



## COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

The Board of County Commissioners meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Columbia County School Board Administrative Complex Auditorium, 372 West Duval Street, Lake City, Florida 32055. All agenda items are due in the Board's office one week prior to the meeting date.

Today's Date: 4/23/2021 Meeting Date: 5/6/2021

Name: David Kraus Department: BCC Administration

Division Manager's Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DK", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

### 1. Nature and purpose of agenda item:

The County annually establishes a Price Index rate so that private investor owned utilities can adjust their rates to keep up with inflation without passing the expense of a rate case on to the utility customers. On May 6, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners will consider adopting the Florida Public Service Commission index of 1.17% as the index for Columbia County for 2021. Suwannee Valley Utilities is requesting a 1.17% price index rate increase.

### 2. Recommended Motion/Action:

Motion to approve a 2021 Price Index rate increase of 1.17% for Suwannee Valley Utilities, LLC

### 3. Fiscal impact on current budget.

This item has no effect on the current budget.

**Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC**  
5911 Trouble Creek Road  
New Port Richey, FL 34652

Columbia County

**Request for 2021 Price Index Adjustment**

In support for the utilities request for a 2021 price index rate adjustment please find enclosed the following documents as required per Rule 25-30.420 F.A.C.

1. 2021 Price Index Application for Suwannee Valley Estates and Brandon Brent.
2. Revised Tariff Sheets
3. Computation of increase in annual revenue resulting from price index application
4. Affirmation reflecting the authorized rate of return on equity required by Section 367.08(4)(c), F.S.
5. Annualized Revenue Statement
6. Copy of notice to customers
7. Statement of Quality of Service

The Utility's Florida Department of Environmental Protection Water Treatment Plant Operating Number is 2121366.

For the Utility,

Michael Smallridge

Managing Member

April 6, 2021

**COLUMBIA COUNTY  
2021 PRICE INDEX APPLICATION  
TEST YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

**Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC (Suwannee Valley Estates)**

DEP PWS ID NO. 2121366		
DEP WWTS ID NO.	WATER	WASTEWATER
Operation and Maintenance Expenses (1)	\$ 7,599	\$ -
LESS:		
(a) Pass-Through Items		
(1) Purchased Power	\$ (863)	\$ -
(2) Purchased Water	\$ -	\$ -
(3) Purchased Wastewater Treatment	\$ -	\$ -
(5) Other (2)	\$ -	\$ -
(b) Rate Case Expense Included in Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
(c) Adjustments to O&M Expense from last rate case, if applicable: (3)		
(1)	\$ -	\$ -
(2)	\$ -	\$ -
Cost to be Indexed	\$ 6,736	\$ -
Multiply by Annual Commission-Approved Price Index	0.0117	
Total Indexed Cost	\$ 79	\$ -
Add Change in Pass-Through Items (4)		
(1)	\$ -	\$ -
(2)	\$ -	\$ -
Sum of Indexed Cost and Pass-Through Items	\$ 79	\$ -
Divide Index and Pass-Through Sum by RAF Expansion Factor for Regulatory Assessment Fees	0.9550	
Increase in Revenues	\$ 83	
Divided by Applicable Test Year Revenue (5)		
Actual Revenue (Less Misc. Rev.)	\$ -	\$ -
Annualized Revenue	\$ 10,087	\$ -
<b>Percentage Increase in Rates</b>	<b>0.82%</b>	

FOOTNOTES APPEAR ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

**COLUMBIA COUNTY**  
**2021 PRICE INDEX APPLICATION**  
**TEST YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**  
**Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC (Brandon Brent)**

DEP PWS ID NO. 2121366		
DEP WWTS ID NO.	WATER	WASTEWATER
Operation and Maintenance Expenses (1)	\$ 12,399	\$ -
LESS:		
(a) Pass-Through Items		
(1) Purchased Power	\$ (849)	\$ -
(2) Purchased Water	\$ -	\$ -
(3) Purchased Wastewater Treatment	\$ -	\$ -
(5) Other (2)	\$ -	\$ -
(b) Rate Case Expense Included in Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
(c) Adjustments to O&M Expense from last rate case, if applicable: (3)		
(1)	\$ -	\$ -
(2)	\$ -	\$ -
Cost to be Indexed	\$ 11,550	\$ -
Multiply by Annual Commission-Approved Price Index	0.0117	
Total Indexed Cost	\$ 135	\$ -
Add Change in Pass-Through Items (4)		
(1)	\$ -	\$ -
(2)	\$ -	\$ -
Sum of Indexed Cost and Pass-Through Items	\$ 135	\$ -
Divide Index and Pass-Through Sum by RAF Expansion Factor for Regulatory Assessment Fees	0.9550	
Increase in Revenues	\$ 141	
Divided by Applicable Test Year Revenue (5)		
Actual Revenue (Less Misc. Rev.)	\$ -	\$ -
Annualized Revenue	\$ 13,508	\$ -
<b>Percentage Increase in Rates</b>	<b>1.05%</b>	

FOOTNOTES APPEAR ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

## PAGE 1 NOTES

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- 1 This amount must match last year's annual report.
- 2 Other expense items may include increases in required Department of Environmental Protection testing, ad valorem taxes, permit fees charged by the Department of Environmental Protection or a local government authority, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System fees, and regulatory assessment fees. These items should not be currently embedded in the utility's rates.
- 3 This may include adjustments that follow a methodology referenced in the Order from a utility's last rate case (I.e. average bad debt expense or excessive unaccounted for water percentage applied to chemicals expense).
- 4 This may include an increase in purchased power, purchased water, purchased wastewater treatment, required DEP testing, and ad valorem taxes, providing that those increases have been incurred within the 12-month period prior to the submission of the pass-through application. Pass-Through NPDES fees and increases in regulatory assessment fees are eligible as pass-through but not subject to the twelve month rule. DEP water and wastewater testing pass-through require invoices. See Rule 25-30.425 for more information.
- 5 If rates change after January 1 of applicable test year, the book revenues must be adjusted to show the changes and an explanation of the calculation should be attached to this form. See annualized Revenue Worksheet for instructions and a sample format.

SUWANNEE VALLEY UTILITIES LLC  
WATER TARIFF

REVISED JUNE 2021

SUWANNEE VALLEY UTILITIES LLC (Suwannee Valley Estates)

Water Rates, Fees and Miscellaneous Charges

WATER RATES -

<u>Meter Sizes</u>	<u>Base Facility Charge</u>
All Meter Sizes	24.14
Charge per 1,000 gallons	3.47
<u>Misc. Fees and Charges</u>	
Late Fee	10.00
Initial Connection	25.00
Reconnection Fee	25.00
Meter Tampering Fee	75.00
Deposit	85.00
Return Check Charge	Pursuant to FL Statute 832.08(5)

MINIMUM CHARGE - Base Facility Charge

TERMS OF PAYMENT Bills are due and payable when rendered. In accordance with Rule 25.30.320, Florida Administrative Code, if a Customer is delinquent in paying the bill for water service, service may then be discontinued.

EFFECTIVE DATE -

TYPE OF FILING - 2021 Water Retail Rate

MICHAEL SMALLRIDGE  
ISSUING OFFICER

MANAGING MEMBER  
TITLE

SUWANNEE VALLEY UTILITIES LLC  
WATER TARIFF

REVISED JUNE 2021

GENERAL SERVICE

SUWANNEE VALLEY UTILITIES LLC (Brandon Brent)

AVAILABILITY – Available throughout the area served by the Company

APPLICABILITY – For water service to all Customers for which no other schedule applies.

LIMITATIONS – Subject to all the Rules and Regulations of this tariff and  
General Rules and Regulations of Columbia County

BILLING PERIOD -

RATE -

<u>Meter Sizes</u>	<u>Base Facility Charge</u>
¾"	21.49
1"	53.72
1.5"	107.44
2"	171.89
3"	343.77
4"	537.16
6"	1074.29
8"	1718.88
Charge per 1,000 gallons	2.76

MINIMUM CHARGE - Base Facility Charge

TERMS OF PAYMENT Bills are due and payable when rendered. In accordance with Rule 25.30.320, Florida Administrative Code, if a Customer is delinquent in paying the bill for water service, service may then be discontinued.

EFFECTIVE DATE -

TYPE OF FILING - 2021 Water Retail Rate

MICHAEL SMALLRIDGE  
ISSUING OFFICER

MANAGING MEMBER  
TITLE

SUWANNEE VALLEY UTILITIES LLC  
WATER TARIFF

REVISED JUNE 2021

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE

SUWANNEE VALLEY UTILITIES LLC (Brandon Brent)

AVAILABILITY – Available throughout the area served by the Company

APPLICABILITY – For water service to all Customers for which no other schedule applies.

LIMITATIONS – Subject to all the Rules and Regulations of this tariff and  
General Rules and Regulations of Columbia County

BILLING PERIOD -

RATE -

<u>Meter Sizes</u>	<u>Base Facility Charge</u>
3/4"	21.49
1"	53.72
1.5"	107.44
2"	171.89
3"	343.77
4"	537.16
6"	1074.29
8"	1718.88
<u>Charge per 1,000 gallons</u>	
0-5,000 gallons	2.76
5,000-10,000 gallons	4.15
10,000-15,000 gallons	5.54
Above 15,000 gallons	6.91

MINIMUM CHARGE - Base Facility Charge

TERMS OF PAYMENT Bills are due and payable when rendered. In accordance with Rule 25.30.320, Florida Administrative Code, if a Customer is delinquent in paying the bill for water service, service may then be discontinued.

EFFECTIVE DATE -

TYPE OF FILING - 2021 Water Retail Rate

MICHAEL SMALLRIDGE  
ISSUING OFFICER

MANAGING MEMBER  
TITLE



## RATE CALCULATIONS

### Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC Suwannee Valley Estates Residential and General Service - Water

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Current Rates</u>	<u>Increase Factor</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>
MONTHLY BASE CHARGE			
All Meters	\$23.94	100.82%	\$24.14
<u>Gallon Charge</u>			
Per 1,000	\$3.44	100.82%	\$3.47

### Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC Brandon Brent Residential - Water

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Current Rates</u>	<u>Increase Factor</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>
MONTHLY BASE CHARGE			
3/4"	\$21.27	101.05%	\$21.49
1"	\$53.16	101.05%	\$53.72
1.5"	\$106.32	101.05%	\$107.44
2"	\$170.10	101.05%	\$171.89
3"	\$340.20	101.05%	\$343.77
4"	\$531.58	101.05%	\$537.16
6"	\$1,063.13	101.05%	\$1,074.29
8"	\$1,701.02	101.05%	\$1,718.88
Billing Charge	\$4.16	101.05%	\$4.20
<u>Charge per 1,000 gallons - Gen Service</u>			
per 1,000 gallons	\$2.73	101.05%	\$2.76
<u>Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential</u>			
0-5,000 gallons	\$2.73	101.05%	\$2.76
5,001-10,000 gallons	\$4.11	101.05%	\$4.15
10,001-15,000 gallons	\$5.48	101.05%	\$5.54
Above 15,000 gallons	\$6.84	101.05%	\$6.91

## AFFIRMATION

I, Michael Smallridge, hereby affirm that the figures and calculations upon which the change in rates is based are accurate and that the change will not cause Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC, to exceed the range of the most recent leverage formula.

I, the undersigned/receiver of the above-named utility, have read the foregoing and declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information contained in this application is true and correct.

This affirmation is made pursuant to my request for a price index and/or pass-through rate increase, in conformance with Section 367.081(4), Florida Statutes.

Further, I am aware that pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Name:

Michael Smallridge

Title:

Managing Member

Telephone Number: (727) 937-6275

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12 day of April, 2021.

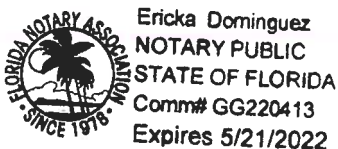
☒ Personally known

☐ Identification presented

My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

5/21/2022

(SEAL)



Notary Public  
State of Florida

## ANNUALIZED REVENUE WORKSHEET – Suwannee Valley Estates

Have the rates charged for customer services changed since January 1, 2020?

- ( ) If no, the utility should use actual revenues. This form may be disregarded.
- ( X ) If yes, the utility must annualize its revenues. Read the remainder of this form.

**Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC (Suwannee Valley Estates)**

**Water Revenues**

**Calculated Year**

**2020**

<b>Jan-Jul 2020</b>	<b>Customer Bills</b>	<b>Consumption Gallons</b>	<b>Authorized Tariff **</b>	<b>Calculated Revenues</b>
Residential BFC per 1,000 gallons	161	624	\$23.32 \$3.35	\$3,754.52 \$2,088.96
General Service BFC per 1,000 gallons	0	0	\$23.32 \$3.35	\$0.00 \$0.00
<b>Aug-Dec 2020</b>				
Residential BFC per 1,000 gallons	110	423	\$23.94 \$3.44	\$2,633.40 \$1,454.09
General Service BFC per 1,000 gallons	0	0	\$23.94 \$3.44	\$0.00 \$0.00
	271	1,046		\$9,930.97
Per 2020 Annual Report Difference (not material)				\$9,930.97 (\$0.00)
<b>Jan-Dec 2020</b>	<b>Customer Bills</b>	<b>Consumption Gallons</b>	<b>Authorized Tariff **</b>	<b>Calculated Revenues</b>
Residential BFC per 1,000 gallons	271	1,046	\$23.94 \$3.44	\$6,487.74 \$3,599.17
General Services BFC per 1,000 gallons	0	0	\$23.94 \$3.44	\$0.00 \$0.00
	271	1,046		\$10,086.91

All customers are residential and are served by 5/8" meter.

**ANNUALIZED REVENUE WORKSHEET – Brandon Brent**

Have the rates charged for customer services changed since January 1, 2020?

- ( X ) If no, the utility should use actual revenues. This form may be disregarded.
- ( ) If yes, the utility must annualize its revenues. Read the remainder of this form.

### **NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS**

Pursuant to Section 367.081(4)(a), Florida Statutes, water and wastewater utilities are permitted to adjust the rates and charges to its customers without those customers bearing the additional expense of a public hearing. These adjustments in rates would depend on increases or decreases in noncontrollable expenses subject to inflationary pressures such as chemicals, and other general operation and maintenance costs.

On April 6, 2021, filed its notice of intention with Columbia County to increase water rates in Columbia County pursuant to this Statute. The filing is subject to review by the Staff for accuracy and completeness. Water rates will increase by approximately 0.82%. These rates should be reflected for service rendered on or after June 6, 2021.

### **NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS**

Pursuant to Section 367.081(4)(a), Florida Statutes, water and wastewater utilities are permitted to adjust the rates and charges to its customers without those customers bearing the additional expense of a public hearing. These adjustments in rates would depend on increases or decreases in noncontrollable expenses subject to inflationary pressures such as chemicals, and other general operation and maintenance costs.

On April 6, 2021, filed its notice of intention with Columbia County to increase water rates in Columbia County pursuant to this Statute. The filing is subject to review by the Staff for accuracy and completeness. Water rates will increase by approximately 1.05%. These rates should be reflected for service rendered on or after June 6, 2021.


### STATEMENT OF QUALITY OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Rule 25-30.420(2)(h) and (i), Florida Administrative Code, Suwannee Valley Utilities LLC:

[ X ] does not have any active written complaints, corrective orders, consent orders, or outstanding citations with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) or the County Health Departments.

[   ] does have the attached active written complaint(s), corrective order(s), consent order(s), or outstanding citation(s) with the DEP or the County Health Department(s). The attachment(s) includes the specific system(s) involved with DEP permit number and the nature of the active complaint, corrective order, consent order, or outstanding citation.

Signature:



Name:

Michael Smallridge

Title:

Managing Member

Telephone Number: (727) 937-6275

Date:

