

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for exemption) DOCKET NO. 930313-WS
from Florida Public Service) ORDER NO. PSC-93-1836-FOF-WS
Commission regulation for) ISSUED: December 27, 1993
provision of water and)
wastewater service in Broward)
County by INNSBRUCK APARTMENTS.)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman
SUSAN F. CLARK
JULIA L. JOHNSON
LUIS J. LAUREDO
DIANE K. KIESLING

ORDER INDICATING EXEMPT STATUS OF
INNSBRUCK APARTMENTS AND CLOSING DOCKET

BY THE COMMISSION:

Pursuant to Section 367.022(8), Florida Statutes, and Rules 25-30.060(2) and 3(h), Florida Administrative Code, Innsbruck Apartments (Innsbruck) filed an application for a reseller exemption on March 22, 1993. Mr. Robert F. Oulton, president of H2Oulton Metering System, Inc. d/b/a Water and Sewer Services of Florida (WSS), is the agent and contact person for Innsbruck. Innsbruck's mailing address is c/o Mr. Robert F. Oulton, P.O. Box 5430, Lighthouse Point, Florida 33074-5430.

Innsbruck's service area is an apartment complex consisting of 8 apartments housed in two buildings located at 1941 N.W. 14th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The apartment complex receives water and wastewater service from the City of Ft. Lauderdale through two 1-inch meters, one for each apartment building. Previously the service was included as a nonspecific portion of the rent. To promote water conservation and reduce the owner's costs for these services, Innsbruck contracted with H2Oulton Metering Services, Inc. d/b/a Water & Sewer Services of Florida (H2Oulton) to submeter each unit and begin billing for service based on actual consumption.

Upon request and sufficient proof, the Commission will issue an order indicating the nonjurisdictional or exempt status of water

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

13717 DEC 27 83

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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(8), Florida Statutes, and Rules 25-30.060(2) and (3)(h), Florida Administrative Code.

Section 367.022(8), Florida Statutes, states, in part, that "[a]ny person who resells water or wastewater service at a rate or charge which does not exceed the actual purchase price thereof," and who complies with certain reporting requirements, is exempt from Commission regulation. According to Innsbruck's application, service is provided at a charge that does not exceed the actual purchase price. The City of Ft. Lauderdale charges Innsbruck a base rate of \$6.65 and a gallonage rate of \$1.26 per 1,000 gallons for water; and a base rate of \$4.53 and a gallonage rate of \$1.94 per 1,000 gallons for wastewater. According to the application, Innsbruck will collect from its tenants only that amount billed by the City.

It should be noted, however, that H2Oulton, as agent, will collect a customer deposit which exceeds the amount of deposit the City of Ft. Lauderdale collected from Innsbruck. The City of Ft. Lauderdale collects a \$15 combined water and wastewater deposit for each 1-inch master meter, making a total deposit of \$30 for the complex. According to the information provided, Innsbruck's agent will collect a combined water and wastewater deposit of \$50, making a total deposit of \$400. However, \$50 is the deposit amount charged by the City of Ft. Lauderdale to other residential customers with an individual meter. Although Innsbruck is collecting deposits which are in excess of that paid to the City of Ft. Lauderdale, we find that Innsbruck qualifies for exemption as a reseller pursuant to Section 367.022(8), Florida Statutes, as long as the amount of the deposit collected from the tenants of Innsbruck does not exceed the amount the City of Ft. Lauderdale would collect from the same tenants if each individual apartment was connected directly to the City system.

Innsbruck is aware of the requirements of Rule 25-30.111, Florida Administrative Code, which requires a reseller to file a report with the Commission each year indicating whether or not it has collected more than the amount paid by the reseller to the provider of service, and that it provides water and wastewater service only to the apartment complex.

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. Oulton

ORDER NO. PSC-93-1836-FOF-WS
DOCKET NO. 930313-WS
PAGE 3

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 Innsbruck is exempt from Commission regulation as a reseller pursuant to Section 367.022(8), Florida Statutes. In the event of any change of circumstances or method of operation, the owner of Innsbruck or any successors in interest, must inform the Commission within 30 days of such change so its exempt status may be reevaluated.

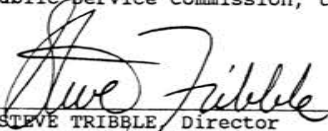
It is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that, based upon the facts as represented, Innsbruck Apartments, c/o Robert F. Oulton, P. O. Box 5430, Lighthouse Point, Florida 33074-5430, is hereby exempt from Commission regulation pursuant to the provisions of Section 367.022(8), Florida Statutes. It is further

ORDERED that should there be any change in circumstances or method of operation, the owner of Innsbruck Apartments or any successors in interest shall inform this Commission within 30 days of such a change so that we may reevaluate Innsbruck's exempt status. It is further

ORDERED that Docket No. 930313-WS is hereby closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 27th day of December, 1993.



STEVE TRIBBLE Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)

SLE

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.