

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: December 2, 2024

TO: Zachary Bloom, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel
Jennifer S. Crawford, Attorney Supervisor, Office of the General Counsel

FROM: Ailynee Ramirez-Abundez, Public Utility Analyst I, Division of Engineering *ARA*
Lee Smith, Public Utilities Supervisor, Division of Engineering *LS*

RE: Docket No. 20240153-WS – Application for transfer of water and wastewater facilities to St. Johns County, and cancellation of Certificate Nos. 645-W and 553-S, by North Beach Utilities, Inc.

North Beach Utilities, Inc. (North Beach) is a Class B utility providing service to approximately 1,400 water and wastewater customers in St. Johns County. On November 1, 2024, North Beach filed an application for transfer of its water and wastewater facilities to St. Johns County, and cancellation of Certificate Nos. 645-W and 553-S. The application included an agreement for the purchase and sale of utility assets between North Beach and St. Johns County, which was executed on May 7, 2024. Pursuant to Section 367.071(4), Florida Statutes (F.S.), the sale of facilities to a governmental authority shall be approved as a matter of right. As such, no notice of the transfer is required and no filing fees apply.

Furthermore, pursuant to Section 367.071(4)(a), F.S., and Rule 25-30.038(2)(d), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), North Beach provided a copy of the document transferring its water and wastewater facilities. In accordance with Rule 25-30.038(2)(f) and (g), F.A.C., North Beach stated that it will credit customer deposits on the final bill, and refund any excess deposits. North Beach will pay the regulatory assessment fees when due. St. Johns County obtained the required financial information from North Beach.

The Commission has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.071, F.S. Also, pursuant to Section 2.07(C)(4)d, of the Administrative Procedures Manual, staff has been given administrative authority to approve any transfer to governmental entities that are in compliance with Section 367.071(4)(a), F.S. and are not controversial in nature.

Based on the above, staff believes that the application is in compliance with Sections 367.022(2) and 367.071, F.S., and Rule 25-30.038, F.A.C. Staff recommends that the Commission acknowledge the transfer of the water and wastewater systems to St. Johns County as a matter of right, pursuant to Section 367.071(4)(a), F.S., and cancel Certificate Nos. 645-W and 553-S effective May 7, 2024. In addition, staff recommends that the docket be closed because no further action is necessary.

ARA/da

cc: Office of Commission Clerk (Docket No. 20240153-WS)