

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request to Change the) DOCKET NO. 931107-SU
Billing Cycle for Tropical Isles) ORDER NO. PSC-94-0047-FOF-SU
System in St. Lucie County From) ISSUED: January 13, 1994
Bi-Monthly to Monthly by)
SOUTHERN STATES UTILITIES, INC.)
_____)

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

SUSAN F. CLARK
JULIA L. JOHNSON
LUIS J. LAUREDO

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF CHANGE TO MONTHLY BILLING CYCLE

BY THE COMMISSION:

Southern States Utilities, Inc. (SSU or utility) is a Class A utility operating the Tropical Isles System (TIS or system) in St. Lucie County. TIS provides wastewater service only to 172 residential customers. By Order No. PSC-93-0621-FOF-SU dated April 21, 1993, pursuant to Section 367.171, Florida Statutes, decreeing grandfather rights, SSU was granted a certificate to operate TIS. In that Order the system was found to be fully built-out. In accordance with SSU's 1992 Annual Report, the system has a net operating income of \$(30,914).

On November 15, 1993, SSU filed a tariff application with this Commission to change TIS's billing cycle from a bi-monthly to a monthly billing cycle. The utility's application was filed in accordance with Chapter 25-9, Florida Administrative Code. SSU requested the monthly billing cycle for TIS in order to establish consistency with the remainder of its systems. In Order No. PSC-93-0621-FOF-SU this Commission approved the wastewater rate then in effect, which is a \$25.18 bi-monthly flat rate. Originally this rate was established and approved by the St. Lucie County Water and Sewer Authority on April 12, 1990.

By Order No. PSC-93-0423-FOF-WS, issued March 22, 1993, this Commission approved a monthly billing cycle for all SSU's systems. We have determined that it is appropriate and consistent for the billing cycle of TIS to conform with the billing cycle of SSU's

DOCUMENT NO.
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other systems. The customers of TIS will not be adversely affected by this change.

Although the annual revenues of the utility will not change as a result of the billing cycle change from bi-monthly to monthly, the actual rate will change. We have calculated the monthly wastewater rate by dividing the present bi-monthly flat rate of \$25.18 by 2, which is consistent with the amount requested by the utility. We find that the appropriate rate is a flat monthly rate of \$12.59.

The utility shall file revised tariff sheets for the approved monthly rate within thirty days of the issuance of this Order. Upon verification by staff that the revised tariff is consistent with the Commission's decision, the tariff shall become effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets. The tariff will be approved after our staff's approval of the customer notice. The proposed tariff sheets shall become final if a substantially affected person does not file a petition for formal proceeding regarding the implementation of the tariff sheets within 21 days of the issuance of this Order. In the event of a protest, the tariff will go into effect on an interim basis, pending the issuance of a final order approving or denying it. If no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed.

Based on the foregoing, it is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the Southern States Utilities, Inc.'s tariff filing to change the billing cycle from bi-monthly to monthly for the Tropical Isles System is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that the appropriate flat monthly rate for the Tropical Isles System is \$12.59. It is further

ORDERED that the utility shall file revised tariffs for the approved monthly rate within thirty days of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this tariff shall become effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets. The tariff shall be approved after our staff's approval of the customer notice. It is further

ORDERED that the tariff revision approved herein is interim in nature and shall become final unless a substantially affected person files a petition for a formal proceeding which is received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, by the date set


ORDER NO. PSC-94-0047-FOF-SU
DOCKET NO. 931107-SU
PAGE 3

forth in the Notice of Further Proceedings set forth below. It is further

ORDERED that if a timely protest is filed in accordance with the requirements set forth below, this tariff shall remain in effect pending resolution of the protest.

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 13th day of January, 1994.



STEVE TRIBBLE, 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.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.036(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting at his office at 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870, by the close of business on February 3, 1994.

ORDER NO. PSC-94-0047-FOF-SU
DOCKET NO. 931107-SU
PAGE 4

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this Order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this Order becomes final on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water 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 of the date this Order becomes final, 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.