

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Analysis of Utilities, Inc.'s financial accounting and customer service computer system.

DOCKET NO. 120161-WS
ORDER NO. PSC-13-0202-PCO-WS
ISSUED: May 17, 2013

ORDER GRANTING THIRD JOINT MOTION TO EXTEND INFORMAL
INVESTIGATORY PERIOD

Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge (Eagle Ridge or Utility), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Utilities, Inc. (UI), is a Class B utility providing wastewater service to approximately 822 customers in Lee County. On June 24, 2011, Eagle Ridge filed an application for rate increase in Docket No. 110153-SU, and the Office of Public Counsel (OPC) intervened. On December 21, 2011, Order No. PSC-11-0587-PAA-SU (PAA Order) was issued. On December 22, 2011, Eagle Ridge timely filed a protest of the PAA Order, and on January 9, 2012, OPC timely filed a cross-petition protesting the PAA Order. On May 18, 2012, Eagle Ridge and OPC (collectively, Parties) filed a Joint Motion Requesting Commission Approval of Stipulation and Settlement Agreement, which was approved by Order No. PSC-12-0346-FOF-SU, issued July 5, 2012 (Stipulation and Settlement Agreement).

In the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement, the Parties agreed that Eagle Ridge would file a petition to open a separate generic docket to address the protested issue relating to the Utility's Phoenix Project. OPC agreed not to oppose the petition, and Eagle Ridge agreed not to object to OPC raising issues regarding the Phoenix Project and other issues raised in OPC's cross-petition. On May 24, 2012, UI, on behalf of its Florida-subidiaries, filed the aforementioned petition for the establishment of a generic docket, assigned Docket No. 120161-WS, wherein the Parties agreed to a 120-day investigatory period "in order to meet informally with Commission staff in a good faith effort to resolve or narrow the disputed issues."

On October 17, 2012, the Parties filed a Joint Motion to Extend Informal Investigatory Period to hold the case in abeyance through February 28, 2013. The motion was granted by Order No. PSC-12-0604-PCO-WS, issued on November 6, 2012. Subsequently, the Parties filed a Second Joint Motion to Extend Informal Investigatory Period to hold the case in further abeyance through April 30, 2013, in order to allow UI time to respond to additional follow-up questions submitted by OPC on February 7, 2013. The motion was granted on February 21, 2013 by Order No. PSC-13-0097-PSC-WS.

On April 19, 2013, the Parties filed a Third Joint Motion to Extend Informal Investigatory Period (Third Joint Motion) to hold the case in abeyance through June 30, 2013. In support of the Third Joint Motion, the Parties acknowledge that while communication between the Parties remains open, staff turnover at UI has caused a delay in responding to OPC's follow-up questions submitted February 7, 2013. As such, the Parties jointly request that the abeyance period be extended through June 30, 2013, to allow time for any additional follow-up questions.

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

02718 MAY 17 2013

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

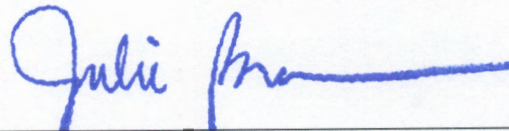
The Parties' request to extend the Informal Investigatory Period appears to be reasonable at this time; however, the Parties should be cautioned that any additional requests for extension may not be considered reasonable in the future as the investigatory period in this docket has been ongoing since May 2012. Accordingly, the Third Joint Motion is hereby granted and the Informal Investigatory Period shall be extended through June 30, 2013.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Commissioner Julie I. Brown, as Prehearing Officer, that Utilities, Inc. and the Office of Public Counsel's Third Joint Motion to Extend Informal Investigatory Period is hereby granted, as set forth herein. It is further

ORDERED that this proceeding is held in abeyance through June 30, 2013.

By ORDER of Commissioner Julie I. Brown, as Prehearing Officer, this 17th day of May, 2013.



JULIE I. BROWN
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer
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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

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.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, 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 wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Office of Commission Clerk, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.