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August 3, 2000

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Ansley Watson, Jr.
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VIA FEDEX

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records & Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
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001059 - GU

RECEIVED - FPSC
00 AUG - 4 PM 12: 58
RECORDS AND REPORTING

Re: Petition to extend applicability of Trip Charge/Collection at Customer Premises to West Florida Region by Peoples Gas System

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Peoples Gas System, please find the original and 15 copies of Peoples' petition referenced above. Enclosed also are (a) five copies of the tariff sheets for which approval is sought, (b) two "coded" or legislative versions of the new tariff sheets showing changes, and (c) a diskette containing the petition in Wordperfect 8.0 format.

Please acknowledge your receipt and the date of filing of the enclosures on the duplicate copy of this letter and return the same to the undersigned in the enclosed preaddressed envelope.

Thank you for your usual assistance.

Sincerely,



ANSLEY WATSON, JR.

AWjr/a
Enclosures

RECEIVED & FILED
Max
FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

09496 AUG-48

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

Blanca S. Bayo
June 30, 2000
Page 2

cc: Mr. Wayne R. Makin

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ORIGINAL

In Re: Petition to extend applicability of)
Trip Charge/Collection at Customer)
Premises to West Florida Region by)
Peoples Gas System)

Docket No. 001059-80

Submitted for Filing:
8-4-00

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MAIL ROOM

PETITION OF PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM

Peoples Gas System ("Peoples" or the "Company"), by its undersigned attorneys, petitions the Commission for approval of revisions to its Natural Gas Tariff, Original Volume No. 3, which would extend the applicability of the Company's Trip Charge/Collection at Customer Premises to the Company's West Florida Region. The modifications to Peoples' tariff are submitted herewith pursuant to the Commission's tariff approval procedures, to become effective on the date of the Commission's vote.

In support of its petition, Peoples states as follows:

1. The name of the petitioner and the mailing address of its principal office are:

Peoples Gas System
702 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, Florida 33602

2. The names and mailing addresses of the persons authorized to receive notices and communications with respect to this petition are:

Ansley Watson, Jr., Esquire
Macfarlane Ferguson & McMullen
P. O. Box 1531
Tampa, Florida 33601-1531

Angela Llewellyn
Peoples Gas System
P. O. Box 2562
Tampa, Florida 33601-2562

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

09496 AUG-48

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BACKGROUND

3. Peoples tariff contains a charge entitled "Trip Charge/Collection at Customer Premises" which currently applies to all of the Company's service areas except Ocala and Panama City (the West Florida Region). This charge applies when the Company's employee, agent, or representative makes a trip to the customer's premises for the purpose of terminating gas service or providing final notice of termination for nonpayment of bills.

4. A number of Peoples' customers have expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to receive a visit from a Company representative before service to their premise is terminated because it gives them a last opportunity to pay their bill before their natural gas service is disconnected. Although there is a charge of \$10 associated with this provision in Peoples' tariff, it is less than the \$25 charge the customer would incur to restore service in the Company's service areas other than the West Florida Region, and the \$20 charge for restoration of service in the West Florida Region. This service also allows the customer and Company to avoid the disruption associated with disconnection of service.

5. Peoples' experience with this charge indicates that additional customers paid their bills before the service was disconnected, and therefore eliminated the customer's charge to reconnect. The Company, and all customers, benefit by reducing the number of customers who are disconnected for non-payment.

6. Peoples incurs additional expenses and inconvenience when a customer's natural gas service must be disconnected for nonpayment of bills. These costs would be eliminated if more customers paid their bills before service was disconnected. In addition, Peoples would not have to incur the time and expense associated with reconnecting the customer, thereby allowing the Company's employees to be available for other services.

RELIEF REQUESTED

7. Based on the success of the Trip Charge in the Non-West Florida Region, Peoples seeks the Commission's approval for modifications to its tariff which would extend the applicability of the Trip Charge/Collection at Customer Premises to the Company's West Florida Region, thereby making the charge applicable and available in all of the Company's service areas. The charge has been applicable in all of Peoples' service areas except the West Florida Region since approved in the Company's last general rate case (Docket No. 911150-GU).

8. Extending the applicability of the Trip Charge into the West Florida Region is not expected to have any material effect on earnings because this charge is based on expenses incurred by the Company for the service.

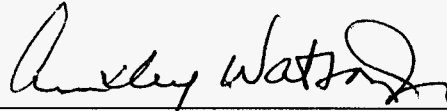
REVISED TARIFF SHEETS

9. The changes required to make the Trip Charge/Collection at Customer Premises applicable in all of the Company's service areas are submitted herewith. Revised Sheet No. 5.101-1 indicates the charge would apply to all customers.

WHEREFORE, Peoples respectfully requests that the Commission grant this petition, and issue its order approving the modifications to the Company's tariff sheets which are submitted

herewith, such revisions to become effective on the date of the Commission's vote.

Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of August, 2000.



Ansley Watson, Jr.
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Attorneys for Peoples Gas System

RULES AND REGULATIONS (Continued)

	RESIDENTIAL	OTHER
METER RECONNECTION CHARGE (applies where service is inactive)		
Non-West Florida Region	\$25.00	\$50.00
West Florida Region	\$25.00	\$30.00
TRIP CHARGE/COLLECTION AT CUSTOMER PREMISES (this charge applies when Company's employee, agent, or representative makes a trip to Customer's premises for the purpose of terminating Gas Service or providing final notice of termination for nonpayment of bills)		
All Regions	\$10.00	\$10.00

Where Gas Service is established outside of normal business hours or by special appointment, the charges set forth above will be multiplied by 1.5.

E. WITHHOLDING OF GAS SERVICE

Company will refuse to establish Gas Service to any location where it finds that establishment of Gas Service will create an unsafe or hazardous condition on the Customer's premises.

Company may discontinue Gas Service to an existing Customer or refuse to serve a prospective Customer where such Customer's use of Gas is or will be detrimental or hazardous to the Gas Service supplied to other Customers.

Company will not establish Gas Service to any Customer where that Customer is in arrears for Gas Service at that location or another location in the Company's service area.

If a prospective Customer requests a Change of Account connection for Gas Service but denies the Company's employees and representatives access to the Customer's Installation for the purpose of inspecting the appliances prior to establishing Gas Service, the Company may refuse to provide Gas Service to the prospective Customer.

RULES AND REGULATIONS (Continued)

	RESIDENTIAL	OTHER
METER RECONNECTION CHARGE		
(applies where service is inactive)		
Non-West Florida Region	\$25.00	\$50.00
West Florida Region	\$25.00	\$30.00
TRIP CHARGE/COLLECTION AT CUSTOMER PREMISES		
(this charge applies when Company's employee, agent, or representative makes a trip to Customer's premises for the purpose of terminating Gas Service or providing final notice of termination for nonpayment of bills)		
Non-West Florida <u>All Regions Only</u>	\$10.00	\$10.00

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