

VOTE SHEET

MARCH 16, 1999

RE: DOCKET NO. 960444-WU - Application for rate increase and for increase in service availability charges in Lake County by Lake Utility Services, Inc.

Issue 1: Should the Commission accept the February 25, 1999, settlement agreement filed by Lake Utility Services, Inc. and the Office of Public Counsel?

Recommendation: Yes. The Commission should accept the parties' settlement agreement. However, provision 5 of the settlement is unenforceable against future actions of the Commission.

**APPROVED**

*with comments noted by Commissioner Clark*

Issue 2: What are the appropriate water rates and service availability charges?

Recommendation: If the Commission approves the settlement, the monthly uniform rates on Schedule 1 attached to staff's memorandum dated March 4, 1999, should be effective for the first meter reading after the stamped approval date of the revised tariff sheets, provided customers have received notice, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, Florida Administrative Code. The service availability charges on Schedule 2 of staff's memorandum should be effective for service rendered or connections made on or after the stamped approval date of the revised tariff sheets, provided customers have

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: DS CL JC

COMMISSIONERS' SIGNATURES

MAJORITY

DISSENTING

*[Handwritten signatures: E. D. ... Susan J. Clark, Joe, J. Terry Dean]*

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REMARKS/DISSENTING COMMENTS:

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

03428 MAR 17 89

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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received notice. The utility should be required to file revised tariff sheets within thirty days of the Commission vote, which are consistent with that vote. Staff should be given authority to administratively approve the revised tariff sheets upon staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with the Commission's decision and the proposed customer notices are adequate. The utility should provide notice to the Commission of the date notice was given to the customers within ten days after the date of the customer notice.

**APPROVED**

Issue 3: What is the appropriate amount of interim refund?

Recommendation: If the Commission approves the settlement, the utility should be required to refund all interim rates collected in accordance with Rule 25-30.360, Florida Administrative Code. Interim revenues authorized were 27.10% of water revenues collected since September 20, 1996. For the Harbor Oaks/Four Lakes and Lake Saunders Acres systems, the refund should be the difference between the interim rates and the rates prior to filing. For all other systems, the refund should be the difference between the interim rates and the "Rates Approved in Settlement" in Order No. PSC-96-0504-AS-WU (Docket No. 950232-WU). The refund should be made with interest in accordance with Rule 25-30.360(4), Florida Administrative Code. The utility should be required to submit the proper refund reports and treat any unclaimed refunds as CIAC as required by Rule 25-30.360(7) and (8), Florida Administrative Code.

**APPROVED**

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Issue 4: What are the appropriate meter installation charges for LUSI?  
Recommendation: Uniform meter installation charges, as proposed by LUSI, are appropriate for LUSI. Staff's recommended meter installation charges are contained in Schedule Nos. 2-A and 2-B of their memorandum. The utility should be required to file revised tariff sheets within thirty days of the effective date of the order, which are consistent with the Commission's vote. Staff should be given authority to administratively approve the revised tariff sheets upon expiration of the protest period and staff's verification that the tariff sheets are consistent with the Commission's decision. If revised tariff sheets are filed and approved, the meter installation charges should become effective for connections made on or after the stamped approval date of the revised tariff sheets pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(2), Florida Administrative Code.

**APPROVED**

Issue 5: What are the appropriate allowance for funds prudently invested (AFPI) charges?

Recommendation: The AFPI charges that were approved in Order No. PSC-97-0531-FOF-WU (Schedule 7) should continue to remain in effect until the total number of connections allowed by the tariff have been made. In no instance should the utility collect more than 1,080 ERCs for the water treatment plant and 977 ERCs for the water transmission and distribution system because that tariff was effective on May 15, 1998. Further, this tariff page should be revised to state the number of total ERCs allowed for water treatment and transmission and distribution. The utility should be required to file revised tariff sheets within thirty days of the Commission vote, which are consistent with that vote. Staff should be given authority to administratively approve the revised tariff sheets upon staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with the Commission's decision.

**APPROVED**

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Issue 6: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: Yes. The docket should be closed upon staff's verification that the utility has completed the required refunds and upon the utility's filing of and staff's approval of revised tariff sheets and customer notice.

**APPROVED**