

STATE OF FLORIDA

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DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES
NOREEN S. DAVIS
DIRECTOR
(904) 413-6199

Public Service Commission

June 4, 1997

Vicki Gordon Kaufman, Esquire
McWhirter, Reeves, McGlothlin, Davidson, Rief & Bakas, P.A.
117 South Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: Docket No. 970521-WS - Application for limited proceeding to increase base facility charges and gallonage rates for water service by Betmar Utilities, Inc. in Pasco County

Dear Ms. Kaufman:

After review of Betmar Utilities, Inc. (Betmar or utility)'s application for limited proceeding, a need for additional information vital to proceeding with this PAA case was apparent. Staff requests the company supply the following information:

1. Please state whether the utility currently has a certified licensed operator as ordered on page 2 of the Consent Order dated November 27, 1996, as shown in Section I of the filing. If the utility has not done so, please explain why not.
2. Please describe what proof the utility has provided to DEP that well #5 has been and will remain permanently disconnected from the potable water system as ordered on pages 2 and 3 of the Consent Order dated November 27, 1996, as shown in Section I of the filing. If no proof has been provided, please explain why not.
3. Please state whether the utility has installed approved chlorine weighing devices required by Florida Administrative Code Rule 62-555.320 and as ordered on page 3 of the Consent Order dated November 27, 1996, as shown in Section I of the filing. If the utility has not done so, please explain why not.
4. Please state whether the utility has installed an auxiliary power source with an automatic start-up device capable of operating the plant at one-half the maximum daily flow demand, as required by Florida Administrative Code Rule 62-555.320(6) and as ordered on page 3 of the Consent Order dated November 27, 1996, as shown in Section I of the filing. If the utility has not done so, please explain why not.

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5. Pursuant to Rule 62-555.320(6), Florida Administrative Code, a utility's auxiliary power requirements may be met by providing:
 - (1) a connection to at least two independent power lines, or
 - (2) an interconnection to at least one other public water supply system that has sufficient reserve capacity, or
 - (3) in place auxiliary power...
 - A. Please explain why the utility chose option (3) instead of option (1) above.
 - B. Please explain why the utility chose option (3) instead of option (2) above.
 - C. Please state whether Betmar made any investigation as to whether options (1) and (2) above would be less costly.
 - D. If the answer to C is yes, provide a cost/benefit analysis.
6. Please state whether DEP has required auxiliary power for Betmar's wastewater operations. If not, please explain why Betmar is requesting in its application for auxiliary power of its wastewater operations.
7. Please state whether the utility has paid DEP \$6,900 for the settlement of the matters addressed in the Consent Order dated November 27, 1996, as shown in Section I of the filing.
8. Please state whether the utility has incurred any other fines relating to this Consent Order, dated November 27, 1996. If so, please briefly describe the circumstances leading to the incurrence of the fine(s).
9. Please list all fines the utility has paid in 1995, 1996 and 1997.
10. Please state whether the utility is requesting recovery of any fines and/or legal fees associated with fines listed in response to question 9, above, in this limited proceeding. If so, please explain why such recovery is being requested.
11. Please explain why Betmar is leasing the two generators instead of purchasing them.
12. Please explain why Betmar is leasing the 60 KW generator from ESG.
13. Please state whether Betmar is also leasing the 100 KW generator from ESG. If so, please explain why. If not, please explain why Betmar leases the 60 KW generator from ESG and not the 100 KW generator.

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14. If Betmar were to purchase the 100 KW generator, please state how much it would cost and what the expected life of the generator would be. Please provide proof of the expected cost and expected life of the generator (ie. proposed bill of sale or invoice).
15. If Betmar were to purchase the 60 KW generator, please state how much it would cost and what the expected life of the generator would be. Please provide proof of the expected cost and expected life of the generator (ie. proposed bill of sale or invoice).
16. Please provide at least two other bids from unaffiliated companies regarding the cost of the lease for a 100 KW generator.
17. Please explain why the lease for the 100 KW generator is for 48 months.
18. Please provide at least two other bids from unaffiliated companies regarding the cost of the lease for a 60 KW generator.
19. Please explain why the premium of \$709.50 for the liability insurance on the 60 KW generator is more than four times the premium of \$175 for the liability insurance on the 100 KW generator.
20. Please explain why the utility believes the legal costs of \$1,245, shown in Exhibit H (page III - 110, 116 and 117) from Gerald T. Buhr, should be recovered in this proceeding.

In order to allow sufficient time for Staff to analyze the data requested, please provide the requested responses by July 7, 1997. We request that the responses be provided on an earlier, piecemeal basis, to the extent possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (904) 413-6228 or Mr. Eric Groom at (904) 413-6940.

Sincerely,



Jennifer S. Brubaker
Staff Counsel

cc: Division of Water and Wastewater (Groom)
Division of Records and Reporting