

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**COMBINED INITIAL CUSTOMER NOTICE
AND
NOTICE OF INTERIM RATE INCREASE**

TO THE CUSTOMERS OF
PLURIS WEDGEFIELD, LLC
AND
ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

RE: DOCKET NO. 20230083-WS

APPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES IN
ORANGE COUNTY BY PLURIS WEDGEFIELD, LLC

DATED: December 18, 2023

BACKGROUND

Pluris Wedgefield, LLC (the “Utility”) is a water and wastewater utility whose offices are located at 5950 Berkshire Lane, Suite 800, Dallas, TX 75225. The Utility’s water and wastewater facilities are located in Orange County, Florida.

On September 22, 2023, the Utility filed an application with the Florida Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) for an increase in its water and wastewater rates to its customers in Orange County based on an historical test year ending December 31, 2022. Final rates and interim rates are based upon the same test year. The application is assigned Docket No. 20230083-WS and October 26, 2023, was established as the official date of filing.

The Utility is requesting a rate increase because the existing rates do not provide sufficient revenues to cover the required expenses of operations on a going-forward basis and an opportunity to earn a fair return on the Utility’s investment in used and useful property for the public use, and to replace aging infrastructure. The rate of return on equity requested in this proceeding is 9.00%. The overall rate of return requested is 8.12%. According to the Utility’s books, Pluris Wedgefield, LLC states that its adjusted current overall rate of return without a rate increase is negative for both its water and wastewater systems. The Utility’s last full rate proceeding and review of rate base was in Docket No. 20120152-WS, utilizing a test year ending December 31, 2011, which culminated in Order No. PSC-2013-0187-PAA-WS, issued May 2, 2013.

The Utility has incurred substantial additional operating costs and capital investment. Copies of the MFRs, the Rate Case Synopsis, and the Utility’s application are available for inspection on the Florida Public Service Commission website at: <https://www.psc.state.fl.us/clerks-office-dockets-level2?DocketNo=20230083&TabNumber=5>

INTERIM RATES

On December 5, 2023, the Florida Public Service Commission approved interim water and wastewater rate increases for Pluris Wedgefield, LLC. The interim rates will be effective five (5) days after the date of this Notice. The interim rates will be collected subject to refund, pending the Florida Public Service Commission's final decision regarding final rates. If a refund is ordered, it will include interest based upon Commission determined factors.

The current water and wastewater rates, the Utility's requested interim water and wastewater rates, the Utility's requested final water and wastewater rates and the Commission approved interim water and wastewater rates are attached to this Notice. The final water and wastewater rates are subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further Staff review, and the final decision by the Commissioners.

SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGES

The Utility is not requesting any changes to its service availability charges. Even though not requested to do so, the Commission may review and adjust service availability charges.

PROCEDURES AFTER CUSTOMER MEETINGS

The following tentative schedule was established by the Commission for the remaining major events in the Utility's rate case (a customer meeting will be scheduled and you will be provided with a separate notice of its date, time and location):

<u>Schedule Item</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Staff's PAA Recommendation	March 21, 2024
Agenda Conference on PAA Rates	April 2, 2024
PAA Order Issued	April 22, 2024
Protest Period Expires	May 10, 2024
Consummating Order if no Protest	May 15, 2024

HOW TO CONTACT THE COMMISSION

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to Commission staff may do so at the meetings, either orally or in writing. Other written comments regarding the Utility and the proposed rates, or requests to be placed on the mailing list for this case, may be directed to this address:

Florida Public Service Commission
Director, Office of Commission Clerk
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870

A courtesy copy of written comments and complaints is not required, but may be mailed or emailed (preferred) to the following:

Martin S. Friedman, Esquire
Dean Mead
420 S. Orange Ave., Suite 700
Orlando, Florida 32801
mfriedman@deanmead.com

All correspondence should refer to “Docket No. 20230083-WS, Pluris Wedgefield, LLC”. Your letter will be placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Florida Public Service Commission’s toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809, or the Commission’s website available at <http://floridapsc.com/ConsumerAssistance/ComplaintForm>.

Complaints may also be made by phone to the Office of Consumer Assistance and outreach at 1-800-342-3552, submitted through the Public Service Commission's toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809, or the Commission’s website available at: <http://www.floridapsc.com/consumers/complaints/index2.aspx>

This notice was prepared by the Utility and approved by Commission staff for distribution by the Utility to its customers. If you have any questions, please call the Utility’s office at 888-758-7471.

Pluris Wedgefield, LLC

WATER RATES

	Utility Current Rate	Utility Requested Interim Rates	Utility Requested Final Rates	Staff Recommended Interim Rates
Residential Service				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8"X3/4"	\$28.10	\$41.03	\$47.12	\$35.30
3/4"	\$42.16	\$61.55	\$70.68	\$52.95
1"	\$70.26	\$102.58	\$117.80	\$88.25
1-1/2"	\$140.52	\$205.16	\$235.60	\$176.50
2"	\$224.84	\$328.27	\$376.96	\$282.40
3"	\$449.68	\$656.53	\$753.92	\$564.80
4"	\$702.62	\$1,025.83	\$1,178.00	\$882.50
6"	\$1,405.25	\$2,051.67	\$2,356.00	\$1,765.00
Gallonage Charge - Residential Service				
0 - 5,000 Gallons	\$8.86	\$12.94	\$14.86	\$11.13
5,001 - 10,000 Gallons	\$11.01	\$16.07	\$18.46	\$13.83
Over 10,000 Gallons	\$16.52	\$24.12	\$27.70	\$20.75
General and Irrigation Service				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8"X3/4"	\$28.10	\$41.03	\$47.12	\$35.30
3/4"	\$42.16	\$61.55	\$70.68	\$52.95
1"	\$70.26	\$102.58	\$117.80	\$88.25
1-1/2"	\$140.52	\$205.16	\$235.60	\$176.50
2"	\$224.84	\$328.27	\$376.96	\$282.40
3"	\$449.68	\$656.53	\$753.92	\$564.80
4"	\$702.62	\$1,025.83	\$1,178.00	\$882.50
6"	\$1,405.25	\$2,051.67	\$2,356.00	\$1,765.00
8"	\$2,528.88	\$3,692.16	\$4,240.80	\$3,177.00
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General Service and Irrigation	\$10.00	\$14.60	\$16.77	\$12.56
<u>Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison</u>				
2,000 Gallons	\$45.82	\$66.91	\$76.84	\$57.56
4,000 Gallons	\$63.54	\$92.79	\$106.56	\$79.82
8,000 Gallons	\$105.43	\$153.94	\$176.80	\$132.44

WASTEWATER RATES

	Utility Current Rate	Utility Requested Interim Rates	Utility Requested Final Rates	Staff Recommended Interim Rates
Residential Service				
Base Facility Charge - All Meter Sizes	\$31.21	\$45.57	\$46.19	\$38.42
Charge Per 1,000 gallons 8,000 gallon cap	\$4.57	\$6.67	\$6.76	\$5.63
General Service				
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size				
5/8" x 3/4"	\$31.21	\$45.57	\$46.19	\$38.42
3/4"	\$46.81	\$68.34	\$69.29	\$57.63
1"	\$78.01	\$113.89	\$115.48	\$96.05
1-1/2"	\$156.03	\$227.80	\$230.95	\$192.10
2"	\$249.64	\$364.47	\$369.25	\$307.36
3"	\$499.29	\$728.96	\$692.85	\$614.72
4"	\$780.14	\$1,139.00	\$1,154.75	\$960.50
6"	\$1,560.28	\$2,278.01	\$2,309.50	\$1,921.00
8"	\$2,808.69	\$4,100.69	\$4,157.10	\$3,457.80
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$5.46	\$7.97	\$8.08	\$6.72
<u>Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison</u>				
2,000 Gallons	\$40.35	\$58.91	\$59.71	\$49.68
4,000 Gallons	\$49.49	\$72.25	\$73.23	\$60.94
8,000 Gallons	\$67.77	\$98.93	\$100.27	\$83.46