

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for Exemption) DOCKET NO. 960760-WU
from Florida Public Service) ORDER NO. PSC-96-1207-FOF-WU
Commission Regulation for) ISSUED: September 23, 1996
Provision of Water Service in)
Marion County by Paul LaFond.)
_____)

ORDER INDICATING NONJURISDICTIONAL STATUS
OF PAUL LAFOND AND CLOSING DOCKET

BY THE COMMISSION:

On June 24, 1996, Professional Offices filed an application with this Commission for recognition of its nonjurisdictional status, pursuant to Section 367.021(12), Florida Statutes. Mr. Paul LaFond, owner and primary contact person, filed the application on behalf of Professional Offices.

From a review of the application, it was determined that because the office buildings are still under construction, Professional Offices does not yet exist. Therefore, the applicant for the exemption is actually the owner, Mr. Paul LaFond. After the buildings are constructed, Mr. LaFond intends to sell them along with the water system, which will be located at 5353 Southwest State Road 200, Ocala, Marion County, Florida.

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 367.021(12), Florida Statutes, and Rules 25-30.060(2) and (3)(j), Florida Administrative Code.

Section 367.021(12), Florida Statutes, states that a "utility means a water or wastewater utility and except as provided in Section 367.022, includes every person, lessee, trustee, or receiver owning, operating, managing or controlling a system, or proposing construction of a system, who is providing or proposes to provide water or wastewater service to the public for compensation."

According to Mr. LaFond's application, water service will be provided only to the office buildings to be located at 5353 Southwest State Road 200, Ocala, Florida; there will be no charge for providing the service; and all costs of providing service will be treated or recovered as operational expenses. Wastewater service will be provided by septic tank.

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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, Mr. LaFond acknowledged that he is aware of Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, and the penalties for making false statements in the application.

Based on the facts as represented, we find that Mr. Paul LaFond is not a utility pursuant to the provisions of Section 367.021(12), Florida Statutes. Accordingly, Mr. Lafond is not subject to this Commission's jurisdiction. However, Mr. LaFond, as owner of the system, or any successors in interest are put on notice that if there is any change in circumstance or method of operation which causes it to no longer qualify for exemption pursuant to Sections 367.021 or 367.022, Florida Statutes, it should inform the Commission within 30 days of such change so that its status may be reevaluated.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that, based upon the facts as represented, Mr. Paul LaFond, 5353 Southwest State Road 200, Ocala, Florida 34474, is not a water utility subject to this Commission's jurisdiction, pursuant to the provisions of Section 367.021(12), Florida Statutes. It is further

ORDERED that this docket is hereby closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 23rd day of September, 1996.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

by: _____
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, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, 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.