

David W. Manning and Carol J. Manning
1244 Country Club Road
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456-7554

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11 JUN 30 AM 8:31

June 26, 2011

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850



COMMISSION
CLERK

Re: Docket Number 100128-WU

Dear Commission Staff:

The purpose of this letter is to express our strong objection to the proposed increase in water rates for customers of Lighthouse Utilities Company, Inc. located in Gulf County, Florida.

The proposed base facility charge is an increase of 36%; the proposed gallonage charge per 1,000 gallons is an increase of 36.4%. These increases are proposed during a time of great economic stress for all families.


The test year for this case is the year ended December 31, 2009, a year right in the middle of the worst recession since the Great Depression. During this time, families were under great economic stress, untold workers had lost their jobs and the future for U.S. residents was very uncertain. Therefore, many families cancelled vacation plans as well as customary trips to vacation homes; they could not afford them. Since Gulf County relies heavily on tourism dollars, it is quite understandable that income to the various utilities would be below normal.

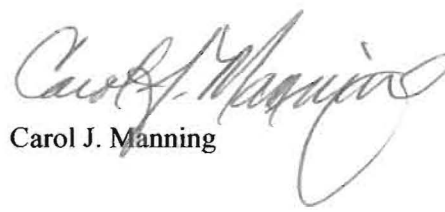
Even with the highly unusual circumstances, the net operating loss being cited is a mere 0.0066%. There is no way that this minor one-year loss can justify permanent increases in base rates of over 36%! These increases do not even include the late payment fee of \$5.25 being requested for bills not paid within 20 days; there has never been a concern for this issue voiced by management in the past. Although we specifically have never been late in paying our bills, how is this amount justified? Our monthly bills average around \$25.00.

With the continued high unemployment, rising food and gas prices, this is not the appropriate time to add unnecessary increases to basic family expenses.

We strongly urge the Florida Public Service Commission and the PSC Commissioners to deny this excessive increase in rates. Public utilities are allowed to levy adjustments from time to time without needing specific authorization. The last such increase by Lighthouse Utilities was in 2008. If Lighthouse Utilities deems an increase in rates is required, it would be much more appropriate to utilize the adjustment option already at their disposal for a more appropriate increase at this time.

Respectfully,


David W. Manning


Carol J. Manning

Cc: Mr. Stephen C. Reilly, Office of Public Counsel

Manning
1244 Country Club Road
Port St. Joe FL 32456

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11 JUN 30 AM 7:01

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Florida Public Service Commission
2570 Skumard Oak Blvd.
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CONSUMER

100128-WU

11 MAY -5 AM 7:40

5311 Sand Bar Ave
Port St. Joe, FL 32456
May 1, 2011

RECEIVED-CPSC
11 MAY -5 AM 9:36
COMMISSION
CLERK

Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Docket No. 100128-WU; Lighthouse
Utilities Company, Inc.

This letter is written to protest the extremely large rate increases applied for by Lighthouse Utilities. Given the tiny loss (.66% of revenue) incurred in 2009, increases in base facilities charge of over 36% and gallonage charge of 36.16% are not justified. Furthermore, proposed increases in connection fees of 40¢ to 180¢ and premises visit fees of 11¢ to 320¢ are ridiculous! Since the company is not using increased costs as a basis for their requests, granting these increases will increase revenues and profits by a minimum of 36% which is not an industry standard.

Please deny these extraordinary rate increases and grant reasonable increases of 5% to 7%.

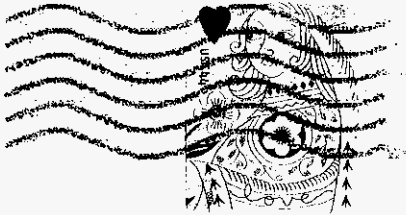
Sincerely,
Sandra L. Snow, Ph.D.

SANDRA L. SNOW, PH.D. DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
Robert S. Guthrie
ROBERT S. GUTHRIE, PH.D. 03154 MAY-6 =
FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK



Dr. Sandra L. Snow
5311 Sand Bar Dr
Port St Joe, FL 32456-7506

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Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL
32399-0850

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