

ORIGINAL

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DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES
NOREEN S. DAVIS
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6199

Public Service Commission

June 15, 2000

Mr. Robert W. Clifford
50 Windward Drive
Lake Placid, Florida 33852

Re: Docket No. 990374-WU - Application for certificate to operate a water utility in Highlands County by The Woodlands of Lake Placid, L.P.

Dear Mr. Clifford:

We have received your letter and e-mail concerning the Woodlands of Lake Placid. You were concerned about the meter installation for the 145 homeowners of Camp Florida Resort and the affect this would have on rates. You stated that any rate proceeding should take into account the 252 unmetered lots owned by Camp Florida Resort, LP. You also stated that on February 17, 1997, you had spoken with Mr. Bob Crouch, and he advised you that there would be an increase in rates.

The Woodlands of Lake Placid has applied for an original certificate for its water system. When the Commission grants an original certificate, the utility is required to keep the charges currently in effect, until authorized to change by the Commission in a subsequent rate proceeding. Consequently, the rates you are currently charged will remain in effect until the next rate proceeding. The homeowners in the campground are having water meters installed and will be charged. The remaining lots owned by Camp Florida Resort, LP are not being metered. Camp Florida Resort, LP pays a bulk water rate and allocates that cost to each lot in the lot rent fee.

When you spoke with Mr. Crouch he was referring to the rate case pending at that time for Placid Lakes Utilities, Inc. By Order No. 97-0917-FOF-SU, issued August 4, 1997, in Docket No. 950697-SU, the Commission granted a rate increase to Placid Lakes Utilities, Inc. As you can see the names of the two utilities are similar. Moreover, Placid Lakes Utilities, Inc. has applied for a rate increase in Docket No. 000295-WU. If you are responding to the notice sent by Placid Lakes Utilities, Inc., please referenc Docket No. 000295-WU — Application for increase in water rates in Highlands County by Placid Lakes Utilities, Inc., in any future correspondence.

There has not been any rate proceeding for the Woodlands of Lake Placid. Staff is awaiting the utility's application for original certificate for the wastewater system to process the water and wastewater applications together. If and when there is a rate proceeding in the future, you will receive the proper notice.

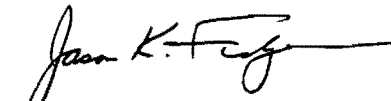
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Please be aware that the opinions contained herein are the informal opinions of the Division of Legal Services and in no way bind the Commission. Should you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at (850) 413-6199.

Sincerely,



Jason K. Fudge
Staff Attorney

JKF/lw

cc: Division of Regulatory Oversight (Clapp)
Division of Records and Reporting

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