



Public Service Commission

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

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**DATE:** March 17, 1999  
**TO:** Division of Records and Reporting  
**FROM:** Johnny Butts, Division of Water and Wastewater *JB*  
**RE:** Docket No. 981825-SU- Application by Tradewinds Utilities, Inc. for approval of a new class of service for wastewater-only flat rates in Marion County.

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The attached correspondence from Mr. Charles Ruse, Jr. should be included in the official docket file as a letter of protest against Order No. PSC-99-0382-FOF-SU.

- ACK \_\_\_\_\_
- AFA \_\_\_\_\_
- APP \_\_\_\_\_
- CAF \_\_\_\_\_
- CMU \_\_\_\_\_
- CTR \_\_\_\_\_
- EAG \_\_\_\_\_
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- SEC   1
- WAS \_\_\_\_\_
- OTH \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

03465 MAR 17 88

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

**CHARLES RUSE, JR.**

500 N.E. 8TH AVENUE  
OCALA, FLORIDA 34470

TELEPHONE (352) 351-1515  
FAX (352) 867-5111

March 12, 1999

Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

VIA FAX 800/511-0809

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 15 1999**

Florida Public Service Commission  
Division of Water and Wastewater

Gentlemen:

I received the March 1, 1999 letter from Tradewinds Utilities, a copy being attached, indicating that you approved waste water flat rates on a temporary basis. Your approval indicates quadruplexes had an approved rate of \$261.55. **THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS.** Please consider this letter a protest of the tariff order or, if you are unable to consider this a protest, please forward the appropriate documents.

I apologize the shortness in responding but, Tradewinds notice to us is dated March 1st, but not mailed until Thursday, March 11th.

I am not aware of what criteria you utilize to approve the requested rates by Tradewinds. I have reviewed my residential bills for the last six (6) months and they average \$30.00 per month for waste water. This is for a 3 bedroom, 3 bath, residence serviced by the City of Ocala, not generally known for its economical utility rates. Virtually all of the quadruplexes in question are either 2 bedroom, 1 bath, or 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit and even without interpolation of my utility bill (3/3 to 2/2) if I have 4 residences, my sewer bill would only be \$120.00, less than 1/2 of what you have approved for Tradewinds.

Folks, I don't know what's going on in the minds of whoever approved these rates, but I can assure you that if I have to pay \$261.00 for waste water, and a similar amount for fresh water, I will no longer operate a quadruplex. This is about 40% of my gross income.

I don't know what this letter/protest is going to result in but, these rates seem totally excessive.

I noted from previous correspondence that the same utility was granted tariffs that required the utilization of a 2 inch water meter with the attendant a minimum monthly rate. This too, is totally excessive. Our water well presently operates on either 3/4 inch pipe or 1 inch pipe, that being totally satisfactory for the last 15 years. For the life of me, I can't understand why it is now necessary for us to have a 2 inch meter and a 2 inch pipe which would terminate into the existing 1 inch piping. Obviously, this is some ploy by the utility company to maximize its income.

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I would appreciate your advise as to how we can appropriately protest/bring to the attention of the commission, what we perceive to be the high-handed and excessive requirements for the meter size.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES RUSE, JR.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CR', written over a horizontal line. The signature consists of a large, sweeping 'C' that loops back to the right, and a vertical line that descends from the top of the 'C' and ends in a short horizontal stroke to the right.

CR:ac