

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for rate increase in Pinellas  
County by Ranch Mobile WWTP, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 040972-SU  
ORDER NO. PSC-04-1097-PCO-SU  
ISSUED: November 5, 2004

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

BRAULIO L. BAEZ, Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
RUDOLPH "RUDY" BRADLEY  
CHARLES M. DAVIDSON

ORDER SUSPENDING RANCH MOBILE'S PROPOSED PERMANENT RATE INCREASE

BY THE COMMISSION:

On August 30, 2004, Ranch Mobile filed a petition for a permanent rate increase. The utility requested a 35.85% increase or \$66,489 in additional annual revenues. The utility based its request on a projected test year ending December 31, 2005. We last granted Ranch Mobile a \$3,005 rate increase by Order No. 24888, issued August 7, 1991, in Docket No. 900246-SU, In Re: Application for a staff-assisted rate case in Pinellas County by Ranch Mobile WWTP, Inc. The utility did not request interim rates. This order addresses the suspension of Ranch Mobile's requested rates.

Pursuant to Section 367.081(8), Florida Statutes, the utility requested that we process its petition for rate relief using Proposed Agency Action (PAA) procedures. Under that section, we must enter our vote on the PAA within five months of the date on which a complete set of minimum filing requirements (MFRs) is filed with the Commission. The official date of filing is September 22, 2004. We have jurisdiction over this request for a rate increase pursuant to Section 367.081, Florida Statutes.

Section 367.081(6), Florida Statutes, provides that the rates proposed by the utility shall become effective within sixty days after filing unless we vote to withhold consent to implementation of the requested rates. Further, Section 367.081(8), Florida Statutes, permits the proposed rates to go into effect (secured and subject to refund) at the expiration of five months if: (1) the Commission has not acted upon the requested rate increase; or, (2) if the Commission's PAA action is protested by a party other than the utility.

We have reviewed the filing and have considered the proposed rates, the revenues generated thereby, and the information filed in support of the rate application. We find that it is reasonable and necessary to require further amplification and explanation of this data, and to require production of additional or corroborative data. This further examination will include on-

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site investigations by staff accountants and engineers. Based on the foregoing, we find that it is appropriate to suspend the utility's proposed rate increase.

Based on the foregoing, it is

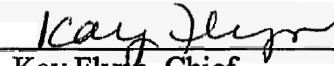
ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the proposed final rates of Ranch Mobile are hereby suspended. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open, pending the Commission's final action on the utility's requested rate increase.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 5th day of November, 2004.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of the Commission Clerk  
and Administrative Services

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kay Flynn, Chief  
Bureau of Records

( S E A L )

AEV/RAM

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

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Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code; or (2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.