

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Joint application to transfer) DOCKET NO. 891110-WS
 water and sewer certificates in)
 St. Johns County from ST. JOHNS NORTH) ORDER NO. 21978
 UTILITY CORP. to JACKSONVILLE)
 SUBURBAN UTILITIES CORPORATION.) ISSUED: 10-2-89
)

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURE

Pursuant to the objections filed on August 4, 1989, by General Development Utilities, Inc. (General Development) to the notice by St. Johns North Utility Corp. and General Waterworks Corp. of intent to jointly apply for transfer of water and sewer certificates, filed July 20, 1989, this matter is currently set for an administrative hearing on February 12, 1990.

The scope of this proceeding shall be based upon the issues raised by the parties and Commission Staff during the prehearing conference, unless modified by the Commission. The hearing will be conducted according to the provisions of Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, and the rules and regulations of this Commission.

Discovery

When interrogatories or requests for production are served on a party and the respondent intends to object to or ask for clarification of an interrogatory or request for production, the objection or request for clarification shall be made within ten (10) days of service of the interrogatory or request for production. This procedure is intended to reduce delay time in discovery.

Prehearing Statement

Pursuant to Rule 25-22.038(3), Florida Administrative Code, a prehearing statement shall be required of all parties in this docket on or before Wednesday, January 24, 1990. Commission Staff may also file a prehearing statement on that date. Failure of a party to timely file a prehearing statement shall be a waiver of any issue not raised by other parties or by the Commission. In addition, such failure shall preclude the party from presenting testimony in support of its position. Such prehearing statements shall set forth the

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following information in the sequence listed below.

- (a) the name and address of all known witnesses that may be called by the party, and the subject matter of their testimony;
- (b) a description of all known exhibits that may be sponsored by the party, their contents, whether they may be identified on a composite basis, and the witness sponsoring each;
- (c) a statement of basic position in the proceeding;
- (d) a statement of each question of fact the party considers at issue, the party's position on each such issue, and which of the party's witnesses will address the issue;
- (e) a statement of each question of law the party considers at issue and the party's position on each such issue;
- (f) a statement of each policy question the party considers at issue, the party's position on each such issue, and which of the party's witnesses will address the issue;
- (g) a statement of issues that have been stipulated to by the parties;
- (h) a statement of all pending motions or other matters the party seeks action upon; and
- (i) a statement as to any requirement set forth in this order that cannot be complied with, and the reasons therefore.

The original and twelve copies of each prehearing statement shall be filed with the Division of Records and Reporting on or before the close of business on Wednesday, January 24, 1990. A copy of the prehearing statement shall also be mailed to all other parties no later than its filing with the Commission.

Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits

In accordance with Rule 25-22.048, Florida Administrative

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Code, each party shall be required to prefile all written testimony that it intends to sponsor. Commission Staff may file prefiled testimony in this case. Written testimony shall be typed on standard 8 1/2 x 11 inch transcript quality paper, double-spaced, with 25 numbered lines, on consecutively numbered pages, each with a sufficient left margin to allow for binding.

A copy of any prefiled exhibit sponsored by a witness shall be attached to his or her testimony and marked for identification. All other known exhibits shall be marked for identification at the prehearing conference. After an opportunity for opposing parties to object to introduction of the exhibits and to cross-examine the witness sponsoring them, exhibits may be offered into evidence at the hearing. Exhibits accepted into evidence at the hearing will be numbered sequentially.

The applicant shall file the original and twelve copies of its prefiled written testimony and exhibits with the Division of Records and Reporting on or before the close of business on Friday, December 1, 1989. The objector and any intervenors shall file the original and twelve copies of their prefiled written testimony and exhibits on or before the close of business on Wednesday, January 3, 1990.

The original and twelve copies of all prefiled rebuttal testimony and associated exhibits shall be filed with the Division of Records and Reporting on or before the close of business on Monday, January 22, 1990.

A copy of all prefiled testimony and exhibits shall also be mailed to all other parties no later than their filing with the Commission.

Prehearing Conference

A prehearing conference will be held at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, January 31, 1990, in conference room 122, the Fletcher Building, 101 East Gaines Street, in Tallahassee. The conditions of Rule 25-22.038 (5)(b), Florida Administrative Code, shall be observed. Any party who fails to attend the prehearing conference, unless excused by the prehearing officer, will have waived all issues and positions raised in that party's prehearing statement.

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Prehearing Procedure: Waiver of Issues

Any issue not raised by a party prior to the issuance of the prehearing order shall be waived by that party, except for good cause shown. A party seeking to raise a new issue after the issuance of the prehearing order shall demonstrate that: it was unable to identify the issue because of the complexity of the matter; discovery or other prehearing procedures were not adequate to fully develop the issue; due diligence was exercised to obtain facts touching on the issue; information obtained subsequent to the issuance of the prehearing order was not previously available to enable the party to identify the issue; and introduction of the issue could not be to the prejudice or surprise of any party. Specific reference shall be made to the information received, and how it enabled the party to identify the issue.

Unless a matter is not at issue for that party, each party shall diligently endeavor in good faith to take a position on each issue prior to issuance of the prehearing order. When a party is unable to take a position on an issue, it shall bring that fact to the attention of the prehearing officer. If the prehearing officer finds that, in fact, the party has acted diligently and in good faith to take a position, and further finds that the party's failure to succeed in taking a position will not prejudice other parties or confuse the proceeding, the party may maintain "no position at this time" prior to hearing and thereafter identify its position in a post-hearing statement of issues. In the absence of such a finding by the prehearing officer, the party shall have waived the entire issue. When an issue and position have been properly identified, any party may adopt that issue and position in its post-hearing statement.

Controlling Dates

The following dates have been established to govern the key activities of this case.

1) The applicant shall file its prefiled direct testimony and exhibits on or before Friday, December 1, 1989.

2) The objector and any intervenors shall file their prefiled direct testimony and exhibits on or before Wednesday, January 3, 1990.

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3) The staff shall file its prefiled direct testimony and exhibits, if any, on or before Monday, January 15, 1990.


4) Rebuttal testimony, if any, and associated exhibits shall be filed on or before Monday, January 22, 1990.

5) Each party shall file its prehearing statement on or before Wednesday, January 24, 1990.

6) A prehearing conference shall be held at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 31, 1990, Room 122, the Fletcher Building, 101 East Gaines Street, in Tallahassee.

7) The formal hearing shall be held at 9:30 a.m., Monday, February 12, 1990, in Room 122, the Fletcher Building, 101 East Gaines Street, in Tallahassee.

By ORDER of Commissioner Thomas M. Beard, as Prehearing Officer, this 2nd day of October, 1989.


THOMAS M. BEARD, Commissioner
and Prehearing Officer

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