

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for rate
increase in Pinellas County by
Mid-County Services, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 971065-SU
ORDER NO. PSC-98-0967-PCO-SU
ISSUED: July 16, 1998

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE
AND REVISING ORDER ON PROCEDURE

This matter was set for an October 21-22, 1998 hearing in Pinellas County, pursuant to Order No. PSC-98-0709-PCO-SU, issued on May 22, 1998. On July 1, 1998, Mid-County Services, Inc. (Mid-County or utility) filed a Consented Motion for Continuance of Hearing and Utility's Waiver of Statutory Time Limits (Motion).

In its Motion, Mid-County states that it is attempting to schedule comprehensive settlement discussions with the Office of Public Counsel (OPC) and the Commission staff, and that the utility believes that this case may be resolved without the time and expense of a hearing. In order to allow time for completion of the on-going settlement discussions, Mid-County requested that the prehearing and hearing be continued until after January 1, 1999.

Because the earliest available hearing dates after January 1, 1999, are June 21-22, 1999; in its Motion, Mid-County waived the statutory time limit for final Commission action in this docket until September 30, 1999. However, Mid-County requested that the Commission establish a schedule for prehearing activities which would accommodate a hearing as early as January, 1999, in the event that the case does not settle and earlier hearing dates become available on the Commission's calendar. The utility also states that it has contacted OPC and that OPC supports the request for continuance.

After careful review of the Motion, it appears that the utility's request is reasonable. Therefore, the Consented Motion for Continuance of Hearing and Utility's Waiver of Statutory Time Limits is approved. Accordingly, Order No. PSC-98-0709-PCO-SU on procedure is revised to reflect the new controlling dates set forth below:

- 1) Utility's direct testimony and exhibits September 7, 1998

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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| 2) | Intervenor's direct testimony | October 19, 1998 |
| 3) | Staff's direct testimony and exhibits, if any | November 16, 1998 |
| 4) | Rebuttal testimony and exhibits | December 7, 1998 |
| 5) | Prehearing Statements | December 21, 1998 |
| 6) | Prehearing Conference | June 7, 1999 |
| 7) | Discovery actions complete | June 14, 1999 |
| 8) | Hearing | June 21-22, 1999 |
| 9) | Briefs | July 20, 1999 |

All other portions of Order No. PSC-98-0709-PCO-SU are affirmed in all other aspects.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED that Mid-County Services, Inc.'s Consented Motion for Continuance of Hearing is hereby granted, as set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that Order No. PSC-98-0709-PCO-SU is revised as set forth herein. It is further

ORDERED that Order No. PSC-98-0709-PCO-SU is affirmed in all other aspects.

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By ORDER of Commissioner Susan F. Clark, as Prehearing
Officer, this 16th day of July, 1998.



SUSAN F. CLARK
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer

(S E A L)

JSB

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.

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, if issued by a Prehearing Officer; (2) reconsideration within 15 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by the Commission; or (3) 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 Director, Division of Records and Reporting, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, 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.