



# Florida Public Service Commission

# **RATE CASE OVERVIEW**

DECEMBER 2020

Application for increase in water and wastewater rates in Charlotte, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Seminole Counties by

## **Utilities, Inc. of Florida**

DOCKET NO. 20200139-WS

*On July 13, 2020, Utilities, Inc. of Florida (UIF or Utility) filed an application with the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission) for an increase in water and wastewater rates. UIF provides service to 27 systems in Charlotte, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Seminole Counties.*

### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

#### **1 Why is UIF requesting a rate increase?**

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

#### **2 When was UIF's last approved rate increase?**

UIF's rates were last approved by the Commission in a rate case in 2017.

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

Yes. As part of the evaluation process for UIF's rate request, the Commission will conduct five virtual service hearings to allow feedback about UIF and the rate-setting process. Comments will be reviewed before the Commission reaches a decision. Commissioners will attend and participate during the service hearings.

If you want to testify before the PSC by phone at one of the virtual service hearings, you must sign up by contacting the PSC by emailing [speakersignup@psc.state.fl.us](mailto:speakersignup@psc.state.fl.us) or calling (850) 413-7080. You will need to provide your name, address, Utilities, Inc. of Florida Docket No. 20200139-WS, and the date/time of the hearing you want to attend. Once you sign up to speak at the virtual service hearing, you will be provided further instructions from PSC staff on how to participate.

Please note, the order in which customers testify is based upon the order in which they sign up. Please sign up as soon as possible, but at least two business days prior to the service hearing you plan to attend. This will allow PSC staff the time necessary to compile the list of customers wanting to testify. If you have questions about the sign-up process, please call (850) 413-7080.

#### VIRTUAL SERVICE HEARINGS

Thursday, December 3, 2020  
10:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 10, 2020  
2:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 6, 2021  
10:00 a.m.

Thursday, January 7, 2021  
6:00 p.m.

#### **4 What if I cannot attend the virtual service hearings 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

*(Continued)*

If canceled, notice of service hearing 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.

this matter may do so orally at the virtual service hearings 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, **20200139-WS**.

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

### **5 Prior to the filing for its rate case, how much was the monthly water and wastewater bill for a residential customer of UIF using 6,000 gallons?**

Prior to the filing for its rate case, the Utility's monthly water and wastewater bill for a residential customer of UIF using 6,000 gallons was \$22.38 and \$52.34, respectively.

### **6 Using the Utility's proposed rates, how much would the monthly water and wastewater bill be for a residential customer of UIF using 6,000 gallons?**

Using the Utility's proposed rates, the monthly water and wastewater bill for a residential customer of UIF using 6,000 gallons would be \$26.27 and \$69.40, respectively.

### **7 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 **20200139**.

### **8 Who can answer technical or legal questions?**

#### **For technical questions, contact:**

Amber Norris  
(850) 413 - 6984

Sonica Bruce  
(850) 413 - 6994

Kerri Maloy  
(850) 413 - 6836

#### **For legal questions, contact:**

Walt Trierweiler  
(850) 413 - 6584

### **9 Who provides legal representation for customers in utility related matters before the Public Service Commission?**

The Office of Public Counsel was established by the Florida Legislature to advocate on behalf of you and the other utility consumers before the Commission and other state and federal regulatory authorities. The Public Counsel is independent from the Commission, and accountable only to the people of the state of Florida through the Florida Legislature. You can reach the Office of Public Counsel at (800) 342-0222 or [www.floridaopc.gov](http://www.floridaopc.gov).

### **10 When will the PSC make a decision?**

The UIF technical hearing will take place on February 2 - 4, 2021. The PSC staff is tentatively scheduled to file a recommendation with the Commission on April 8, 2021. The Commissioners are expected to vote on this matter at the April 20, 2021 Special Commission Conference.

### **11 How can I follow the Commission Conference?**

You can watch the virtual service hearings and Commission Conference live from the PSC website at [www.floridapsc.com](http://www.floridapsc.com). Look for the "Watch Live Broadcast" icon on the left side of the webpage. If you do not have access to the internet, a call-in number may be obtained by calling PSC staff, at (850) 413-7080. If you are hearing or speech impaired, you may contact the PSC by using the Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8771 (TDD).

*\* 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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## Utilities, Inc. of Florida Monthly Water Bills

	Rates Prior to Filing	Utility Requested Interim	Commission Approved Interim	Utility Requested Final
<b><u>Residential, General, and Bulk Service</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8" x 3/4"	\$11.28	\$11.71	\$11.71	\$13.23
3/4"	\$16.92	\$17.57	\$17.57	\$19.85
1"	\$28.20	\$29.29	\$29.28	\$33.08
1 1/2"	\$56.40	\$58.57	\$58.55	\$66.17
2"	\$90.24	\$93.71	\$93.68	\$105.86
3"	\$180.48	\$187.43	\$187.36	\$211.73
4"	\$282.00	\$292.85	\$292.75	\$330.83
6"	\$564.00	\$585.70	\$585.50	\$661.65
8"	\$902.40	\$937.13	\$936.80	\$1,058.64
10"	\$1,635.60	\$1,698.54	\$1,697.95	\$1,918.79
Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential				
0 - 4,000 gallons	\$1.59	\$1.65	\$1.65	\$1.87
4,001 - 12,000 gallons	\$2.37	\$2.46	\$2.46	\$2.78
Over 12,000 gallons	\$3.96	\$4.11	\$4.11	\$4.65
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General and Bulk Service	\$2.68	\$2.78	\$2.78	\$3.14
<b><u>Private Fire Protection</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
1 1/2"	\$4.70	\$4.88	\$4.88	\$5.51
2"	\$7.52	\$7.81	\$7.81	\$8.82
3"	\$15.04	\$15.62	\$15.61	\$17.64
4"	\$23.50	\$24.40	\$24.40	\$27.57
6"	\$47.00	\$48.81	\$48.79	\$55.14
8"	\$75.20	\$78.09	\$78.07	\$88.22
10"	\$136.30	\$141.55	\$141.50	\$159.90
<b><u>Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison</u></b>				
3,000 gallons	\$16.05	\$16.66	\$16.66	\$18.84
6,000 gallons	\$22.38	\$23.23	\$23.23	\$26.27
8,000 gallons	\$27.12	\$28.15	\$28.15	\$31.83

## Utilities, Inc. of Florida Monthly Wastewater Bills

	Rates Prior to Filing	Utility Requested Interim	Commission Approved Interim	Utility Requested Final
<b><u>Residential Service (RS1)</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge all Meter Sizes	\$26.72	\$27.64	\$27.63	\$35.44
Charge per 1,000 gallons 8,000 gallon cap	\$4.27	\$4.42	\$4.42	\$5.66
<b><u>Residential Service (RS2)</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge all Meter Sizes	\$53.44	\$55.29	\$55.26	\$70.89
Charge per 1,000 gallons 16,000 gallon cap	\$4.27	\$4.42	\$4.42	\$5.66
<b><u>Residential Service (RS3)</u></b>				
<b>Flat Rate</b>	\$48.06	\$49.72	\$49.70	\$63.75
<b><u>Residential Service (RS4)</u></b>				
<b>Flat Rate</b>	\$96.13	\$99.45	\$99.40	\$127.52
<b><u>General Service (GS1)</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8" x 3/4"	\$26.72	\$27.64	\$27.63	\$35.44
3/4"	\$40.08	\$41.47	\$41.45	\$53.17
1"	\$66.80	\$69.11	\$69.08	\$88.61
1 1/2"	\$133.60	\$138.22	\$138.15	\$177.22
2"	\$213.76	\$221.15	\$221.04	\$283.55
3"	\$427.52	\$442.29	\$442.08	\$567.10
4"	\$668.00	\$691.08	\$690.75	\$886.10
6"	\$1,336.00	\$1,382.17	\$1,381.50	\$1,772.19
8"	\$2,137.60	\$2,211.46	\$2,210.40	\$2,835.51
10"	\$3,874.40	\$4,008.28	\$4,006.35	\$5,139.36
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$5.11	\$5.29	\$5.29	\$6.78
<b><u>Typical Residential Bill Comparison (RS1)</u></b>				
3,000 gallons	\$39.53	\$40.90	\$40.89	\$52.42
6,000 gallons	\$52.34	\$54.16	\$54.15	\$69.40
8,000 gallons	\$60.88	\$63.00	\$62.99	\$80.72

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## Utilities, Inc. of Florida Monthly Wastewater Bills (Cont.)

	Rates Prior to Filing	Utility Requested Interim	Commission Approved Interim	Utility Requested Final
<b><u>General Service (GS2)</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8" x 3/4"	\$53.44	\$55.29	\$55.26	\$70.89
3/4"	\$80.16	\$82.93	\$82.89	\$106.33
1"	\$133.60	\$138.22	\$138.15	\$177.22
1 1/2"	\$267.20	\$276.43	\$276.30	\$354.44
2"	\$427.52	\$442.29	\$442.08	\$567.10
3"	\$855.04	\$884.59	\$884.16	\$1,134.20
4"	\$1,336.00	\$1,382.17	\$1,381.50	\$1,772.19
6"	\$2,672.00	\$2,764.33	\$2,763.00	\$3,544.39
8"	\$4,275.20	\$4,422.93	\$4,420.80	\$5,671.02
10"	\$7,748.80	\$8,016.56	\$8,012.70	\$10,278.73
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$5.11	\$5.29	\$5.29	\$6.78
<b><u>General Service (GS3)</u></b>				
Flat Rate	\$48.06	\$49.72	\$49.70	\$63.75
<b><u>General Service (GS4)</u></b>				
Flat Rate (905 ERCs)	\$43,494.30	\$44,997.22	\$44,978.50	\$57,694.88
<b><u>Bulk Service (BS1)</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge - All Meter Sizes	\$1,549.76	\$1,603.31	\$1,602.54	\$2,055.75
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$4.27	\$4.42	\$4.42	\$5.66
<b><u>General Reuse Service (GRS1)</u></b>				
Base Facility Charge - All Meter Sizes	\$7.92	\$8.19	\$7.92	\$10.51
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$1.50	\$1.55	\$1.50	\$1.99

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## Utilities, Inc. of Florida

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

To submit your comments about this docket to the Florida Public Service Commission, please complete this comment form and return it by mail, or fax it to 1-800-511-0809. Correspondence will be placed in the docket file.

CUSTOMER COMMENTS

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

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