

ORIGINAL
FILE 1992

TESTIMONY OF DEBORAH L. OBLACZYNSKI
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

FILED ON BEHALF OF
THE STAFF OF THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FILED: OCTOBER 12, 1992

SYSTEMS: LEILANI HEIGHTS, FISHERMAN'S HAVEN, FOX RUN WATER SYSTEMS

COUNTY: MARTIN

DOCKET NO. 920199-WS - APPLICATION FOR A RATE INCREASE BY
SOUTHERN STATES UTILITIES, INC.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DEBORAH OBLACZYNSKI

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2 Q. Please state your name and business address.

3 A. My name is Deborah Lee Oblaczynski.

4 Department of Environmental Regulation, 1900 South Congress Avenue, Suite A,
5 West Palm Beach, FL 33406.

6 Q. Please state a brief description of your educational background and
7 experience.

8 A. I have a bachelor of science degree in biological science from the
9 Florida State University in 1989, and interdisciplinary minor in chemistry and
10 physics. I have one year and two months experience as an environmental
11 chemist with the McGinnes Laboratories, Inc. in West Palm Beach, Florida and
12 one year and five months experience as an environmental specialist in the
13 drinking water section of the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation.

14 Q. By whom are you presently employed?

15 A. I am employed by the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation
16 (DER).

17 Q. How long have you been employed with the Department of Environmental
18 Regulation and in what capacity?

19 A. One year and four months as an Environmental Specialist I and one month
20 as an Environmental Specialist II.

21 Q. What are your general responsibilities at the Department of
22 Environmental Regulation?

23 A. My responsibilities include tracking and determining compliance with
24 monitoring and reporting requirements for public water systems in Martin
25 County, inspections of 130 public water systems in Martin and St. Lucie

1 | existing water treatment plant, including a second well of 8 inches, a new
2 | high service pump, auxiliary power, a double walled fuel storage unit, a
3 | curbed concrete pad beneath the auxiliary power unit, and a storage tank. It
4 | is not cleared for service yet. WC-43-188475 was also issued on February 25,
5 | 1991 for the addition of eight new pressure filters. It is cleared for
6 | service.

7 | Q. Are the plants in compliance with their permits?

8 | A. Yes, except Leilani Heights and Fisherman's Haven. The loss of chlorine
9 | alarms were added to both plants without the Department's permits for
10 | modifying the plants at Leilani Heights.

11 | For Fisherman's Haven, because of no permit record, in the Department's
12 | opinion there has not been a plant design capacity established. An
13 | engineering evaluation will be necessary to properly rate the plant.

14 | Q. Are the utility's treatment facilities and distribution system
15 | sufficient to serve its present customers?

16 | A. Yes, except Leilani Heights and Fisherman's Haven. The water plant at
17 | Leilani Heights does not have adequate chlorine detention time to meet the
18 | maximum day flow demand.

19 | For Fisherman's Haven, answer depends upon determination of plant
20 | capacity and comparison to actual flows because there is no construction
21 | permit record.

22 | Q. Does the utility maintain the 20 psi minimum pressure throughout the
23 | distribution system as required by Section 17-555.350, Florida Administrative
24 | Code?

25 | A. Yes.

1 Q. Does the utility have an adequate auxiliary power source in the event
2 of a power outage?

3 A. Yes, except Leilani Heights and Fisherman's Haven. No auxiliary power
4 source is provided as required at Leilani Heights and Fisherman's Haven. The
5 requirement for auxiliary power is based on population exceeding 350. In the
6 Department's opinion, based on 146 service connections and the type of
7 community of Fisherman's Haven, a definite potential to exceed 350 exists.

8 For Leilani Heights, the ability to meet fire control demand is
9 dependent on both Plants No.1 and No.2 being in service. Also the requirement
10 for two wells appears to be being met by Plant No.2. However, auxiliary power
11 should be provided to both plants. The company has not responded for this
12 issue.

13 Q. Are the utility's water wells in a location that complies with Section
14 17-555.312, Florida Administrative Code?

15 A. Yes. However, the well of Fisherman's Haven may be less than 100 feet
16 away from residential sewage plumbing, and the utility is required to submit
17 more information regarding this concern.

18 Q. Does the utility have certified operators as required by Chapter 17-602,
19 Florida Administrative Code?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Has the utility established a cross-connection control program in
22 accordance with Section 17-555.360, Florida Administrative Code?

23 A. Yes, the program is on file with the Department.

24 Q. Are the overall maintenance of the treatment plants and distribution
25 facilities satisfactory?

1 | A. Yes.

2 | Q. Does the water produced by the utility meet the State and Federal
3 | maximum contaminant levels for primary and secondary water quality standards?

4 | A. Yes, except Fox Run. Iron is still above the 0.3 mg/L maximum
5 | contaminant level at Fox Run. It ranges from 0.3 to 0.6 mg/L.

6 | Q. Does the utility monitor the organic contaminants listed in Section
7 | 17-550.410, Florida Administrative Code?

8 | A. Yes.

9 | Q. Do recent chemical analyses of raw and finished water, when compared to
10 | regulations, suggest the need for additional treatment?

11 | A. No, except Fox Run. The water produced by Fox Run water plant still
12 | exceeds MCLs for iron, even though the utility has just installed several new
13 | filters.

14 | Q. Does the utility maintain the required chlorine residual or its
15 | equivalent throughout the distribution system?

16 | A. Yes.

17 | Q. Are the plant and distribution systems in compliance with all the other
18 | provisions of Chapter 17, Florida Administrative Code, not previously
19 | mentioned?

20 | A. Yes, except Fisherman's Haven. Some construction and operational
21 | deficiencies exist at Fisherman's Haven. There is inadequate protection of
22 | well which has no well pad and is subject to inundation. There should be two
23 | wells as required by rule, and inadequate detention time is provided for
24 | chlorination.

25 | Q. Has any of the water systems of Southern States Utilities, Inc. in

1 | Martin County been the subject of any Department of Environmental Regulation
2 | enforcement action within the past two years?

3 | A. No, except Fox Run. The Department has a current enforcement case
4 | concerning iron levels.

5 | Q. Do you have anything further to add?

6 | A. No.

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