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REPLY TO CENTRAL FLORIDA OFFICE

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Martin S. Friedman, P.A. Brian J. Street

Christian W. Marcelli, of counsel (Licensed in New York only)

January 14, 2009

## **E-FILING**

Ann Cole, Commission Clerk Office of Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Docket No. 080247-SU; Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge's Application for Increase in

Wastewater Rates in Lee County, Florida

Our File No.: 30057.158

Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket is a Notice of Filing of the Affidavit of Mailing and the Affidavit of Mailing evidencing that the Initial Customer Notice has been sent to the customers of Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge.

Should you or the Staff have any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,

CHRISTIAN W. MARCELLI

Of Counsel

CWM/tlc Enclosures

cc: John P. Hoy, Chief Regulatory Officer (w/enclosures) (via e-mail)

Patrick C. Flynn, Regional Director (w/enclosures) (via e-mail)

Ms. Deborah Swain (w/enclosures) (via e-mail)

Mr. Frank Seidman (w/enclosures) (via e-mail)

Avy Crawford, Division of Economic Regulation (w/enclosures) (via e-mail)

Lisa Bennett, Esquire, Office of General Counsel (w/enclosures) (via e-mail)

#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application of

UTILITIES, INC. OF EAGLE RIDGE

for an increase in wastewater rates in Lee County, Florida DOCKET NO. 080247-SU

### **NOTICE OF FILING**

Applicant, UTILITIES, INC. OF EAGLE RIDGE, by and through its undersigned attorneys, hereby gives notice of filing in the above-referenced docket the Affidavit of Mailing evidencing that the Initial Customer Notice has been sent to the customers of Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge.

Respectfully submitted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2009, by:

ROSE, SUNDSTROM & BENTLEY, LLP Sanlando Center 2180 W. State Road 434, Suite 2118 Longwood, FL 32799

Telephone: (407) 830-6331 Facsimile: (407) 830-8522 mfriedman@rsbattorneys.com cmarcelli@rsbattorneys.com

MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN

For the Firm

**AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING** 

STATE OF ILLINOIS

COUNTY OF COOK

Before me, the undersigned authority, authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments, personally appeared John Hoy, who, after being duly sworn on oath, did depose on oath and say that he is the Chief Regulatory Officer of Utilities, Inc., the sole shareholder of Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge, and that on December 30, 2008, he did send by regular U.S. Mail, a copy of the Initial Customer Notice, attached hereto, to all customers of the utility.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

Print Name: John P. Hoy

Print Title: CRO

Sworn to and subscribed before me this  $31^{\rm st}$  day of December, 2008, by John P. Hoy, who is personally known to me.

Print Name: Erin Povich

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: April 30, 2011

ERIN P POVICH
OFFICIAL SEAL
Notary Public, State of Illinois
My Commission Expires
April 30, 2011

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### INITIAL CUSTOMER NOTICE

TO THE CUSTOMERS OF UTILITIES, INC. OF EAGLE RIDGE AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

RE: DOCKET NO. 080247-SU

# APPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN WASTEWATER RATES IN LEE COUNTY BY UTILITIES, INC. OF EAGLE RIDGE

**DECEMBER 30, 2008** 

### **BACKGROUND**

Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge (the "Utility") is a wastewater utility whose corporate offices are located at 200 Weathersfield Avenue, Altamonte Springs, Florida. The Utility's wastewater facilities are located in Lee County, Florida.

The Utility filed an application with the Florida Public Service Commission (the "Commission") for increased wastewater rates for its Lee County customers on August 28, 2008. The application was assigned Docket No. 080247-SU, and November 10, 2008, was established as the official date of filing.

As reported in its Minimum Filing Requirements ("MFRs") filed with its application to the Commission, the Utility's revenues per books are \$787,117, with operating expenses per books of \$785,425, for its wastewater system, resulting in a net operating profit of \$1,692, per books, before adjustments. The rate increase application has been filed by the Utility because of inadequate earnings.

Copies of the MFRs will be available for inspection at the following locations:

Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library	Office Hours:
2050 Central Avenue Fort Myers, FL 33901	Monday thru Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sunday (Closed)
Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge 200 Weathersfield Avenue Altamonte Springs, FL 32714	Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A "Rate Case Synopsis" will also be available, along with the application and MFRs. The test period for setting rates is the historical average thirteen-month period ended December 31, 2007.

The following tentative schedule was established by the Commission for the remaining major events in the Utility's rate case:

Schedule Item	<u>Due Date</u>
Staff Audit Report	11/21/2008 (completed)
Customer Meeting	To Be Determined
Staff's Proposed Agency Action ("PAA")	03/26/2009
Recommendation	
Agenda Conference on PAA Rates	04/07/2009
PAA Order	04/27/2009
Protest Period Expires	05/18/2009
Consummating Order	05/21/2009

## **CURRENT AND PROPOSED CHARGES**

The current and proposed rates and charges follow. These rates are subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further Staff review, and the final decision by the Commissioners.

Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge					
Residential Rates Prior to (Monthly) Filing		<u>Utility's</u> <u>Requested</u> <u>Interim Rates</u>	<u>Utility</u> <u>Requested</u> <u>Final Rates</u>	Commission Approved Interim Rates	
Base Facility Charge all Meter Sizes:	\$16.91	\$22.15	\$24.15	\$22.15	
Gallonage Charge – Per 1,000 gallons (10,000 gallon cap)	\$3.44	\$4.51	\$4.91	\$4.51	
Cross Creek Flat Rate (per unit)	\$18.42	\$24.13	\$26.31	\$24.13	

<u>General Service</u> <u>(Monthly)</u>	<u>Rates Prior to</u> <u>Filing</u>	<u>Utility's</u> <u>Requested</u> <u>Interim Rates</u>	<u>Utility</u> <u>Requested</u> <u>Final Rates</u>	<u>Commission</u> <u>Approved</u> <u>Interim Rates</u>
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size:				
5/8" x 3/4"	\$16.91	\$22.15	\$24.15	\$22.15
1"	\$42.29	\$55.41	\$60.41	\$55.41
1 1/2"	\$84.57	\$110.80	\$120.80	\$110.80
2"	\$135.31	\$177.27	\$193.28	\$177.27
3"	\$270.63	\$354.56	\$386.58	\$354.56
4"	\$422.86	\$554.00	\$604.03	\$554.00
6"	\$845.71	\$1,107.99	\$1,208.04	\$1,107.99
Gallonage Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$4.12	\$5.40	\$5.89	\$5.40

## **SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGES**

The Utility is not requesting any changes to its service availability charges. Even though not requested to do so, the Commission may review and adjust service availability charges.

# MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE CHARGES

The Utility is requesting the following changes to its miscellaneous service charges.

Wastewater					
Type of Charge	Present Charge		Requested Charge		
	During Business Hours	After Business Hours	During Business Hours	After Business Hours	
Initial Connection	\$15.00	N/A	\$21.00	\$42.00	
Normal Reconnection	\$15.00	N/A	\$21.00	\$42.00	
Violation Reconnection	Actual Cost	N/A	Actual Cost	Actual Cost	

Premises Visit				
(in lieu of disconnection)	\$10.00	N/A	\$21.00	\$42.00

Written comments regarding the Utility's service or the requested final rate increases may be sent to the Commission at the following address:

Office of Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

All comments should refer to Docket No. 080247-SU which is the docket number that has been assigned to this case. Complaints regarding service may be made to the Commission's Division of Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Assistance at the following toll-free number: 1-800-342-3552

If you have any questions, please call the Utility's office at (800) 272-1919.

Utilities, Inc. of Eagle Ridge