

In re: Application of )  
UTILITIES, INC. OF FLORIDA )  
for a rate increase in Marion, Orange, )  
Pasco, Pinellas and Seminole Counties.)  
\_\_\_\_\_)

DOCKET NO. 020071-WS

APPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN RATES

Applicant, UTILITIES, INC. OF FLORIDA (hereinafter "UIF", the "Utility", or the "Applicant"), by and through its undersigned attorneys and pursuant to Section 367.081 and 367.082, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 25-30, Florida Administrative Code, files this Application for a rate increase in Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas and Seminole Counties, Florida.

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COMMISSION  
CLERK

I.

The following information is provided pursuant to Rule 25-30.436, Florida Administrative Code:

1. (a) The name of the Utility and its principal place of business is:

Utilities, Inc. of Florida  
2335 Sanders Road  
Northbrook, IL 60062

(b) The address of the Florida office is:

Utilities, Inc. of Florida  
200 Weathersfield Avenue  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-4099

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OTH \_\_\_\_\_

The name and address of the person authorized to receive notices and

communications in respect to this application is

Check received with filing and forwarded to Fiscal for deposit. DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE  
Fiscal to forward a copy of check to RAR with proof of deposit. **06702 JUN 28 88**  
Initials of person who forwarded check  
FPSC COMMISSION CL

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Mus  
FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

Martin S. Friedman, Esquire  
Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley, LLP  
2548 Blainstone Pines Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

(b) Utilities, Inc. of Florida is a Florida corporation incorporated in Florida on October 15, 1975. The names and addresses of the persons owning more than 5% of the Utility's stock are:

Utilities, Inc.	100%
2335 Sanders Road	
Northbrook, IL 60062	

(c) UIF's last rate case for its Pinellas and Marion County systems was in Docket No. 930826-WS which utilized a 1992 calendar year as the test year. That proceeding was concluded with the approval of a stipulation in Order No. PSC-94-1186-FOF-WS issued September 28, 1994. UIF's last general rate case for its Seminole, Orange and Pasco County systems was in Docket No. 940917-WS and utilized a calendar year of 1993 as the test year. The final order in that Docket was PSC Order No. PSC-95-0574-FOF-WS issued May 9, 1995.

(d) The address within the various service areas where the application is available for customer inspection during the time the rate application is pending is:

Seminole County:

Utilities, Inc. of Florida  
200 Weathersfield Avenue  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

**Marion County:**

**Freedom Public Library  
5870 SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ocala, FL 34476**

**Orange County:**

**Orlando Public Library  
101 East Central Boulevard  
Orlando, FL 32801**

**Pasco County:**

**Regency Park Branch Library  
9701 Little Road  
New Port Richey, FL 34654**

**Pinellas County:**

**Palm Harbor Library  
2330 Nebraska Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683**

(e) The Utility is requesting rates which would allow it to recover all expenses that the Utility will incur on a going-forward basis, and generate a fair rate of return on its investment. The Utility is seeking rate relief in order to allow it to recover its expenses and earn a fair rate of return on its investment all properly considered 100% used and useful in the public service.

(f) The Utility is seeking interim rates based upon the historic test year ended December 31, 2001. The Utility has demonstrated through the supporting schedules within the attached Composite Exhibit "1" that it is earning outside its range of reasonable returns, calculated in accordance with Section 367.082(5), Florida

Statutes. Submitted as part of Composite Exhibit "1" are schedules of rate base (Schedules A-1 and A-2), cost of capital (Schedule D-1) and net operating income (Schedule B-1 and Schedule B-2), as applicable, pursuant to Commission Rule 25-30.437(5), F.A.C.

(g) An Affidavit signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Utility that the Utility will comply with Rule 25-22.0407, F.A.C., is provided herewith as Exhibit "8".

(h) The Utility requests that this case be processed using the standard 8 month file and suspend procedure outlined in Section 367.081(6), F.S., including proceeding directly to hearing. The Utility has chosen this alternative rather than the Proposed Agency Action process because due to the number of systems involved it is expected that Office of Public Counsel or a customer will intervene. Thus, going directly to hearing will result in less rate case expense and the proceeding will be concluded earlier.

2. There has been no new land recorded on the Utility's books since the Utility's rate base was last established in the Orders referenced in Paragraph 1(c) above.

## II.

Sixteen copies of the Utility's Financial, Rate and Engineering Minimum Filing Requirements (Form PSC/WAW 20) are provided herewith as Composite Exhibit "1" consisting of five volumes.

III.

Two copies of the Billing Analysis Schedules as required by Rule 25-30.437(4) are provided herewith as Composite Exhibit "2", consisting of five volumes.

IV.

Two copies of the Additional Engineering Information required by Rule 25-30.440(2)-(10), F.A.C. are provided herewith as Composite Exhibit "3", consisting of nine volumes. Two copies of the list vehicles are provided herewith as Exhibit "3A", and two copies of the list of customer complaints is provided herewith as Exhibit "3B".

V.

Two copies of a detailed system map as required by Section 25-30.440(1)(a) and (b) are attached hereto as Exhibit "4".

VI.

UIF's system has costs or charges to it from an affiliate or related party which costs are reported in Schedule B-12 of Composite Exhibit "1". Further, the PSC Staff has an undocketed proceeding to audit affiliate transactions for the year ended December 31, 2001 (Audit Control No. 02-122-3-1).

VII.

The original and two copies of the Revised Tariff Sheets reflecting the proposed interim rates are attached hereto as Composite Exhibit "5".

VIII.

The original and two copies of the Revised Tariff Sheets reflecting the proposed final rates are attached hereto as Composite Exhibit "6".

IX.

The Utility requests that the Commission not withhold consent to the effectiveness of the proposed final water rate increase as requested in this Application, or in the alternative that the Commission grant interim rates pursuant to Section 367.082, F.S. in accordance with the schedules contained in Composite Exhibit "1" and the tariffs contained in Exhibit "5".

X.

The Utility is not requesting any changes in its service availability policy or charges in this proceeding.

XI.

Attached hereto as Exhibit "7" are sixteen copies of the Direct Testimonies of Steve Lubertozzi, CPA, Donald W. Rasmussen and Frank Seidman, filed in support of this Application as required by Commission Rule 25-30.436(2), F.A.C.

XII.

The filing fee required by Rule 25-30.020(1)(e), F.A.C., is \$8,000 since the Utility has the existing capacity to serve more than 4,000 water ERCs and from 2,001 to 4,000 wastewater ERCs. Checks totaling that amount are included with this filing.

WHEREFORE, the Utility requests that the Florida Public Service Commission do the following:

1. Accept jurisdiction of this Application to grant an increase in water rates utilizing the full rate case procedure outlined in Section 367.081(6), F.S.

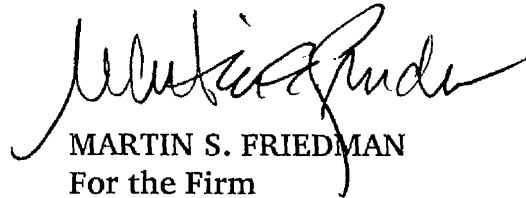
2. Not withhold consent to the effectiveness of the rates requested as final, or in the alternative, to grant the interim rates as requested herein and contained in the tariffs included as Exhibit "5".

3. Grant final rates as requested herein and contained in the tariffs included in Exhibit "6".

4. Provide such other and further relief as is fair, just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted this 28th  
day of June, 2002, by:

ROSE, SUNDSTROM & BENTLEY, LLP  
2548 Blairstone Pines Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 877 - 6555



MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN  
For the Firm