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Public Service Commission

November 14, 2024

Mr. Robert Johnson
St. Johns River Estates Utilities, LLC.
15 Shaker Rd
Gray, ME 04039
rjohnson@lgicos.com

Via Regular, Certified, and Electronic Mail

Re: Docket No. 20230131-WS – Denial of Application for Staff-assisted Rate Case

Dear Mr. Johnson:

St. Johns River Estates Utilities, LLC's ("St. Johns") application for staff-assisted rate case ("SARC") was denied on October 18, 2024, due to St. Johns' failure to pay its Regulatory Assessment Fees ("RAFs") for the 2023 calendar year. A utility must be up-to-date on all RAF payments to be eligible for a SARC pursuant to Rule 25-30.455(1), Florida Administrative Code ("F.A.C.").

As of September 23, 2024, the RAF and late penalty sums owed by St. Johns were \$840.04 for its water system and \$1,252.42 for its wastewater system. Those balances were sent to the Florida Department of Financial Services ("DFS") for collection and may have continued to accrue interest since then. St. Johns should contact DFS to determine where and how to make payment.

We recognize St. Johns may be in need of a SARC because it has not had a change in rates for many years. There are also numerous Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") Orders requiring significant updates to St. Johns' infrastructure. Nonetheless, Rule 25-30.120, F.A.C., requires that RAFs be paid. Continued non-compliance with this Rule could result in revocation of St. Johns' utility certifications. Commission staff will continue to monitor DEP's actions and will be available to discuss with St. Johns how it can come into compliance and obtain rate relief. Once the RAFs are paid, please feel free to contact Christopher Richards by phone at (850) 413-6742 or by e-mail at CRichard@PSC.state.fl.us for any questions about filing a new SARC application.

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If you have any other questions concerning this matter, please contact Carlos Marquez by phone at (850) 413-6212 or by e-mail at CMarquez@PSC.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Carlos Marquez

Carlos M. Marquez II, Esq.

Senior Attorney

Florida Public Service Commission

Office of the General Counsel

Regulatory Analysis Section

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CMM

cc: Office of Commission Clerk (Docket No. 20230131-WS)
Division of Accounting and Finance (Richards, Higgins)
Office of the General Counsel (Marquez)