

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request for approval of
tariff increase for portion of
tariff that applies to City of
Ocala Impact Fees in Marion
County by Venture Associates
Utilities Corp.

DOCKET NO. 020247-WU
ORDER NO. PSC-02-0648-TRF-WU
ISSUED: May 13, 2002

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of
this matter:

LILA A. JABER, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
BRAULIO L. BAEZ
MICHAEL A. PALECKI
RUDOLPH "RUDY" BRADLEY

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISING
SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGE

BY THE COMMISSION:

BACKGROUND

Venture Associates Utilities Corp. (Venture or Utility) is a Class B water utility that provides service to the Ocala Palms subdivision in Marion County. According to the utility's 2000 Annual Report, it serves 586 water customers, with annual operating revenues of \$268,799 and a net operating loss of \$8,390. 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. By Order No. PSC-01-1249-TRF-WU, issued on June 5, 2001, in Docket No. 010444-WU, we authorized Venture to increase its impact fee to reflect the impact fee imposed by the City. Pursuant to its service availability tariff, Venture collects this same charge from

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new connections. We have jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.091, Florida Statutes.

TARIFF FILING

By Order No. PSC-01-1249-TRF-WU, issued on June 5, 2001, in Docket No. 010444-WU, we authorized Venture to increase its impact fee to reflect the impact fee imposed by the City. At that time, the charge was \$600 per equivalent residential connection (ERC), based on an ERC of 300 gallons per day (gpd), for residential connections and \$2.00 per gpd for all others. Based upon an agreement with the City, Venture pays an impact fee to the City for each connection made to the Venture system. On its service availability tariff, Venture collects this same charge from new connections.

On March 14, 2002, the City increased its impact fees. On March 18, 2002, Venture filed this application to change its tariff to reflect the new charges. The charges are now based on residential square footage. The City's new charges are:

<u>City of Ocala Impact Fees</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Residential-per equivalent residential unit (ERU) 0-1,499 sq. ft.	\$503.00
Residential-per ERU 1,500-2,499 sq. ft.	\$629.00
Residential-per ERU 2,500-3,499 sq. ft.	\$838.00
Residential-per ERU 3,500 sq. ft.	\$1,048.00
All others-per gallon	N/A

The tariff filed with Venture's application reflects these new charges. We have reviewed the submitted tariff and the City's tariff and find them to be reasonable. Thus, we approve the revised tariff sheet 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 April 23, 2002, Agenda Conference, the utility shall provide notice of our decision 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 notice within ten days of the date of the notice.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Venture Associates Utilities Corp.'s Request to increase a portion of its tariff that applies to the City of Ocala impact fees in Marion County is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that the revised tariff shall become effective on or after the stamped approval date on the revised tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, Florida Administrative Code, provided customers have received notice. It is further

ORDERED that if a timely protest is filed within 21 days of the issuance date of the Order, the tariff shall remain in effect with the increase in the service availability charges held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest, and the docket shall remain open. It is further

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

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 13th
day of May, 2002.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services

By: Kay Flynn
Kay Flynn, Chief
Bureau of Records and Hearing
Services

(S E A L)

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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

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proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on June 3, 2002.

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.