

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request for approval of
tariff filing by Venture
Associates Utilities Corp. in
Marion County.

DOCKET NO. 010444-WU
ORDER NO. PSC-01-1249-TRF-WU
ISSUED: June 5, 2001

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of
this matter:

E. LEON JACOBS, JR., Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
LILA A. JABER
BRAULIO L. BAEZ
MICHAEL A. PALECKI

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISING
SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGE

BY THE COMMISSION:

Venture Associates Utilities Corp. (Venture or utility) is a Class B water utility which provides service to the Ocala Palms subdivision in Marion County. According to the utility's 1999 Annual Report, it serves 482 water customers, with annual operating revenues of \$221,116 and a net operating loss of \$10,436. To provide service to the Ocala Palms subdivision, Venture purchases water from the City of Ocala (City) through a master meter and resells it to the individual water users within the development.

Based upon an agreement with the City, Venture pays an impact fee to the City for each connection made to the Venture system. Pursuant to its service availability tariff, Venture collects this same charge from those new connections. On March 1, 2001, the City increased its impact fees. Venture filed this application to change its tariff to reflect the current charge. We have jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.091, Florida Statutes.

By Order No. PSC-96-0790-FOF-WU, issued on June 18, 1996 in Docket No. 930892-WU, we authorized Venture to include the City's impact fee within its tariff. At that time, the charge was \$536 per equivalent residential connection (ERC), based on 350 gallons

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per day (gpd), for residential customers and \$1.5314 per gpd for all others.

The City's impact fee is now \$600 per ERC, based on an ERC of 300 gpd, for residential connections and \$2 per gpd for all others. The tariffs filed with Venture's application reflect these new charges. We have reviewed the submitted tariffs and the City's tariffs and find it reasonable and appropriate to approve the revised tariff sheets as submitted.

Rule 25-30.475(2), Florida Administrative Code, states:

Non-recurring charges (such as service availability, guaranteed revenue charges, allowance for funds prudently invested, miscellaneous services) shall be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets provided customers have received notice. The tariff sheets will be approved upon staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with the Commission's decision and that the proposed customer notice is adequate. In no event shall the rates be effective for service rendered prior to the stamped approval date.

Within 20 days of our decision at the May 15, 2001, Agenda Conference, the utility shall provide notice of our decision herein to all persons in the service area who are affected by the revised plant capacity charges. The notice shall be approved by our staff prior to distribution. The utility shall provide proof that the appropriate customers or developers have received noticed within ten days of the date of the notice.

If there is no timely protest to this Order by a substantially affected person, our staff shall have the administrative authority to approve the revised tariff sheets. Upon staff's verification that the tariff is consistent with our decision herein, the tariff sheets shall become effective on or after the stamped approval date. If no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Based on the foregoing, it is

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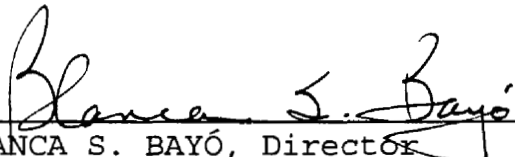
ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Venture Associates Utilities Corp.'s request to amend its service availability charge is hereby approved as set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the charges approved herein shall be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets provided customers have received notice. It is further

ORDERED that the tariff sheets will be approved upon our staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with our decision herein and that the proposed customer notice is adequate. It is further

ORDERED that in the event no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 5th day of May, 2001.



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)

JSB

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), 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.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

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 proposed action files a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on June 26, 2001.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

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.