

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Cancellation by Florida) DOCKET NO. 930026-WS
Public Service Commission of) ORDER NO. PSC-93-0521-FOF-WS
Certificates Nos. 519-W and) ISSUED: 04/06/93
452-S Held by SUNBELT UTILITIES,)
INC. in Sumter County and)
Amendment of Certificates Nos.)
280-W and 227-S to Consolidate)
Territory in Lake/Sumter)
Counties.)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
THOMAS M. BEARD
SUSAN F. CLARK
JULIA L. JOHNSON
LUIS J. LAUREDO

ORDER CONSOLIDATING CERTIFICATES

BY THE COMMISSION:

BACKGROUND

Section 367.171(7), Florida Statutes, gives this Commission exclusive jurisdiction over all utility systems whose service transverses county boundaries. Prior to the 1989 enactment of this section of the statute, it was our practice to issue a water or wastewater utility separate county-specific certificates for a service territory which transversed county boundaries even though the service territory was contiguous and the utility system(s) were interconnected. After the 1989 statutory change, however, our practice has been to issue a multi-county water or wastewater certificate for any service territory that crosses county boundaries.

Sunbelt Utilities, Inc., (Sunbelt or utility) has separate county-specific water and wastewater certificates for the territory it serves in Sumter and Lake Counties. These Sunbelt systems are physically interconnected. According to Sunbelt's 1991 annual report, Sunbelt provided water and wastewater service to approximately 4,736 residential customers in Lake and Sumter Counties. We are considering the matter of consolidating Sunbelt's certificates on our own motion.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

03706 APR-68

PSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

ONE MULTI-COUNTY CERTIFICATE

As stated above, Sunbelt's water and wastewater systems in Lake and Sumter counties are interconnected across the county boundaries. Specifically, the water transmission lines in Sumter County are connected to the well systems in Lake County, and the wastewater collection lines in Sumter County transport the wastewater to the treatment plant located in Lake County. The utility has indicated it does not intend to build a wastewater plant in Sumter County and that any wastewater treatment plant expansion will be made at the Lake County facility. Further, we note that Sunbelt currently charges the same rates in both counties and has one set of approved tariffs. Since the systems are combined, we believe the utility should have one multi-county certificate for water and one for wastewater. As indicated above, this is consistent with what we have done for other utilities with systems crossing county boundaries. This action is, essentially, a house-keeping matter and will have no affect on the utility's certificated territory.

Based on the foregoing, it is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Sunbelt Utilities, Inc.'s Certificates Nos. 519-W and 452-S for territory in Sumter County are hereby cancelled and Certificates Nos. 280-W and 227-S are hereby amended to consolidate the territory Sunbelt Utilities, Inc., serves in both Lake and Sumter Counties. It is further

ORDERED that Sunbelt Utilities, Inc., shall return all of the aforementioned certificates to this Commission for processing within thirty days of the date of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this docket be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 6th day of April, 1993.

STEVE TRIBBLE, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)
MJF

by: Kary Flynn
Chief, Bureau of Records

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), 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.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, 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 sewer utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900 (a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.