

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for Exemption) DOCKET NO. 950037-WS
from Florida Public Service) ORDER NO. PSC-95-0538-POF-WS
Commission Regulation for) ISSUED: April 28, 1995
Provision of Water Service in)
Orange County by TAFT WATER)
ASSOCIATION, INC.)
_____)

ORDER INDICATING THE EXEMPT STATUS OF
TAFT WATER ASSOCIATION, INC., AND CLOSING DOCKET

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 9, 1995, Taft Water Association, Inc., (Taft or utility) filed a request for recognition of its exempt status, pursuant to Section 367.022(7), Florida Statutes. Taft is located at 1129 Pine Street, Taft, Florida. Mr. John Edmondson is the president of the association, and Mr. Clevis Valentine is the primary contact person. Mr. Edmondson filed the application on behalf of the utility.

Upon request and sufficient proof, the Commission will issue an order indicating the nonjurisdictional or exempt status of water or wastewater systems if they qualify under the appropriate provision of Chapter 367, Florida Statutes. The application was filed in accordance with Section 367.022(7), Florida Statutes.

Section 367.022(7), Florida Statutes, states that nonprofit corporations, associations, or cooperatives providing service solely to members who own and control such nonprofit entities are exempt from Commission regulation. Before an exemption of this nature may be granted, the applicant requesting the exemption must file with the Commission a statement specifying the following: that the corporation is nonprofit; that it is providing service solely to the members who own and control it; and, whether it is providing water service, wastewater service, or both. The applicant also has to state who will do its billing and show its service territory. Additionally, the applicant must submit its Articles of Incorporation as filed with the Secretary of State and its Bylaws. These documents must show clearly the requirements of membership, the members' voting rights, and the circumstances under which control passes to the nondeveloper members.

In its application, Taft has stated that it is a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes; that it will provide service solely to its members who own and control it; and that it will provide water service for which it

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will provide its own billing. The service area is specified as Taft Water Association, 1129 Pine Street, Taft, Florida. The Association has provided a recorded warranty deed granting it the use of the land upon which the facilities are located and verifying that the Association has purchased and owns the water plant facilities, thereby establishing its proof of ownership of the facilities and its continued use of the land where the facilities are located.

In addition, pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-30.060(2)(f), Florida Administrative Code, anyone knowingly making a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead is guilty of a misdemeanor. By signing the application, Taft acknowledged that it is aware of Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, and the penalties for making false statements in the application.

Based upon the facts as represented, we find that Taft is exempt from Commission regulation pursuant to the provisions of Section 367.022(7), Florida Statutes. However, should there be any change in circumstances or method of operation, a representative of the Association must inform the Commission within thirty days of such change, so that we may reevaluate Taft's exempt status.

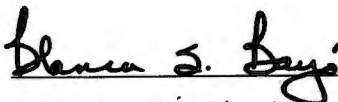
It is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that, based upon the facts as represented, Taft Water Association, Inc., 1129 Pine Street, Orlando, Florida 32824, is hereby exempt from Commission regulation pursuant to the provisions of Section 367.022(7), Florida Statutes. It is further

ORDERED that should there be any change in circumstances or method of operation, a representative of Taft Water Association, Inc., shall inform the Commission within thirty days of such change so that its exempt status may be reevaluated. It is further

ORDERED that this docket is hereby closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 28th
day of April, 1995.



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

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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 and/or wastewater 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 Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900 (a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.