MEMORANDUM

February 27, 1991

TO:

DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

PROM .

DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (FRAZIER)

RE:

DOCKET NO. 910065-WU - TARIFF CHANGE REQUESTING INCREASED MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE CHARGES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A LATE FEE IN FRANKLIN COUNTY BY ST. GEORGE ISLAND UTILITY

COMPANY, LTD.

24218

Attached is an Order Suspending Proposed Rates, to be issued in the above-referenced docket.

NRF/sc

cc: Division of Water and Sewer

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
02376 MAR 11 1991
PSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Tariff change requesting)
increased miscellaneous service charges)
and implementation of a late fee in)
Franklin County by ST. GEORGE ISLAND)
UTILITY COMPANY, LTD.

DOCKET NO. 910065-WU

ORDER NO. 24218

ISSUED: 3/11/91

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

THOMAS M. BEARD, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
BETTY EASLEY
GERALD L. GUNTER
MICHAEL McK. WILSON

ORDER SUSPENDING PROPOSED RATES

BY THE COMMISSION:

St. George Island Utility Company, Ltd. (utility) is a Class B water utility located in Franklin County. The utility has approximately 828 residential customers.

On January 10, 1991, the utility filed an application requesting approval to increase miscellaneous service charges and to implement a late fee. Section 367.091(5), Florida Statutes, provides that the rate schedules proposed by the utility shall become effective within sixty (60) days after filing unless the Commission issues an order withholding consent to the operation of the proposed rates requested.

The utility states in its application that a critical number of its customers are chronically late paying their bills. Most of its customers either pay upon receiving disconnection notices or wait to pay when the utility arrives to disconnect the customer's service. Due to these customer practices, the utility believes that it incurs a substantial amount of expense. The utility maintains that an increased reconnection fee and the implementation of a late fee would encourage customers to pay on time and, thereby, resolve the utility's expense concern.

Pursuant to Section 367.091(5), Florida Statutes, supporting cost justifications must accompany applications seeking to establish, increase, or change a rate or charge for service. We have reviewed the application and found that the information filed

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by the utility is insufficient under Section 367.091(5), Florida Statutes.

Therefore, we find it reasonable and necessary to require further amplification and explanation of the data filed by the utility, as well as additional data. In consideration of the above, we find it appropriate to suspend the utility's proposed rate schedules.

Based on the foregoing it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the proposed rate schedules filed by St. George Island Utility Co., Ltd. to increase miscellaneous service charges and to implement a late fee are hereby suspended.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 11th day of MARCH , 1991.

STEVE TRIBBLE Director

Division of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

NRF

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

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Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: 1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.038(2), Florida Administrative Code, if issued by a Prehearing Officer; 2) reconsideration within 15 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by the Commission; or 3) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or sewer utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.