

**FLORIDA UTILITY SERVICES 1, LLC
5911 TROUBLE CREEK ROAD
NEW PORT RICHEY, FL 34652
(863) 904-5574**

May 6, 2025

Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak, Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

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2025 MAY -6 PM 1:25
COMMISSION
CLERK

RE: Docket No. 20240119-WU - Application for staff-assisted rate case in Polk County by Alturas Water, LLC.

RE: Docket No. 20240105-SU - Application for staff-assisted rate case In Polk County by West Lakeland Wastewater, LLC.

Commission Clerk,

Please find enclosed Florida Utility Services 1, LLC (FUS1) response to Commissions Staff's request for additional clarification and justification for our request for proforma salary inclusions for our field employees in the above-mentioned dockets.

The attached schedule clarifies our original request in these proceedings. The schedule includes the requested employees, their positions, requested salaries, and, duties, along with the associated overall payroll tax calculation. We have also included the calculation to allocate the respective salary and payroll tax amounts for the Alturas Water and West Lakeland Wastewater SARC's.

The attached schedule contains two significant changes to improve operations that will allow this company to operate more efficiently, lowering overtime costs and allowing a more proactive approach as opposed to a reactionary approach that always costs more money.

- 1) FUS1 plans to elevate our more experienced Maintenance Technician to the level of Operations Supervisor with a base salary of \$65,031. This position will supervise, manage and schedule the remaining field staff technicians, and, he will be responsible for overseeing the daily field operations of all the FUS1 systems. Additionally, the Operations Supervisor would oversee tasks like chlorine and other chemical deliveries, hurricane season events and generators, purchasing of supplies, project management, as a bridge between utility office personnel and the field techs, and the scheduling of projects and their completion. The Operations Supervisor would be available to fill in if field tech is sick or on vacation etc.
- 2) FUS1 requests one new entry level Maintenance Tech position with a base salary of \$52,582. This new position will maintain the number of field technicians servicing FUS1's 19 water and wastewater systems at 4 employees. Our justification for this salary level was based on an independent salary compensation study that was provided in our LARI filing in Docket No.

20220185-WS, Commission Document No. 10932-2022. FUS 1 currently operates and maintains 13 water and 3 water and wastewater systems (19 systems total) located throughout the state of Florida, serving approximately 3,716 customers. While the number of systems FUS1 manages has remained constant since 2021, the complexity and level of services provided by our field staff technicians to properly and timely maintain those systems has changed. FUSI has increasingly relied on existing employee overtime, and on outside contractors to "fill in the gap" for services that could be provided "in house" which tends to increase the overall cost to serve our customers. Additionally, with our systems in Columbia County having come under Commission jurisdiction, we anticipate increased operating and reporting requirements for those systems going forward.

On behalf of ALT and WLW,

Mike Smallridge



Employee	Position	Requested Salary (a)	Percent	Duties and Responsibilities
Antonio	Operations Supervisor	\$65,031	30% 40% 25% 5%	Supervise staff and coordinate daily work flow for maintenance request and utility projects. Provide daily maintenance and repairs for all utility systems. Process new service connections and respond to requests for disconnects/reconnects. Other duties assigned.
Jackie	Maintenance Technician	\$56,104	50% 30% 10% 5% 5%	Provide daily maintenance and repairs for all utility systems. Process new service connections and respond to requests for disconnects/reconnects. Provide landscape maintenance for all utility systems. Provide maintain and repairs for utility tools and equipment. Other duties assigned.
Juan	Maintenance Technician	\$52,582	50% 30% 15% 5%	Provide daily maintenance and repairs for all utility systems. Process new service connections and respond to requests for disconnects/reconnects. Provide landscape maintenance for all utility systems. Other duties assigned.
Chris	Maintenance Technician	\$52,582	50% 30% 15% 5%	Provide daily maintenance and repairs for all utility systems. Process new service connections and respond to requests for disconnects/reconnects. Provide landscape maintenance for all utility systems Other duties assigned.
New Position	Maintenance Technician	\$52,582	50% 30% 15% 5%	Provide daily maintenance and repairs for all utility systems. Process new service connections and respond to requests for disconnects/reconnects. Provide landscape maintenance for all utility systems Other duties assigned.
		\$278,881		

a) Source: Commission Document Nos. 03049-2025, 03158-2025 and 10932-2022.

	Total	Other FUS1 Systems 89%	ALT @ 2.00%	WLW @ 9.00%
Gross Salary Requested	\$278,881	\$248,204	\$5,578	\$25,099
Payroll Tax factor(b)	7.74%			
Gross Payroll Tax	\$21,585	\$19,210	\$432	\$1,943

b) Source: Commission Document No. 03158-2025. (2024 Salary Information Sheet Page 2 of 2) (Payroll Tax of \$18,000 / Gross Salary \$232,446)