



Public Service Commission

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DATE: JANUARY 25, 2001

TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (BAYÓ)

FROM: DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE SERVICES (MAKIN, ^{CRBB} BULECZA-BANKS)
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (C. KEATING, K. WALKER) ^{wck}

RE: DOCKET NO. 000801-GU - REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RATE SCHEDULE T-1 FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TARIFF BY SEBRING GAS SYSTEM, INC.

AGENDA: FEBRUARY 6, 2001 - REGULAR AGENDA - TARIFF FILING - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: 60-DAY SUSPENSION DATE: AUGUST 30, 2000
COMPANY WAIVES THE 60-DAY SUSPENSION DATE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: NONE

FILE NAME AND LOCATION: S:\PSC\CMP\WP\000801.RCM

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CASE BACKGROUND

On April 4, 2000, the Commission issued Order No. PSC-00-0630-FOF-GU, adopting Rule 25-7.0335, Florida Administrative Code, Transportation Service. The rule requires Florida's investor-owned natural gas utilities to offer transportation service to all non-residential customers and file a transportation service tariff with the Commission by July 1, 2000. In accordance with the rule, Sebring Gas System, Inc. (Sebring or Company) filed its transportation tariff for approval. This recommendation addresses Sebring's proposed tariff.

Jurisdiction over this matter is vested in the Commission by Sections 366.04, 366.05, and 366.06, Florida Statutes.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission approve Sebring Gas System Incorporated's proposed rate schedule T-1, Firm Transportation Service?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. The Commission should approve Sebring Gas System Inc.'s proposed rate schedule T-1, Firm Transportation Service, effective February 6, 2001. (MAKIN, BULECZA-BANKS)

STAFF ANALYSIS: On June 30, 2000, Sebring filed its proposed rate schedule T-1, Firm Transportation Service to implement Rule 25-7.0335, Florida Administrative Code. The rule, which became effective on April 23, 2000, requires all natural gas utilities to offer the transportation of natural gas to all non-residential customers and file a transportation service tariff by July 1, 2000.

Sebring's proposed transportation tariff filed in compliance with Rule 25-7.0335, Florida Administrative Code, would make transportation service available to all non-residential customers beginning February 6, 2001.

The Company's proposed transportation tariff is identical to staff's model transportation tariff that was issued October 6, 1997. Under this tariff, transportation service would be offered to all non-residential customers on an equal basis, regardless of size. The proposed tariff would not change any customer's rates. For the present time, the Company will use its existing sales service rates for transportation service. The Commission has accepted this method for setting transportation service rates for Peoples Gas System, in Docket No. 850643-GU, Order No. 16229. Should Sebring determine that the transportation rates are inappropriate, it may file a petition seeking changes.

Staff believes that Sebring's proposed transportation service tariff is reasonable and should be approved. The tariff should become effective February 6, 2001.

DOCKET NO. 000801-GU
DATE: JANUARY 25, 2001

ISSUE 2: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes. If no protest is filed by a person whose substantial interests are affected within 21 days of the issuance of the Order, this docket should be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order. (C. KEATING, K. WALKER)

STAFF ANALYSIS: If a protest is filed by a person whose substantial interests are affected within 21 days of the Commission Order approving this tariff, the tariff should remain in effect pending resolution of the protest, with any charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. If no protest is filed, this docket should be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.