

The FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION announces a hearing to be held in the following docket, to which all interested persons are invited.

Docket No. 000005-WS - Annual reestablishment of price increase or decrease index of major categories of operating costs incurred by water and wastewater utilities pursuant to Section 367.081(4), F.S.

DATE AND TIME: February 23, 2000, 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Commission Conference Room 148, 9:30 a.m., Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, Florida

PURPOSE: To permit parties to present testimony and exhibits relative to the annual reestablishment of price increase or decrease index of major categories of operating costs incurred by water and wastewater utilities pursuant to Section 367.081(4), F.S., and for such other purposes as the Commission may deem appropriate. At the hearing, all parties shall be given the opportunity to present testimony and other evidence on the issues identified by the parties. All witnesses shall be subject to cross-examination at the conclusion of their testimony.

The proceedings will be governed by the provisions of Chapter 129, F.S., and Chapter 25-28, F.A.C. Any person requiring special accommodation at this hearing because of a physical impairment should call the Division of Records and Reporting at (904) 428-6770 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

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DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

LORNE W. HUNSBERGER, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

RECEIVED-FPSC

10 JAN 24 PM 3:41

TELECOPIER MESSAGE CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE. REGS 108 AND 109

TO: Records + Reporting FAX NUMBER: 850-413-7118
FROM: Lorne W. Hunsberger DATE: 1/24/00
RE: Address + docket TIME: 3:25 pm
000005 WS + 000006 WS

MESSAGE:

For docket ~~000005 WS~~ 000006 WS - two rollovers
dockets - please make sure my address is.

LORNE W. HUNSBERGER, CPA
2901 W. BUSCH BLVD, SUITE 1007
TAMPA, FL 33618

Thanks

Lorne W. Hunsberger

Done 1/26/00

Sent from (813) 932-0395. If any questions or problem, call (813) 931-4122

ORIGINAL

MARK A. BAKER

22 GALE LANE
(904) 437 7039

ORMOND BEACH, FL 32174

January 6, 2000

P

RECEIVED
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
00 JAN 12 AM 8:17
MAIL ROOM

Director, Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

REC'D DIVISION AND
REPORTING
000005-WS

RECEIVED-PPSC
00 JAN 12 AM 10:39

Docket No. 990005-WS


Dear Director:

Reference Docket No. 990005-WS, Application of Plantation Bay Utility Company to increase water and wastewater rates in Volusia and Flagler Counties. This letter is provided in regard to the above docket case and as a concerned customer of the Plantation Bay Utility Company.

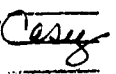
First of all, there is no objection to a rate increase if such is based upon valid and justifiable financial data to support a needed increase. However, this rate increase of 7.89% for water and 5.89% for wastewater (sum increase of 13.78%), *without a public hearing*, raises questions identified in the attached enclosure that should be addressed.

Naturally, it is in both the Plantation Bay Utility's best interest and their customers, to ensure this utility receives *adequate* financial rewards sufficient to stimulate efficient performance, attracts the best capable subcontractors and maintains a viable water/wastewater utility. Accordingly, your assistance is requested in answering the enclosed questions so that a sound/correct decision can be supported regarding this proposed rate increase. Additionally, inclusion on the mailing list for this case is requested. Your prompt reply to the enclosed questions is appreciated.

- AFA _____
- APP _____
- CAF _____
- CMU _____
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- LEG _____
- MAS _____
- OPC _____
- PRR _____
- REC _____
- SWW _____
- OTH _____

Sincerely,

Mark A. Baker

Enclosure



Questions--Docket No 990005-WS

1. Why does the current Florida Statutes allow water/wastewater utilities to automatically “pass through” without a public hearing, a rate increase without a cap or ceiling (i.e. at the current inflation rate of 4%)? One could understand a public hearing would probably not be needed for an increase of 4% or less, but a rate increase of 13.78% appears to justify a public hearing.
2. What price index rate adjustments have the Florida PSC issued for years 1997, 1998 and 1999? Additionally, what percentage of the price index rate increases were based upon the following: Electrical power and ad valorem taxes, water and wastewater testing required by the Department of Environmental Protection, and Regulatory assessment fees imposed upon the Plantation Bay Utility Co.
3. What financial management tools does the Plantation Bay Utility Co have in effect to control, project, monitor and reduce operating costs? Since this Utility subcontracts its entire operation, are subcontracts formally advertised and awarded on a competitive basis? Is there a contract control system in place to adequately monitor subcontract performance?
4. What is the Rate Base value established for the Plantation Bay Utility Co. by the Florida Public Service Commission which establishes an adequate Fair Rate of Return for this water/wastewater utility? Does this Rate of Return or level of profit include expansion of new water/sewer lines? How does Plantation Bay Rate of Return compare to other nearby local water/wastewater Utility Companies and can examples be provided? Is the Plantation Bay Utility Company operating with an adequate Rate of Return or at a loss?
5. Does the Plantation Bay Utility Company use uniform accounting standards, so that operating costs can be distinguished from the cost of constructing additional water/sewer lines in new development areas that are occurring in Plantation Bay?

DATE 1/12/00

TO Bob Casey

The attached is sent to you for:

- Your Information
- Further Handling
- Necessary Action
- Advice on Handling
- Response

Remarks: Bob, please forward
copy of your response to
Records for desk file.
Thanks

Division of Records & Reporting [Signature]

PSC/R&R (2/92)

RUTLEDGE, ECENIA, PURNELL & HOFFMAN

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

RECEIVED
00 JAN 13 AM 8:37

MAIL ROOM

STEPHEN A. ECENIA
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HAROLD F. X. PURNELL
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OF COUNSEL:
CHARLES F. DUDLEY

GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTANTS:
PATRICK R. MALOY
AMY J. YOUNG

January 12, 2000

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 110
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

RECEIVED FPSC
00 JAN 13 AM 11:20
RECORDS AND REPORTING

Re: Florida PSC Docket Nos. 000005-WS and 000006-WS

Dear Ms. Bayo:

The undersigned represents Florida Water Services Corporation ("Florida Water"). Florida Water is interested in the above-referenced dockets. Please provide copies of all notices, CASRs, orders, staff recommendations, pleadings and other documents filed, served or issued in the above-referenced dockets to the following:

Kenneth A. Hoffman, Esq.
John R. Ellis, Esq.
Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell & Hoffman, P.A.
P. O. Box 551
Tallahassee, FL 32302-0551
(850) 681-6788 (phone)
(850) 681-6515 (fax)

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Kenneth A. Hoffman

KAH/rl

Done 01/18/00