

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application by PARMER)	DOCKET NO. 881108-SU
UTILITIES, INC. for staff-assisted)	ORDER NO: 21246
rate case in Highlands County.)	ISSUED: 5-17-89

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURE

On August 23, 1988, Parmer Utilities, Inc. (Parmer or the utility), applied for a staff-assisted rate case. In Order No. 21049, issued April 14, 1989, we proposed an increase in the utility's sewer rate from \$8.20 to \$12.22 per month. On April 24, 1989, the Commission received a timely protest to the proposed rate increase from a customer of the utility, Mr. Philip Peterson.

The scope of this proceeding shall be based upon the issues raised by the parties and Commission Staff during the prehearing conference, unless modified by the Commission. The hearing will be conducted according to the provisions of Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, and the rules and regulations of this Commission.

Discovery

When interrogatories or requests for production are served on a party and the respondent intends to object to or ask for clarification of an interrogatory or request for production, the objection or request for clarification shall be made within ten (10) days of service of the interrogatory or request for production. This procedure is intended to reduce delay time in discovery.

Prehearing Statement

Pursuant to Rule 25-22.038(3), Florida Administrative Code, a prehearing statement shall be filed by all parties in this docket on or before July 21, 1989. Failure of a party to timely file a prehearing statement shall be a waiver of any issues not raised by other parties or by the Commission. In addition, such failure shall preclude the party from presenting testimony in support of its position. Such prehearing statements shall set forth the following information in the sequence listed below.

- (a) the name and address of all known witnesses that may be called by the party, and the subject matter of their testimony;
- (b) a description of all known exhibits that may be sponsored by the party, their contents, whether they may be identified on a composite basis, and the witness sponsoring each;
- (c) a statement of basic position in the proceeding;
- (d) a statement of each question of fact the party considers at issue, the party's position on each such issue, and which of the party's witnesses will address the issue;
- (e) a statement of each question of law the party

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considers at issue and the party's position on each such issue;

(f) a statement of each policy question the party considers at issue, the party's position on each such issue, and which of the party's witnesses will address the issue;

(g) a statement of issues that have been stipulated to by the parties;

(h) a statement of all pending motions or other matters the party seeks action upon; and

(i) a statement as to any requirements set forth in this order that cannot be complied with, and the reasons therefore.

The original and twelve copies of each prehearing statement shall be filed with the Division of Records and Reporting on or before the close of business on July 21, 1989. A copy of the prehearing statement shall also be mailed to all other parties no later than its filing with the Commission.

Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits

In accordance with Rule 25-22.048, Florida Administrative Code, each party shall prefile all written testimony that it intends to sponsor. Written testimony shall be typed on standard 8 1/2 x 11 inch transcript quality paper, double-spaced, with 25 numbered lines, on consecutively numbered pages, each with a sufficient left margin to allow for binding.

A copy of any prefiled exhibit sponsored by a parties' witness shall be attached to the witnesses' written testimony and marked for identification. All other known exhibits shall be marked for identification at the prehearing conference. After an opportunity for opposing parties to object to introduction of the exhibits, and to cross-examine the witness sponsoring them, exhibits may be offered into evidence at the hearing. Exhibits accepted into evidence at the hearing will be numbered sequentially.

The utility shall file the original and twelve copies of its prefiled written testimony and exhibits with the Division of Records and Reporting on or before the close of business on June 7, 1989. Any objector or intervenor shall file the original and twelve copies of its prefiled written testimony and exhibits on or before the close of business on July 7, 1989. Staff shall file its direct testimony, if any, on July 21, 1989.

The original and twelve copies of all prefiled rebuttal testimony and associated exhibits shall be filed with the Division of Records and Reporting on or before the close of business on July 28, 1989.

A copy of all prefiled testimony and exhibits shall also be mailed to all other parties no later than their filing with the Commission.

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Prehearing Conference

A prehearing conference will be held on Monday, July 31, 1989. The conditions of Rule 25-22.038 (5)(b), Florida Administrative Code, shall be observed. Any party who fails to attend the prehearing conference, unless excused by the prehearing officer, will have waived all issues and positions raised in that party's prehearing statement.

Prehearing Procedure: Waiver of Issues

Any issue not raised by a party prior to the issuance of the prehearing order shall be waived by that party, except for good cause shown. A party seeking to raise a new issue after the issuance of the prehearing order shall demonstrate that: it was unable to identify the issue because of the complexity of the matter; discovery or other prehearing procedures were not adequate to fully develop the issue; due diligence was exercised to obtain facts touching on the issue; information obtained subsequent to the issuance of the prehearing order was not previously available to enable the party to identify the issue; and introduction of the issue could not be to the prejudice or surprise of any party. Specific reference shall be made to the information received, and how it enabled the party to identify the issue.

Unless a matter is not at issue for that party, each party shall diligently endeavor in good faith to take a position on each issue prior to issuance of the prehearing order. When a party is unable to take a position on an issue, it shall bring the fact to the attention of the prehearing officer. If the prehearing officer finds that the party has acted diligently and in good faith to take a position on an issue, it shall bring that fact to the attention of the prehearing officer. If the prehearing officer finds that the party has acted diligently and in good faith to take a position, and further finds that the party's failure to take a position will not prejudice other parties or confuse the proceeding, the party may maintain "no position at this time" prior to hearing and thereafter identify its position in a post-hearing statement of issues. In the absence of such a finding by the prehearing officer, the party shall have waived the entire issue. When an issue and position have been properly identified, any party may adopt that issue and position in its post-hearing statement.

Controlling Dates

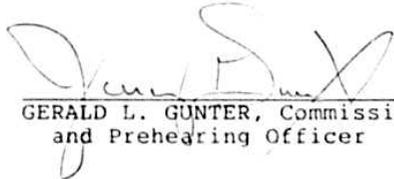
The following dates have been established to govern the key activities of this case.

- 1) The utility shall file its prefiled written testimony and exhibits on or before June 7, 1989.
- 2) The objector and any intervenor shall file prefiled written testimony and exhibits on or before July 7, 1989.
- 3) Each party shall file a prehearing statement as set forth in the body of this Order on or before July 21, 1989.

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- 4) Staff shall file direct testimony, if any, on July 21, 1989.
- 5) Rebuttal testimony and exhibits shall be filed on or before July 28, 1989.
- 6) A prehearing conference shall be held in Tallahassee on July 31, 1989, at a time and location to be determined.
- 7) A formal administrative hearing shall be held on August 2, 1989, at a time and location to be determined.

By ORDER of Commissioner GERALD L. GUNTER, as Prehearing Officer, this 17th day of MAY, 1989.



GERALD L. GUNTER, Commissioner
and Prehearing Officer

(S E A L)

JRF