up until this order becomes final. The utility shall provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed within 21 days of issuance of the Order, the tariff shall remain in effect with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 27th day of June, 2024.



ADAM J. TEITZMAN
Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 413-6770
www.floridapsc.com

Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

MRT

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on July 18, 2024.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

NORTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS, INC.
WATER TARIFF

ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 13.65

PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION

RATE SCHEDULE (PFP)

Formerly Okaloosa Waterworks, Inc.
Okaloosa County

AVAILABILITY - Available throughout the area served by the Company.

APPLICABILITY - For private fire protection service to customers.

LIMITATIONS - Subject to all of the Rules and Regulations of this tariff and General Rules and Regulations of the Commission.

BILLING PERIOD - Monthly

RATE -

3"	\$ 45.15
4"	\$ 70.54
6"	\$ 141.08

MINIMUM CHARGE - Base Facility Charge

TERMS OF PAYMENT - Bills are due and payable when rendered. In accordance with Rule 25-30.320, Florida Administrative Code, if a Customer is delinquent in paying the bill for water service, service may then be discontinued.

EFFECTIVE DATE - June 18, 2024

TYPE OF FILING - Tariff Filing

NORTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS, INC.
WATER TARIFF

FIRST REVISED SHEET NO. 19.5
CANCELS ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 19.5

SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGES

Formerly Okaloosa Waterworks, Inc.
Okaloosa County

Description

Customer Service Line Installation (Tap Fee) Charge

Tap Fee with Road Bore	\$2,000.00
Tap Fee without Road Bore	\$1,500.00

Meter Installation Charge

5/8" x 3/4"	\$ 353.00
All Other Meter Sizes	Actual Cost

EFFECTIVE DATE -

TYPE OF FILING - Tariff Filing