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July 16, 1999

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BY HAND DELIVERY

Blanca Bayó
Director, Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RECORDED AND REPORTING
JUL 16 PM 4:13
RECEIVED-FPSC

Re: Mid-County Services, Inc. Late Filed Exhibits
Docket No. 971065-SU

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Mid-County Services, Inc. are the original and fifteen copies of Late-Filed Exhibit Nos. 3 and 10 for the hearing that was held in this docket on June 21, 1999.

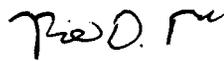
Also enclosed for the docket file is one copy of a letter from the utility to Mr. Robert Crouch of the Commission staff providing more detail on the utility's response to a customer concern raised at the hearing.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please call.

RECEIVED & FILED


FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

Very truly yours,



Richard D. Melson

AFA 1
APP _____
CAF _____
CMU _____
CTR _____
EAG _____
LEG _____
WAS 3-104
DPC _____
VRR _____
SEC 1
WAW 3
OTH _____

RDM/mee

Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record

Mr. Wenz

Mr. Rasmussen

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

08512 JUL 16 99

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished to the following by hand delivery this 16th day of July, 1999.

Jennifer Brubaker
Division of Legal Services
Florida Public Service Commission
Room 370
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Steve Burgess
Office of Public Counsel
111 W. Madison Street
Tallahassee, Fl 32399-1400

Tim O. P.

Attorney

MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC.

AN AFFILIATE OF UTILITIES, INC.

200 WEATHERSFIELD AVENUE
ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FLORIDA 32714

CORPORATE OFFICES:
2335 Sanders Road
Northbrook, Illinois 60062
Telephone: 847-498-6440

Telephone: 407-869-1919
Florida: 800-272-1919
Fax: 407-869-6961
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July 14, 1999

ORIGINAL

Mr. Robert Crouch
Engineering Department Supervisor
Water and Wastewater Division
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Crumley Odor Complaint

Dear Mr. Crouch:

The purpose of this letter is to provide information pertaining to the odor complaint received from Mr. Crumley at the rate case hearing.

History

Mr. Crumley had complained about odor problems at the previous rate case hearing. Numerous visits were made to his property to determine if odors were present. No unusual odors were detected, except for a manhole located in the street in front of his property. The manhole was sealed to prevent odors from escaping from the lid. Based on several inspections since the hearing, no odor is now detected in the vicinity of the manhole.

Supposition

The elimination of odor at the manhole did not satisfy Mr. Crumley. He contends that the odor comes from the vent stacks on the roof of the apartments which he owns. He wants the utility to eliminate the odors, which he believes come from the vent stacks.

Utility Response to Date

Several visits were made to the site by our operators to investigate the vent stack problem. They climbed onto the roof to sniff the vent stack emissions but did not detect any unusually strong odors. The area around the residences has also been checked periodically, but the only significant odors that were detected were from an adjacent pond.

Mr. Robert Crouch
Florida Public Service Commission
Re: Crumley Odor Complaint
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The service connection to the manhole was investigated to determine if odors could be escaping from that location. A new bench was constructed in the manhole to provide a water seal so gases could not migrate up the service lateral. The laterals were also inspected to determine how connections were made to the existing units. The laterals from the various buildings are tied together before they connect to the manhole lateral. The slopes are unknown and the interconnections resemble spaghetti. If there is an odor, the construction of these laterals would be a contributing factor.

Mr. Crumley was advised not to connect the most recent buildings to the same lateral due to the odor problems with the connection and the length of run required. He was told to bring a new connection to the main. He selected to interconnect with the other buildings, without informing us of his decision, rather than tap into the main.

We investigated relocating the tap for the units downstream of the manhole, but costs exceeded \$8,000. We did not think the expense was justifiable because we were unable to detect significant odors during many previous visits. The line would also be very shallow under a drive and prone to breakage, which is undesirable.

We also investigated installing vent stack filters to remove any odors but the devices are not ultraviolet compatible and would require periodic replacement. Liability is a concern for replacing these items and did not appear to be justifiable since we never detected any unusual odors from this source.

A different type of odor block was installed in the manhole to determine if odor could be further reduced from this source. We had considered the problem resolved because no complaints have been received in our office since the previous hearing. We were therefore surprised, when Mr. Crumley presented his complaint at the recent hearing.

Proposed Response

Grove Scientific was contacted to determine what level of effort would be required to investigate the perceived odor. Due to the problems with the lateral lines and the unknown construction of the plumbing within the units, monitoring of the building would not conclusively determine if any odors were due to the utility. They suggested that the owner smoke test the buildings to determine if all plumbing connections and traps are in place. We are currently trying to contact Mr. Crumley to advise him of the recommendation to smoke test his system.

Mr. Robert Crouch
Florida Public Service Commission
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Monitoring equipment could be set up at the site for a week to determine if hydrogen sulfide is present in large amounts. The cost for the monitoring is approximately \$3,000 for one week and would probably not yield any significant data due to the length of time which passes between odor complaints.

We do not feel that spending this amount of money is justifiable because neither us nor the previous owner detected any unusual odors during the numerous investigations which occurred over the history of the site.

We request that the Public Service Commission close the books on this complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald Rasmussen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Donald Rasmussen
Vice President

DR/jkw

cc: Mr. James Crumley
3033-A Park Lane
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

LATE-FILED EXHIBIT NO. 3
MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC.
DOCKET NO. 971065-SU

990226346

ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

STATE OF FLORIDA }
COUNTY OF PINELLAS } S.S.

Published Daily
St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared C. EGAN
who on oath says that he is Legal Clerk
of the St. Petersburg Times
a daily newspaper published at St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that
the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice
in the matter RE: NOTICE OF HEARING

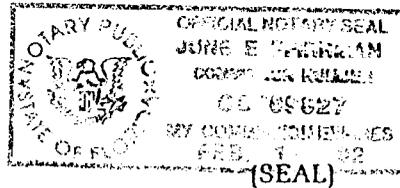
_____ in the _____ Court
was published in said newspaper in the issues of JUNE 7, 1999

Affiant further says the said St. Petersburg Times
is a newspaper published at St. Petersburg, in said Pinellas County, Florida, and
that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said
Pinellas County, Florida, each day and has been entered as second class mail
matter at the post office in St. Petersburg, in said Pinellas County, Florida, for a
period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of
advertisement, and affiant further says that he has neither paid nor promised
any person, firm, or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for
the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said
newspaper.

Sworn to and subscribed before
me this 15TH day of

JUNE A.D. 1999

June E. Furman
Notary Public



LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF HEARING
MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC.
Docket No. 971065-SU**

Notice is hereby given that the Florida Public Service Commission will hold a hearing regarding Mid-County Services, Inc.'s request for an increase in wastewater rates at the following time and place:

Monday, June 21, 1999
10:00 a.m.
Dunedin City Hall
City Commission Chambers
542 Main Street
Dunedin, Florida

Tuesday, June 22, 1999 has been reserved, if necessary, for continuation of the hearing.

The purpose of the hearing is to take testimony regarding the proposed increase in the utility's wastewater rates.

The Commission will also allow customers to present testimony about the utility's quality of service, the requested rate increase, or other matters related to the rate case. Such testimony will be taken at the start of the hearing at 10:00 a.m. on June 21, 1999. In addition, a customer hearing will be scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 1999.

Any person requiring some accommodation at the hearing because of a physical impairment should call the Division of Records and Reporting at (850) 413-6770 at least five calendar days prior to the hearing. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

Written comments regarding the utility's quality of service or the requested rate increase may be sent to the Commission at the following address:

Director, Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870

All comments should refer to Docket No. 971065-SU, which is the docket number that has been assigned to this case.

(990226346) 6/7/99

29462m

LATE-FILED EXHIBIT NO. 10

MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC.

DOCKET NO. 971065-SU

CONFIRMATION OF DEPRECIATION

The MFRs in this docket included:

- (i) a pro forma expense adjustment to include a full year of depreciation expense associated with the pro forma plant adjustment for Construction Work in Progress (CWIP), and
- (ii) a pro forma rate base adjustment to include a full year of accumulated depreciation associated with the pro forma plant adjustment for CWIP.

As Mr. Wenz testified, the MFRs mistakenly included only one-half of the pro forma plant adjustment which should have been included. Accordingly, the corresponding depreciation expense and accumulated depreciation adjustments were similarly understated.