



# Florida Public Service Commission **RATE CASE OVERVIEW**

JANUARY 2020

Application for increase in water rates in Gulf County by  
**Lighthouse Utilities Company, Inc.**

DOCKET NO. 20190118-WU

*On July 12, 2019, Lighthouse Utilities Company, Inc. (Lighthouse) filed an application with the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission) for an increase in water rates. Lighthouse provides water service to approximately 1,850 customers in Gulf County.*

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

### **1 Is there an opportunity for public input on this rate case?**

Yes. As part of the evaluation process for Lighthouse's rate request, the Commission staff will conduct a customer meeting to allow feedback about Lighthouse and the rate-setting process. Comments will be reviewed before the Commission reaches a decision. One or more Commissioners may attend and participate during the customer meeting.

#### CUSTOMER MEETING

**Thursday, January 23, 2020  
6:00 p.m.**

Centennial Building  
300 Allen Memorial Way  
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

### **2 Why is Lighthouse requesting a rate increase?**

Lighthouse is requesting a rate increase to recover the cost of operating the utility and allow the company an opportunity to earn a fair rate of return on its investment.

### **3 When was Lighthouse's last approved rate increase?**

Lighthouse's last approved rate increase from a rate proceeding was in 2011. Lighthouse's most recent approved rate increase was from a price index application in 2019.

### **4 How much is the current monthly water bill for a residential customer of Lighthouse using 2,000 gallons?**

The utility's current monthly water bill for a residential customer using 2,000 gallons is \$22.33.

If canceled, notice of meeting cancellation will be provided on the Commission's website, ([www.floridapsc.com](http://www.floridapsc.com)), under Hot Topics found on the home page. Cancellation can also be confirmed by contacting the Office of General Counsel at (850) 413-6199.

**5 Using the Utility’s proposed rates, how much would the monthly water bill be for a residential customer of Lighthouse using 2,000 gallons?**

Using the Utility’s proposed rates, the monthly water bill for a residential customer using 2,000 gallons would be \$29.64.

**6 What if I cannot attend the customer meeting or prefer not to speak? Are there other ways to comment on this case?**

Any interested person who wants to comment or provide information to the Commission regarding this matter may do so orally at the meeting or in writing.\* Written comments should be mailed to:

Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of Commission Clerk  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

The PSC will also accept emailed comments at: [clerk@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:clerk@psc.state.fl.us)

Please be sure to include the docket number, **20190118-WU**.

Comments are placed on the correspondence side of the docket file. In accordance with Florida Statutes, the PSC will also consider Lighthouse’s quality of service and other matters. If you have questions, contact the PSC’s Office of Consumer Assistance & Outreach at 1-800-342-3552.

**7 Who can answer technical or legal questions?**

**For technical questions, contact:**

Dylan Andrews  
(850) 413-6510

Sonica Bruce  
(850) 413-6994

Emily Knoblauch  
(850) 413-6632

**For legal questions, contact:**

Kristen Simmons  
(850) 413-6175

**8 Can I obtain more detailed information online?**

Detailed docket information is available on the PSC website at [www.FloridaPSC.com](http://www.FloridaPSC.com). Click on **Clerk’s Office** then **Dockets**. Type in the docket number **20190118**.

**9 When will the PSC make a decision?**

The PSC staff is tentatively scheduled to file a recommendation with the Commission on March 19, 2020. The Commissioners are expected to vote on this matter at the March 31, 2020 Commission Conference.

*\* Any email or other correspondence sent to a Florida Public Service Commissioner, or any other public official and/or employee of the PSC, in the transaction of public business is considered a public record and is subject to Florida’s Public Records Law. This means that Florida law generally requires the PSC to provide a copy of any such email or correspondence, upon request, for inspection and copying to any Florida citizen or to any member of the media.*

### *PSC Commissioners*



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Donald J. Polmann



COMMISSIONER  
Art Graham



CHAIRMAN  
Gary F. Clark



COMMISSIONER  
Julie I. Brown



COMMISSIONER  
Andrew Giles Fay

## Lighthouse Utilities Company, Inc. - Monthly Water Rates

	Present Rates	Utility Proposed Rates
<b><u>Residential and General Service</u></b>		
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size		
5/8" x 3/4"	\$14.99	\$19.90
1"	\$22.50	\$29.87
1 1/2"	\$37.50	\$49.79
2"	\$74.99	\$99.54
3'	\$119.99	\$159.28
4"	\$239.98	\$318.56
6"	\$374.97	\$497.75
8"	\$1,349.89	\$1,791.90
10"	\$2,174.81	\$2,886.93
 Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential and General Service	 \$3.67	 \$4.87

**Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison**

2,000 Gallons	\$22.33	\$29.64
4,000 Gallons	\$29.67	\$39.38
6,000 Gallons	\$37.01	\$49.12

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Florida Public Service Commission  
Office of Commission Clerk  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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