State of Florida



Hublic Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE:

March 27, 2014

TO:

Office of Commission Clerk (Stauffer)

FROM:

Division of Economics (Thompson, Daniel, Hudson) of June 1

Division of Accounting and Finance (Lester, Mouring, Prestwood)

Division of Engineering (Buys, Lewis, Vickery) poblik (1)

Office of the General Counsel (Corbari)

RE:

Docket No. 130211-WS - Application for staff-assisted rate case in Polk County

by S.V. Utilities, Ltd.

AGENDA: 04/10/14 - Regular Agenda - Proposed Agency Action - Except Issue Nos. 9 and

10 - Interested Persons May Participate

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

PREHEARING OFFICER:

Edgar

CRITICAL DATES:

01/05/15 (15-Month Effective Date (SARC))

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

None

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Case Background

S.V. Utilities, Ltd. (SV or Utility) is a Class C utility that has been in existence since 1981. The Utility provides service to approximately 705 residential, 4 general service, and 20 irrigation customers in Swiss Village Mobile Home Park, Hidden Cove East Mobile Home Park, and Hidden Cove West Mobile Home Park. SV is located in the Highlands Ridge water use caution area of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) in Polk County. The Utility has been under the Florida Public Service Commission's (Commission) jurisdiction since May 14, 1996, when Polk County transferred jurisdiction to the Commission. However, SV did not apply for its grandfather certificates until October 14, 1998. By Order No. PSC-99-1234-PAA-WS, issued June 22, 1999, the Commission granted Certificate Nos. 605-W and 521-S to the Utility.

On July 16, 2007, SV applied for a staff assisted rate case (SARC), but voluntarily withdrew its application on August 1, 2008.² On August 5, 2013, the Utility filed an application for a SARC and paid the appropriate filing fee on September 17, 1013. Staff has selected the historical test year ended June 30, 2013. The Commission has jurisdiction to consider this rate case pursuant to Section 367.0814, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

See Order No. PSC-99-1234-PAA-WS, issued June 22, 1999, in Docket No. 981337-WS, In re: Application for Grandfather Certificates to Operate Water and Wastewater Utility in Polk County by S.V. Utilities, Ltd.

See Docket No. 070413-WS, In re: Application for Staff Assisted Rate Case in Polk County by S.V. Utilities, Ltd.

Discussion of Issues

<u>Issue 1</u>: Is the quality of service provided by the Utility satisfactory?

<u>Recommendation</u>: Yes. The overall quality of service for the SV system in Polk County is satisfactory. (P. Buys)

Staff Analysis: Pursuant to Rule 25-30.433(1), F.A.C., in water and wastewater rate cases, the Commission shall determine the overall quality of service provided by a utility. This is derived from an evaluation of three separate components of the Utility operations. These components are the quality of the Utility's product, the operating conditions of the Utility's plant and facilities, and the Utility's attempt to address customer satisfaction. The rule further states that sanitary surveys, outstanding citations, violations, and consent orders on file with Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the county health department over the preceding three-year period shall be considered. In addition, input from the DEP and health department officials and customer comments or complaints will be considered.

Quality of Utility's Product and Operating Conditions of the Utility's Plant and Facilities.

SV's service area is located at Hidden Cove East Mobile Home Park, Hidden Cove West Mobile Home Park, and Swiss Village Mobile Home Park, in Winter Haven, Florida. The raw water source is ground water, which is obtained from two wells in the service area and is treated. The processing sequence for the water treatment system is to pump raw water from the aquifer, inject liquid chlorine, store in a tank, and then distribute. Wastewater service is provided via a wastewater treatment plant with three percolation ponds. Polk County Health Department (PCHD) regulates the potable water program.

In the last water Sanitary Survey Report, dated April 26, 2013, the only deficiency listed was related to the pressure relief valves, which were not properly screened. During the site visit to SV's water treatment plant (WTP), staff noticed that the pressure relief valves were properly screened and the deficiency was corrected. Staff recommends the quality of the finished water product is satisfactory.

In the last wastewater DEP Compliance Evaluation Inspection, dated November 22, 2011, several deficiencies were listed. The main issue concerning the quality of the wastewater product was with the groundwater. The inspection report indicated that the maximum contaminant level for arsenic was exceeded in the second and third quarters of 2009, the fourth quarter of 2010, and the second quarter of 2011 for background well MW-1R. DEP requested an explanation for the exceedances and increasing trends of the arsenic levels. The Utility responded to DEP on December 1, 2011 and indicated that the property that Swiss Village encompasses had various uses in the past, including growing citrus and cattle grazing. The Utility stated that it had no way of knowing what types of products were used in the past for these industries, but arsenic use was prevalent during these times to treat both cattle and citrus trees for pests and parasites. According to the Utility, the arsenic level has fallen since the last monitoring period, and the Utility will continue to monitor the trends closely. The Utility is providing quarterly groundwater reports to DEP.

The other deficiencies listed on DEP's November 22, 2011 Compliance Evaluation Inspection report were that the Domestic Wastewater Permit was to expire May 29, 2012, and the sign posted at the rapid infiltration basin (RIB or percolation pond) had deteriorated and was no longer legible. The Utility responded to DEP on December 1, 2011, stating that the permit application had been completed and DEP should be in receipt of the application by December 1, 2011. Staff found that DEP issued a Notice of Permit for the Utility on June 8, 2012. The permit is current and will expire on June 7, 2017. The Utility also reported to DEP on December 1, 2011, that the effluent disposal sign near the south RIB has been refurbished to original quality, which staff verified during the site visit of the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

The Utility's Attempt to Address Customer Satisfaction.

Staff reviewed the Commission's complaint records and there were no complaints recorded during the last three years. Staff did ask the Utility for a copy of its in-house complaints during the test year and the Utility responded that it did not receive any complaints.

Staff conducted a customer meeting on February 5, 2014. This meeting gave the customers an opportunity to express specific concerns regarding the Utility's attitude and responsiveness to quality of service issues. All quality of service complaints were investigated and taken into consideration during the preparation of staff's final recommendation.

The customer meeting was held in Winter Haven. Seventy-six customers attended the meeting and six customers spoke with concerns about the Utility. Several customers asked about the excessive amount of unaccounted for water (EUW). The customers were concerned that the Utility is losing water and the customers will have to pay for it. The customers also stated that the rate increase is improper and asked why there should be a rate increase with no change in service. The customers mentioned that the meters were not calibrated and they did not have a consumption record so they would not know how much water to conserve. One customer mentioned that the Utility should compare the cost of an automated billing program to manually sending bills out. The same customer also mentioned there was no contact information for the Utility on the bills. Staff reviewed a current copy of the Utility's bill and it does reflect the Utility name and contact number. After the meeting, one customer mentioned to staff there was a fire hydrant that needed to be replaced. Staff followed up with the Utility which stated that a new hydrant was just ordered.

Of the forty-seven customer comments received by the Commission regarding this rate case, thirty-six were from Hidden Cove West and eleven were from Swiss Village. Most of the customers' concerns were about the EUW, which is addressed in Issue 2, and opposition to a rate increase. Other concerns were about the system needing repairs and improvements, poor management and operations, meters, and a preference to see consumption use before the Utility starts billing. Customers also stated that most residents are seasonal residents, on fixed incomes, and that the residents will not water their lawns if there is a rate increase. Three customers mentioned the poor quality of water. Two of these customers stated that the water needs to taste better and the quality of the water has not been addressed.

The water provided by the Utility is meeting applicable DEP primary and secondary standards and most of the Utility's results are better than DEP's acceptable standards. One

customer mentioned that the residents frequently have to boil water due to broken pipes. Staff verified with PCHD that SV issued a boiled water notice in September 2012 and one in February 2013. In September 2012, the notice was issued to repair a 6-inch main break. The notice in February 2013 was to repair a main leak.

Summary

Staff recommends the Commission find that the quality of the finished water and wastewater products are satisfactory since the Utility is current in meeting the quality standards for all required chemical analyses and the products provided by the Utility are meeting applicable primary and secondary standards as prescribed in the rules of the DEP. In addition, staff recommends that the conditions of the water and wastewater treatment facilities are satisfactory since the Utility corrected all deficiencies reported by DEP. It also appears the Utility has attempted to address the customer's concerns. Therefore, the overall quality of service for the SV system in Polk County is satisfactory.

<u>Issue 2</u>: What are the used and useful percentages of the Utility's water treatment plant (WTP), water distribution, wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), and wastewater collection system?

Recommendation: SV's WTP, water distribution, WWTP, and wastewater collection system should be considered 100 percent used and useful (U&U). Staff recommends that a 22 percent adjustment to purchased power and chemicals should be made for excess unaccounted for water (EUW). No adjustment is recommended for excess infiltration and inflow (I&I). (P. Buys, Lester)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: SV has one WTP with two 8-inch wells operating at depths of 530 feet for well 1 and 547 feet for well 2. The wells have a total capacity of 600 gallons per minute (gpm). Well 1 is equipped with a 30 horsepower (hp) vertical turbine pump and well 2 is equipped with a 40 hp vertical turbine pump. The raw water is treated with liquid chlorine, which is injected prior to entry into the two 8,000-gallon hydropneumatic tanks. The treated water from the tanks is then pumped into the water distribution system.

The distribution system is a composite network consisting of approximately 17,075 linear feet of 6-inch PVC pipe, 950 linear feet of 4-inch PVC pipe, 15,330 linear feet of 2-inch PVC pipe, and 165 linear feet of 1-inch PVC pipe. The distribution system supports 49 fire hydrants.

The WWTP capacity is permitted by DEP at 0.141 million gallons per day (MGD) based on the Three Month Average Daily Flow (3MADF). The plant is a Type II, extended aeration domestic wastewater treatment plant that consists of one surge/aeration basin of 42,500 gallons, three aeration basins of 120,348 total gallons, two clarifiers of 35,500 total gallons with a total of 520 square feet of surface area, two chlorine contact chambers of 7,600 total gallons and two digesters of 14,500 total gallons. This plant is operated to provide secondary treatment with liquid chlorine basic disinfection. The wastewater system includes three percolation ponds.

The collection system is made up of approximately 2,600 linear feet of 4-inch PVC pipe, 9,700 linear feet of 6-inch PVC pipe, and 16,285 linear feet of 8-inch PVC pipe. There are 54 four-inch concrete manholes and 4 lift stations. The 4 lift stations transfer the influent by force mains to the wastewater treatment plant.

Excessive Unaccounted for Water (EUW)

Rule 25-30.4325, F.A.C., describes EUW as unaccounted for water in excess of 10 percent of the amount produced. When establishing the Rule, the Commission recognized that some uses of water are readily measurable and others are not. The Commission allows 10 percent of unaccounted water for the uses of water that are not metered, which includes but is not limited to, line flushing, hydrant testing, street cleaning, and theft.³ The rule provides that to

³ <u>See</u> Order No. PSC-93-0455-NOR-WS, p. 101 and 102, issued March 24, 1993, in Docket no. 911082-WS, <u>In re: Proposed revisions to Rules 25-22.0406, 25-30.020, 25-30.025, 25-30.030, 25-30.032 through 25-30.037, 25-30.060, 25-30.110, 25-30.111, 25-30.135, 25-30.255, 25-30.320, 25-30.335, 25-30.360, 25-30.430, 25-30.436, 25-30.437, 25-30.443, 25-30.455, 25-30.515, 25-30.565; adoption of Rules 25-22.0407, 25-22.0408, 25-22.0371, 25-30.38, 25-30.039, 25-30.090, 25-30.117, 25-30.432 through 25-30.435, 25-30.4385, 25-30.4415, 25-30.456, 25-30.460, 25-30.465, 25-30.470, 25-30.475; and repeal of Rule 25-30.441, F.A.C., pertaining to water and wastewater regulation.</u>

determine whether adjustments to plant and operating expenses, such as purchased electrical power and chemicals cost are necessary, the Commission will consider all relevant factors as to the reason for EUW, solutions implemented to correct the problem, or whether a proposed solution is economically feasible. The Utility's records indicated unaccounted for water of 32 percent, which would mean there is EUW of 22 percent. The Utility produced 72,399,000 gallons of water, so 22 percent of the water produced would be 15,624,100 gallons or 30 gpm.

Staff asked the Utility to investigate the EUW. The company found that there were two pool leaks during the test year. One pool leak was at the Hidden Cove West clubhouse and the other one was at the Swiss Village clubhouse. The Utility also found a 2-inch irrigation meter in Hidden Cove West that was broken during the test year. The Utility has ordered a new meter. To further its investigation of the EUW, the Utility requested a meeting with the Florida Rural Water Association to begin leak detection on the system. Staff believes that the water used to fill the pools should have been metered from the clubhouses. Staff determined the irrigation meter was not working for the fourth quarter of 2012 through the second quarter of 2013. The total estimated loss of water from the irrigation meter not working would only account for 77,400 gallons of the 15.6 million gallons total gallons of EUW. Therefore, staff recommends that a 22 percent adjustment to O&M expenses should be made.

Infiltration and Inflow (I&I)

Typically, infiltration results from groundwater entering a wastewater collection system through broken or defective pipes and joints; whereas, inflow results from water entering a wastewater collection system through manholes or lift stations. The allowance for infiltration is 500 gpd per inch diameter pipe per mile, and an additional 10 percent of water sold is allowed for inflow. Rule 25-30.432, F.A.C., provides that in determining the amount of U&U plant, the Commission will consider I&I. Additionally, adjustments to operating expenses such as chemical and electrical costs are also considered necessary if excessive. The Utility's records indicated that there was no excessive I&I for the test year. Therefore, staff recommends that no adjustment should be made for excess I&I.

Used and Useful (U&U)

Pursuant to Rule 25-30.4325, F.A.C., the U&U percentage of the WTP was calculated by taking the single maximum day in the test year less the EUW times two, then adding the fire flow allowance plus the growth allowance and dividing that whole amount by the firm reliable capacity (([2 x (single maximum day – EUW)] + fire flow + growth allowance) / firm reliable capacity). The Utility has 2 wells with a total capacity of 600 gpm. If a water system has more than one well, the highest capacity well should be removed from the calculation to determine the plant's firm reliable capacity. By taking one of the wells (300 gpm) out of service, the Utility reflected a firm reliable capacity of 300 gpm. The single maximum day in the test year was 379,000 gallons (263 gpm), which occurred on August 19, 2012. This does not appear to have been caused by a line break or other unusual occurrence on that day. The Utility's records indicated unaccounted for water of 32 percent, which would mean there is a EUW of 22 percent. The peak demand should be reduced by 30 gpm, which is 22 percent of the water produced, to reflect the EUW (single maximum day – EUW). The growth allowance is zero gpm. The fire flow allowance is 500 gpm per Rule 25-30.4325, F.A.C. The result, ([2 x (263 – 30)] + 500 + 0)

/ 300 = 322 %, is greater than 100 percent U&U. There has been no prior rate case for this Utility; therefore, U&U has not been previously established by the Commission. Based on the above information, staff recommends that the WTP should be 100 percent U&U.

Pursuant to Rule 25-30.432, F.A.C., the U&U percentage of the WWTP was calculated by taking the Three Month Average Daily Flow (3MADF) plus a growth allowance minus the excess I&I and then dividing the sum by the permitted capacity of the plant. The rule also contains a provision for consideration of other factors, such as whether the service area is built out. The Utility's test year 3MADF was 0.121 MGD. There has been no growth in the past five years; therefore the growth allowance is 0 MGD. In addition, the excess I&I is calculated to be zero percent. The WWTP's permitted capacity is 0.141 MGD per 3MADF. The calculation [(0.121-0+0)/0.141] results in an 86 percent U&U. There has been no prior rate case for this Utility; therefore, U&U has not been previously established by the Commission. SV began serving customers in 1981. Staff's adjusted test year plant-in-service for wastewater is \$494,034. Total accumulated depreciation is \$408,238, 82.6 percent. With equipment replacements over the years, the wastewater treatment plant-in-service is significantly but not fully depreciated. The system has been in operation for over thirty years with no customer growth during the previous five years to the filing of this SARC; therefore, the wastewater treatment plant should be considered 100 percent U&U because the system is built out which is consistent with Rule 25-30.432, F.A.C.

Staff reviewed the service territory and believes the current mains are providing service for the existing customers only. For the SV service area, there are 708 lots, no vacant lots, and no further phases to be built in the developments. If the service territory the system is designed to serve is deemed built out and there is no potential for expansion of the service territory, it is recommended that the U&U percentage for water distribution and wastewater collection systems be considered 100 percent. Staff recommends the water distribution and wastewater collection system also be considered 100 percent U&U.

Summary

Based on the analysis above, staff recommends SV's WTP, water distribution, WWTP, and wastewater collection system should be considered 100 percent U&U. Staff recommends that a 22 percent adjustment to O&M Expenses should be made for EUW. No adjustment is recommended for excess I&I.

Issue 3: What is the appropriate average test year rate base for SV?

Recommendation: The appropriate average test year rate base for SV is \$120,475 for water and \$130,662 for wastewater. (Lester)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: The appropriate components of the Utility's rate base include utility plant in service, accumulated depreciation, contribution-in-aid-of-construction (CIAC), accumulated amortization of CIAC and working capital. Staff selected the test year ended June 30, 2013, for this rate case. A summary of each component of rate base and the recommended adjustments follows:

<u>Utility Plant in Service (UPIS)</u>: The Utility recorded UPIS of \$556,407 for water and \$1,394,937 for wastewater. Staff's adjustments to UPIS are identified in Table 3-1 below.

<u>Table 3-1</u> Rate Base Adjustments

		WATER	WASTEWATER
	UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE		
1.	To reflect original cost study as of 12/31/2006 (AF 1)	(\$110,456)	(\$910,048)
2.	To reflect staff audit adjustments from report in Dkt.		
	070413-WS (AF 1)	5,426	4,542
3.	To reflect plant additions and retirements (AF 2)	(41,376)	2,528
4.	To reflect simple average	(201)	(1,128)
5.	To capitalize meter lids	733	
6.	To capitalize pump		1,637
7.	To capitalize portable controller		1,566
	Total	(\$145,874)	(\$900,903)
	,		

In its letter dated March 5, 2014, OPC noted invoices in materials and supplies expense that should be capitalized. Staff reviewed these items and agrees with OPC. The adjustments above include capitalization of meter lids, a pump, and a portable controller.

Staff's net adjustments to UPIS are decreases of \$145,874 and \$900,903 for water and wastewater, respectively. Staff's recommended UPIS balance is \$410,533 (\$556,407-\$145,874) for water and \$494,034 (\$1,394,937 - \$900,903) for wastewater.

<u>Land & Land Rights</u>: The Utility recorded a test year land value of \$7,695 for water and \$33,087 for wastewater. Staff reduced these balances by \$5,074 and \$5,152 for water and wastewater, respectively, to reflect the original cost of utility land. The appropriate land balances are \$2,621 for water and \$27,935 for wastewater.

Non-Used and Useful Plant: As discussed in Issue 2, SV's water treatment plant, distribution system, wastewater treatment plant, and collection system should be considered 100 percent used and useful. Therefore, no adjustments are necessary.

<u>Contributions In Aid of Construction (CIAC)</u>: SV did not record CIAC on its books. The service area consists of lots rented by the affiliated developer. Therefore, staff recommends no adjustment for CIAC.

Accumulated Depreciation: SV recorded a balance for accumulated depreciation of \$463,450 and \$1,272,981 for water and wastewater, respectively. Staff recalculated accumulated depreciation using the prescribed rates set forth in Rule 25-30.140, F.A.C., and reflected depreciation associated with plant additions, capitalization adjustments, and retirements along with the simple average. The balances should be decreased by \$160,345 for water and by \$864,743 for wastewater. Staff recommends an accumulated depreciation balance of \$303,105 for water and \$408,238 for wastewater.

<u>Accumulated Amortization of CIAC</u>: As SV does not have any CIAC, there is no accumulated amortization of CIAC.

Working Capital Allowance: SV did not record a working capital balance for water or wastewater. Working capital is defined as the investor-supplied funds that are necessary to meet operating expenses or going-concern requirements of the Utility. Consistent with Rule 25-30.433(2), F.A.C., staff used the one-eighth of the operation and maintenance (O&M) expense formula approach for calculating the working capital allowance. Applying this formula, staff recommends a working capital allowance of \$10,426 for water (based on O&M expense of \$83,405/8), and \$16,931 for wastewater (based on O&M expense of \$135,448/8).

Rate Base Summary: Based on the foregoing, staff recommends that the appropriate average test year rate base is \$120,475 for water and \$130,662 for wastewater. Rate base is shown on Schedule No. 1-A for water and on Schedule No. 1-B for wastewater. The related adjustments for water and wastewater are shown on Schedule No. 1-C.

Issue 4: What is the appropriate rate of return on equity and overall rate of return for SV?

Recommendation: The appropriate return on equity (ROE) is 8.74 percent with a range of 7.74 percent to 9.74 percent. The appropriate overall rate of return is 8.74 percent. (Lester)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: The Utility's capital structure consists of an intercompany payable of \$360,767. Consistent with prior Commission practice, staff has treated the payable as common equity.⁴

In its letter, OPC cites Commission orders that support the use of a parent company capital structure. In this case, the utility is owned by S.V. Utilities, Ltd., a partnership. The utility serves rental mobile home lots that are part of different partnerships. SV's managing partner is Century Properties-MHP, LLC, which is the managing partner for several related mobile home parks and utilities. Century Properties-MHP has a very small holding in each partnership. For each one, the majority ownership varies from partnership to partnership. Unlike the situations OPC cites, no clear parent/subsidiary capital structure exists for SV.

The staff auditor was able to identify a capital structure specific for SV. As noted above, staff believes treating the payable as common equity is consistent with Commission practice. With this adjustment, the Utility has no long-term debt. The Utility does not have customer deposits. The appropriate ROE is 8.74 percent using the Commission-approved leverage formula currently in effect. The Utility's capital structure has been reconciled with staff's recommended rate base. Staff recommends an ROE of 8.74 percent, with a range of 7.74 percent to 9.74 percent, and an overall rate of return of 8.74 percent. The ROE and overall rate of return are shown on Schedule No. 2.

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⁴ <u>See</u> Order No. PSC-10-0681-PAA-WU, issued November 15, 2010, in Docket No. 090414-WU, In re: <u>Application for staff-assisted rate case in Polk County by Pinecrest Ranches, Inc.</u>

⁵ <u>See</u> Order Nos. PSC-13-0241-PAA-WS, issued June 3, 2013, and PSC-13-0307-CO-WS, issued July 8, 2013, in Docket No. 130006-WS, In re: <u>Water and Wastewater Industry Annual Reestablishment of Authorized Range of Return on Common Equity for Water and Wastewater Utilities Pursuant to Section 367.081(4)(f), Florida Statutes.</u>

<u>Issue 5</u>: What are the appropriate test year revenues for the Utility's water and wastewater systems?

Recommendation: The appropriate test year revenues for SV's water and wastewater systems are \$74,362 and \$72,403, respectively. (Thompson)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: SV recorded total test year revenues of \$145,547, including water service revenues of \$74,417 and wastewater service revenues of \$71,130. The Utility's current tariff reflects a monthly base facility charge (BFC) of \$15.71 for both water and wastewater service, which includes an allotment of 8,000 gallons per month. The Utility bills the BFC monthly and allocates it equally between water and wastewater service. Customer usage is billed quarterly and allocated equally between both services.

During the test year, the Utility had several billing errors. The Utility billed irrigation customers the entire BFC rather than the portion allocated for water. The general service and irrigation customers were billed one BFC per quarter rather than a BFC for each month of the quarter. Finally, the Utility recorded service revenues for general service usage to water rather than allocating it equally between water and wastewater.

Staff corrected the billing errors, adjusted test year billing determinants, and applied the Utility's rates in effect during the test year to test year billing determinants. Based on staff's analysis, test year service revenues should be decreased by \$55 for water and increased by \$1,273 for wastewater. Based on the above, staff recommends the appropriate test year revenues for SV's water and wastewater systems are \$74,362 and \$72,403, respectively.

<u>Issue 6</u>: What is the appropriate amount of operating expense?

Recommendation: The appropriate amount of operating expense for SV is \$96,472 for water and \$152,320 for wastewater. (Lester)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: SV recorded operating expense of \$58,612 for water and \$134,143 for wastewater for the test year ended June 30, 2013. The test year O&M expenses have been reviewed, including invoices, canceled checks, and other supporting documentation. Staff has made several adjustments to the Utility's operating expenses as summarized below:

<u>Salaries and Wages - Employees (601/701)</u> - SV recorded \$852 for water and \$33,173 for wastewater salaries in these accounts. However, the company had not allocated the cost of employees from the managing partner. Staff increased water salaries by \$28,560 and wastewater salaries by \$11,273 to cover management and operations activities done for the Utility by its managing partner employees.

Since the managing partner manages other water and wastewater utilities, these salaries were allocated on the basis of lots. OPC expressed concerns that time is not being allocated to other affiliated businesses. Staff believes that allocating the costs based on lots properly allocates salaries to all businesses and is reasonable. Staff did not include a management fee since the fee was unsupported and the salary allocation covers management activities. The resulting amounts for salaries are \$29,412 for water and \$44,446 for wastewater.

<u>Purchased Power (615/715)</u> - SV recorded \$10,888 for purchased power expense for water and \$19,166 for wastewater. Staff reduced these amounts by \$32 and \$133 for water and wastewater, respectively, because the utility had included late fees. Staff further reduced the amount for water by \$2,395 due to EUW (22 percent). Staff recommends purchased power expense of \$8,461 for water and \$19,033 for wastewater.

<u>Chemicals (618/718)</u> - For chemicals expense, S.V. Utilities recorded \$2,490 for water and \$6,296 for wastewater. For water, staff removed \$548 from this amount due to EUW. For wastewater, staff removed \$227 from this amount because of lack of invoice support and, based on OPC's letter, removed \$336 that was outside the test year. The resulting expense is \$1,942 for water and \$5,733 for wastewater.

Materials and Supplies (620/720) - For materials and supplies, the Utility recorded \$7,519 and \$13,447 for water and wastewater, respectively. For water, staff reduced the amount by \$2,840, which removed \$655 in unsupported transactions, reclassified \$1,602 to water meters, and included \$150 in appropriate expense that had not been booked. OPC's letter noted an invoice for meter lids for \$733. Staff removed this amount from materials and supplies expense and capitalized the amount as plant.

For wastewater, staff reduced the amount by \$8,057 by removing \$85 in unsupported transactions and reclassifying \$2,988 to plant lift-stations and \$1,781 to miscellaneous water plant. Staff further capitalized amounts for pump motors and for a portable controller/sampler

totaling \$3,203 as noted in OPC's letter. The resulting amounts for materials and supplies for water and wastewater are \$4,679 and \$5,390 respectively.

<u>Contractual Services - Billing (630/730)</u> - For water and wastewater, the beginning balances for contractual services - billing was zero. The total cost for the change to monthly billing provided by SV was \$27,892. To allow for existing quarterly billing expenses, staff reduced this amount to \$19,515 and divided it equally between water and wastewater. The resulting amounts for incremental monthly billing expense are \$9,758 for water and \$9,758 for wastewater.

<u>Contractual Services - Professional (631/731)</u> – For water, SV recorded \$13,252 for contractual services - professional. Staff removed \$600 of expense that was outside the test year as noted in OPC's letter. For wastewater, SV recorded \$6,588 for contractual services - professional. Staff reduced this amount by \$455 for unsupported transactions. Staff removed \$280 that was associated with another utility system. In response to OPC's letter, staff amortized permitting costs of \$884 over five years, reducing this account by \$707.

For water and wastewater, staff allocated \$2,925 as overhead for administrative and accounting salaries (bookkeeping, receptionist, regulatory accounting). With these adjustments, the resulting amounts for contractual services - professional for water and wastewater are \$15,577 and \$8,071 respectively.

Contractual Services - Testing (635/735) - The Utility recorded \$1,278 for water and \$8,653 for wastewater for testing expense. For water, staff decreased the amount by \$363 to reflect copper and lead testing every three years. For wastewater, staff increased the amount by \$200 to annualize the cost of quarterly monitoring of groundwater at the wastewater treatment plant. Staff also reduced the account by \$386 for unsupported expenses. Staff removed \$141 water and \$120 wastewater for out of period expenses as noted in OPC's letter. Staff recommends contractual services - testing expense of \$774 for water and \$8,347 for wastewater.

<u>Contractual Services – Other (736)</u> – SV recorded \$5,270 for wastewater. Staff reduced this amount by \$110 for unsupported transactions. Staff recommends contractual services – other expense of \$5,160 for wastewater.

Rents (640/740) – SV did not record any rent expense for water and wastewater. The company requested that staff consider the cost of leasing a mini-excavator. The company noted that this would be safer for employees and reduce overtime. The annual lease expense is \$6,984. On an annual basis, staff allocated 25 percent of the lease expense to SV and split this amount evenly, \$873 for water and for wastewater. Staff reduced this expense allowance to reflect savings based on leasing the mini-excavator, \$263 each for water and wastewater. Staff believes it is appropriate for SV to incur this expense. Staff also allocated office rent of \$1,562 for water and \$1,562 for wastewater. The represents SV's share of rent associated with managing partner employees. For the appropriate rent expense, staff recommends \$2,172 for water and \$2,172 for wastewater.

<u>Transportation Expense (650/750)</u> – For water and wastewater transportation expense, SV recorded \$3,187 and \$3,370, respectively. Staff removed unsupported expenses of \$116 for

water and \$201 for wastewater. Staff also removed out-of-period expenses of \$289 for water and \$126 for wastewater. The resulting allowance is \$2,782 for water and \$3,043 for wastewater.

<u>Insurance Expense (655/755)</u> – For insurance expense, SV recorded \$789 for water and \$2,539 for wastewater. Staff increased the water allowance by \$1,732 and decreased the wastewater allowance by \$885 to reflect the current general liability premium. The resulting balances are \$2,521 and \$1,654 for water and wastewater, respectively.

Regulatory Commission Expense (665/765) - SV recorded zero expense for regulatory commission expense in these accounts. Regarding the current rate case, pursuant to Rule 25-22.0407, F.A.C., the Utility is required to mail notices of the customer meeting and notices of final rates to its customers. For the postage, printing, and envelopes of these notices, staff estimated \$788 for the customer meeting and \$561 for the final rates notice. Staff specifically allocated the \$1,000 rate case filing fee for the water utility to water expenses and the \$500 filing fee for wastewater to wastewater expenses. Staff allowed a consulting fee of \$10,183. The total rate case expense including postage, notices, envelopes, consulting fee, and filing fee is \$13,032. Pursuant to Section 367.0816, F.S., rate case expense is amortized over a four-year period. Staff recommends regulatory commission expense of \$1,692 for water and \$1,567 for wastewater.

Operation and Maintenance Expenses (O&M) Summary – Total adjustments to O&M expense result in an increase of \$39,514 for water and \$15,871 for wastewater. Staff's recommended O&M expense is \$83,405 for water and \$135,448 for wastewater. O&M expenses are shown on Schedule Nos. 3-A and 3-B for water and wastewater, respectively.

<u>Depreciation Expense (Net of Related Amortization of CIAC)</u> – The Utility recorded depreciation expense of \$11,374 for water and \$11,369 for wastewater during the test year. Staff calculated depreciation expense using the prescribed rates set forth in Rule 25-30.140, F.A.C., and determined depreciation expense should be reduced by \$3,123 for water and \$1,851 for wastewater. The appropriate depreciation expense is \$8,251 for water and \$9,518 for wastewater.

<u>Taxes Other Than Income (TOTI)</u> – The Utility recorded \$3,347 for water and \$3,197 for wastewater for TOTI. Staff increased the amount for wastewater by \$47 to reflect the correct amount for regulatory assessment fees. Therefore, staff recommends TOTI of \$4,816 for water and \$7,354 for wastewater.

Operating Expenses Summary – The application of staff's recommended adjustments to SV's adjusted test year operating expenses results in staff's recommended operating expenses of \$96,472 for water and \$152,320 for wastewater. Operating expenses are shown on Schedule No. 3-A for water and Schedule 3-B for wastewater. The related adjustments for water and wastewater are shown on Schedule No. 3-C.

<u>Issue 7</u>: What is the appropriate revenue requirement?

Recommendation: The appropriate revenue requirement is \$107,001 for water and \$163,740 for wastewater, resulting in an annual increase of \$32,639 for water (43.89 percent), and an annual increase of \$91,337 for wastewater (126.15 percent). (Lester)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: SV should be allowed an annual increase of \$32,639 for water (43.89 percent) and \$91,337 for wastewater (126.15 percent). This will allow the Utility the opportunity to recover its expenses and an 8.74 percent return on its investment. The calculations are shown in Table 7-1 and Table 7-2 for water and wastewater, respectively:

Table 7-1

Water Revenue Requirement	
Adjusted Rate Base	\$120,475
Rate of Return	x .0874
Return on Rate Base	\$ 10,529
Adjusted O&M expense	83,405
Depreciation expense	8,251
Amortization	0
Taxes Other Than Income	4,816
Income Taxes	0
Revenue Requirement	\$107,001
Less Test Year Revenues	74,362
Annual Increase	\$32,639
Percent Increase/(Decrease)	43.89%

<u>Table 7-2</u>

Wastewater Revenue Requir	ement
Adjusted Rate Base	\$130,662
Rate of Return	x .0874
Return on Rate Base	\$ 11,420
Adjusted O&M expense	135,448
Depreciation expense	9,518
Amortization	0
Taxes Other Than Income	7,354
Income Taxes	0
Revenue Requirement	\$163,740
Less Test Year Revenues	72,403
Annual Increase	\$91,337
Percent Increase/(Decrease)	126.15%

<u>Issue 8</u>: What are the appropriate rate structures and rates for SV's water and wastewater systems?

Recommendation: The recommended rate structures and monthly water and wastewater rates are shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B, respectively. The Utility should file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates should be effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the approved rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. Along with the customer notice, the Utility should provide customers their most recent three months usage. The Utility should provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice. (Thompson)

Staff Analysis: The SV water system is located in Polk County within the SWFWMD. The Utility provides service to 705 residential, 4 general service, and 20 irrigation customers. The Utility's customer base is seasonal; however, because the customers irrigate year round, the billing data indicates that only approximately 7.64 percent of the residential customer bills during the test year had zero gallons. According to the Utility, while seasonal customers are out of residence, these customers are required to have irrigation systems on timers. The average residential water demand was 5,608 gallons per month during the test year. The average water demand, excluding zero gallon bills, was 6,072 gallons per month.

SV's rates and rate structure have been in effect since the Utility was granted grandfather certificates in 1999, following Polk County turning over jurisdiction of privately owned water and wastewater utilities to the Commission. Currently, the Utility's rate structure consists of a single monthly BFC of \$15.71 for water and wastewater service, which includes an allotment of 8,000 gallons per month. Water usage above the 8,000 gallon monthly allotment is billed at \$1.31 for 8,001 to 10,000 gallons and \$2.09 for usage above 10,000 gallons. As previously discussed, the BFC is billed monthly, but usage in excess of the 8,000 gallon monthly allotment is billed quarterly. The approved rate for irrigation service is a monthly BFC of \$7.86, which includes an allotment of 8,000 gallons and a usage charge of \$.65 per 1,000 gallons.

The current rate structure is not considered conservation oriented because the 8,000 gallon allotment does not encourage conservation and billing on a quarterly basis for usage does not give customers a timely price signal. Many of the customers have expressed their concern that they were not aware of their past consumption history. The Utility did not provide the customers a quarterly bill if their consumption was within the allotment of 24,000 gallons per quarter. Therefore, in order to promote conservation, the allotment should be eliminated and the Utility should bill on a monthly basis.

Water Rates

Staff performed an analysis of the Utility's billing data in order to evaluate various BFC cost recovery percentages, usage blocks, and usage block rate factors for the residential water customers. The goal of the evaluation was to select the rate design parameters that: 1) produce the recommended revenue requirement; 2) equitably distribute cost recovery among the Utility's

customers; 3) establish the appropriate non-discretionary usage threshold for restricting repression; and 4) implement, where appropriate, water conserving rate structures consistent with Commission practice.

Staff recommends that 40 percent of the water revenues should be generated from the BFC. This will provide sufficient revenues to design a gallonage charge that will send a pricing signal to customers using above non-discretionary usage. The average persons per household served by the Utility is two; therefore, based on the number of persons per household, 50 gallons per day per person, and the number of days per month, the non-discretionary usage threshold should be 3,000 gallons per month. Staff recommends a traditional BFC and gallonage charge rate structure with an additional gallonage charge for non-discretionary usage for residential water customers. General service and irrigation customers should be billed a BFC and uniform gallonage charge. Staff's recommended rate structure and resulting water rates are shown on Schedule No. 4-A.

Based on the customer billing data provided by the Utility, approximately 56 percent of total residential consumption is discretionary and, therefore, subject to the effects of repression. A repression adjustment quantifies changes in consumption patterns in response to an increase in price. Customers will typically reduce their discretionary consumption in response to price changes, while non-discretionary consumption remains relatively unresponsive to price changes. Based on a recommended revenue increase of 43.89 percent, the residential discretionary consumption can be expected to decline by 9,255,000 gallons resulting in anticipated average residential demand of 4,512 gallons per month. Staff recommends a 19.5 percent reduction in total residential consumption and corresponding reductions of \$1,579 for purchased power, \$362 for chemicals, and \$91 for RAFs to reflect the anticipated repression, which results in a post repression revenue requirement of \$104,969.

Wastewater Rates

Staff performed an analysis of the Utility's billing data in order to evaluate various BFC cost recovery percentages and gallonage caps for the residential wastewater customers. The goal of the evaluation was to select the rate design parameters that: 1) produce the recommended revenue requirement; 2) equitably distribute cost recovery among the Utility's customers; and 3) implement a gallonage cap that considers approximately the amount of water that may return to the wastewater system.

Typically, the Commission's practice is to allocate at least 50 percent of the wastewater revenue requirement to the BFC due to the capital intensive nature of wastewater plants. Therefore, staff recommends a BFC allocation of 50 percent. In addition, based on the expected reduction in water demand described above, staff recommends that a repression adjustment also be made for wastewater. ⁶ Because wastewater rates are calculated based on customers' water demand, if those customers' water demand is expected to decline, then the billing determinants

⁶ <u>See</u> Order Nos. PSC-11-0345-PAA-WS, issued August 16, 2011, in Docket No. 100359-WS, <u>In re: Application for staff-assisted rate case in Volusia County by Tymber Creek Utilities, Incorporated and Order No. PSC-09-0647-PAA-WS, issued September 24, 2009, in Docket No. 080714-WS, <u>In re: Application for staff-assisted rate case in Lake County by Hidden Valley SPE LLC d/b/a Orange Lake Utilities.</u></u>

used to calculate wastewater rates should also be adjusted. Therefore, staff recommends that a repression adjustment for the discretionary usage should also be made to calculate wastewater rates. Based on the billing analysis for the wastewater system, staff recommends that discretionary usage be reduced by 7,316,309 gallons to reflect the anticipated reduction in water demand used to calculate wastewater rates. Staff recommends a 17.5 percent reduction in total residential consumption and corresponding reductions of \$3,331 for purchased power, \$1,003 for chemicals, \$3,507 for sludge removal, and \$353 for RAFs to reflect the anticipated repression, which results in a post repression revenue requirement of \$155,546. Currently, the Utility does not have a gallonage cap for residential wastewater customers. The cap creates the maximum amount a residential customer would pay for wastewater service. Typically, the residential wastewater cap is set at approximately 80 percent of the water demand. Based on the Utility's billing analysis, the 8,000 gallon level is where approximately 80 percent of the water demand is captured. Therefore, staff recommends the gallonage cap for residential wastewater customers should be set at 8,000 gallons. The gallonage charge for general service customers should be 1.2 times greater than the residential gallonage charge, which is consistent with Commission practice. Staff's recommended rate design for the wastewater system is shown on Schedule No. 4-B.

Summary

Based on the foregoing, staff recommends that 40 percent of the water revenues be generated from the BFC. The traditional BFC and gallonage charge rate structure with an additional block for the non-discretionary usage threshold of 3,000 gallons should be approved for residential water customers. A 19.5 percent reduction in total residential consumption and corresponding reductions of \$1,579 for purchased power, \$362 for chemicals, and \$91 for RAFs should be made to reflect the anticipated repression. General service and irrigation customers should be billed a BFC based on meter size and a uniform gallonage charge.

Staff recommends that 50 percent of the wastewater revenues be generated from the BFC. The residential wastewater customers' rate structure should consist of a BFC for all meter sizes, with a cap of 8,000 gallons. A 17.5 percent reduction in total residential consumption and corresponding reductions of \$3,331 for purchased power, \$1,003 for chemicals, \$3,507 for sludge removal, and \$353 for RAFs should be made to reflect the anticipated repression. General service wastewater customers should be billed a BFC and gallonage charge that is 1.2 times higher than the residential gallonage charge.

As discussed in the Quality of Service issue, many customers expressed concern about their previous consumption history. The Utility has indicated that the current billing system makes it difficult to provide the last twelve month's data on a mass basis in a timely manner. The Utility has offered to provide the past twelve month's billing history upon written request of a customer. In order to make customers aware of their usage patterns, staff recommends that the Utility provide the customers their most recent three months usage along with the customer notice for the Commission-approved rates.

The recommended rate structures and monthly water and wastewater rates are shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B, respectively. The Utility should file revised tariff sheets and a

proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates should be effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the approved rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed customer notice and the notice has been received by the customers. Along with the customer notice, the Utility should provide customers with their most recent three months usage. The Utility should provide proof of the date notice was given within 10 days of the date of the notice.

<u>Issue 9</u>: What is the appropriate amount by which rates should be reduced in four years after the published effective date to reflect the removal of the amortized rate case expense as required by Section 367.0816 F.S.?

Recommendation: The water and wastewater rates should be reduced as shown on Schedule Nos. 4-A and 4-B to remove rate case expense grossed-up for regulatory assessment fees and amortized over a four-year period. The decrease in rates should become effective immediately following the expiration of the four-year rate case expense recovery period, pursuant to Section 367.0816, F.S. SV should be required to file revised tariffs and a proposed customer notice setting forth the lower rates and the reason for the reduction no later than one month prior to the actual date of the required rate reduction. If the Utility files this reduction in conjunction with a price index or pass-through rate adjustment, separate data should be filed for the price index and/or pass-through increase or decrease and the reduction in the rates due to the amortized rate case expense. (Lester, Thompson)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: Section 367.0816, F.S., requires that the rates be reduced immediately following the expiration of the four-year period by the amount of the rate case expense previously included in rates. The reduction will reflect the removal of revenue associated with the amortization of rate case expense, the associated return in working capital, and the gross-up for RAFs. The total reductions are \$1,791 for water and \$1,659 for wastewater.

The water and wastewater rates should be reduced as shown on Schedule No. 4-A and 4-B to remove rate case expense grossed-up for regulatory assessment fees and amortized over a four-year period. The decrease in rates should become effective immediately following the expiration of the four-year rate case expense recovery period, pursuant to Section 367.0816, F.S. SV should be required to file revised tariffs and a proposed customer notice setting forth the lower rates and the reason for the reduction no later than one month prior to the actual date of the required rate reduction. If the Utility files this reduction in conjunction with a price index or pass-through rate adjustment, separate data should be filed for the price index and/or pass-through increase or decrease and the reduction in the rates due to the amortized rate case expense.

<u>Issue 10</u>: Should the recommended rates be approved for the Utility on a temporary basis, subject to refund with interest, in the event of a protest filed by a party other than the Utility?

Recommendation: Yes. Pursuant to Section 367.0814(7), F.S., the recommended rates should be approved for the Utility on a temporary basis, subject to refund with interest, in the event of a protest filed by a party other than the Utility. SV should file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the temporary rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed notice, and the notice has been received by the customers. Prior to implementation of any temporary rates, the Utility should provide appropriate security. If the recommended rates are approved on a temporary basis, the rates collected by the Utility should be subject to the refund provisions discussed below in the staff analysis. In addition, after the increased rates are in effect, pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(6), F.A.C., the Utility should file reports with the Commission's Office of Commission Clerk no later than the 20th of each month indicating the monthly and total amount of money subject to refund at the end of the preceding month. The report filed should also indicate the status of the security being used to guarantee repayment of any potential refund. (Lester)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: This recommendation proposes an increase in water and wastewater rates. A timely protest might delay what may be a justified rate increase resulting in an unrecoverable loss of revenue to the Utility. Therefore, pursuant to Section 367.0814(7), F.S., in the event of a protest filed by a party other than the Utility, staff recommends that the recommended rates be approved as temporary rates. SV should file revised tariff sheets and a proposed customer notice to reflect the Commission-approved rates. The approved rates should be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheet, pursuant to Rule 25-30.475(1), F.A.C. In addition, the temporary rates should not be implemented until staff has approved the proposed notice, and the notice has been received by the customers. The recommended rates collected by the Utility should be subject to the refund provisions discussed below.

SV should be authorized to collect the temporary rates upon staff's approval of an appropriate security for the potential refund and the proposed customer notice. Security should be in the form of a bond or letter of credit in the amount of \$82,678. Alternatively, the Utility could establish an escrow agreement with an independent financial institution.

If SV chooses a bond as security, the bond should contain wording to the effect that it will be terminated only under the following conditions:

- 1) The Commission approves the rate increase; or,
- 2) If the Commission denies the increase, the Utility shall refund the amount collected that is attributable to the increase.

If SV chooses a letter of credit as a security, it should contain the following conditions:

- 1) The letter of credit is irrevocable for the period it is in effect; and
- 2) The letter of credit will be in effect until a final Commission order is rendered, either approving or denying the rate increase.

If security is provided through an escrow agreement, the following conditions should be part of the agreement:

- 1) No monies in the escrow account may be withdrawn by the Utility without the express approval of the Commission;
- 2) The escrow account shall be an interest bearing account;
- 3) If a refund to the customers is required, all interest earned by the escrow account shall be distributed to the customers;
- 4) If a refund to the customers is not required, the interest earned by the escrow account shall revert to SV;
- 5) All information on the escrow account shall be available from the holder of the escrow account to a Commission representative at all times;
- The amount of revenue subject to refund shall be deposited in the escrow account within seven days of receipt;
- 7) This escrow account is established by the direction of the Florida Public Service Commission for the purpose(s) set forth in its order requiring such account, and pursuant to <u>Cosentino v. Elson</u>, 263 So. 2d 253 (Fla. 3d DCA 1972), escrow accounts are not subject to garnishments;
- 8) The Commission Clerk must be a signatory to the escrow agreement; and
- 9) The account must specify by whom and on whose behalf such monies were paid.

In no instance should the maintenance and administrative costs associated with the refund be borne by the customers. These costs are the responsibility of, and should be borne by, the Utility. Irrespective of the form of security chosen by SV, an account of all monies received as a result of the rate increase should be maintained by the Utility. If a refund is ultimately required, it should be paid with interest calculated pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(4), F.A.C.

SV should maintain a record of the amount of the security, and the amount of revenues that are subject to refund. In addition, after the increased rates are in effect, pursuant to Rule 25-30.360(6), F.A.C., the Utility should file reports with the Commission's Office of Commission Clerk no later than the 20th of each month indicating the monthly and total amount of money subject to refund at the end of the preceding month. The report filed should also indicate the status of the security being used to guarantee repayment of any potential refund.

<u>Issue 11</u>: Should the Utility be required to provide proof, within 90 days of an effective order finalizing this docket, that it has adjusted its books for all applicable National Association of Regulatory Commissioners Uniform System of Accounts (NARUC USOA) primary accounts associated with the Commission approved adjustments?

Recommendation: Yes. To ensure that the Utility adjusts its books in accordance with the Commission's decision, SV should provide proof, within 90 days of the final order in this docket, that the adjustments for all applicable NARUC USOA primary accounts have been made. (Lester)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: To ensure that the Utility adjusts its books in accordance with the Commission's decision, SV should provide proof, within 90 days of the final order in this docket, that the adjustments for all applicable NARUC USOA primary accounts have been made.

Issue 12: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: No. If no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order, a consummating order should be issued. The docket should remain open for staff's verification that the revised tariff sheets and customer notice have been filed by the Utility and approved by staff. Once these actions are complete, this docket should be closed administratively. (Corbari)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: If no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order, a consummating order should be issued. The docket should remain open for staff's verification that the revised tariff sheets and customer notice have been filed by the Utility and approved by staff. Once these actions are complete, this docket should be closed administratively.

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013 SCHEDULE OF WATER RATE BASE			CHEDULE NO. 1-A LET NO. 130211-WS
	DESCRIPTION	BALANCE PER UTILITY	STAFF ADJUSTMENTS TO UTILITY BALANCE	BALANCE PER STAFF
1.	UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE	\$556,407	(\$145,874)	\$410,533
2.	LAND & LAND RIGHTS	7,695	(5,074)	2,621
3.	NON-USED AND USEFUL COMPONENTS	0	0	0
4.	CIAC	0	0	0
5.	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(463,450)	160,345	(303,105)
6.	AMORTIZATION OF CIAC	0	0	0
7.	WORKING CAPITAL ALLOWANCE	<u>0</u>	10,426	10,426
8.	WATER RATE BASE	\$100,652	\$19,823	<u>\$120,475</u>

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013 SCHEDULE OF WASTEWATER RATE BASI	E	DC	SCHEDULE NO. 1-B OCKET NO. 130211-WS
			STAFF	
	DESCRIPTION	BALANCE PER UTILITY	ADJUSTMENTS TO UTILITY BALANCE	BALANCE PER STAFF
1.	UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE	\$1,394,937	(\$900,903)	\$494,034
2.	LAND & LAND RIGHTS	33,087	(5,152)	27,935
3.	NON-USED AND USEFUL COMPONENTS	0	0	0
4.	CIAC	0	0	0
5.	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(1,272,981)	864,743	(408,238)
6.	AMORTIZATION OF CIAC	0	0	0
7.	WORKING CAPITAL ALLOWANCE	<u>0</u>	16,931	<u>16,931</u>
8.	WASTEWATER RATE BASE	<u>\$155,043</u>	(\$24,381)	\$130,662

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD.		HEDULE NO. 1-C
	TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013	DOCK	ET NO. 130211-WS
	ADJUSTMENTS TO RATE BASE		PAGE 1 OF 1
		Military and control	
		WATER	WASTEWATER
	UTILITY PLANT IN SERVICE		
1.	To reflect original cost study as of 12/31/2006 (AF 1)	(\$110,456)	(\$910,048)
2.	To reflect staff audit adjustments from report in Dkt. 070413-WS (AF1)	5,426	4,542
3.	To reflect plant additions and retirements (AF 2)	(41,376)	2,528
4.	To reflect simple average	(201)	(1,128)
5.	To capitalize meter lids	733	0
6.	To capitalize pump	0	1,637
7.	To capitalize portable controller	<u>0</u>	<u>1,566</u>
	Total	(\$145,874)	(\$900,903)
	LAND		
1.	To reflect land at original cost per audit in Dkt. 070413-WS	(\$5,074)	(\$5,152)
	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		
1.	To reflect the appropriate test year accumulated depreciation (AF5)	\$156,854	\$856,832
2.	Add depreciation for meter lids, pump, and controller	(22)	(120)
3.	To reflect simple average	<u>3,513</u>	<u>8,031</u>
	Total	\$160,345	<u>\$864,743</u>
	WORKING CAPITAL ALLOWANCE		
1.	To reflect 1/8 of test year O&M expenses.	\$10,426	<u>\$16,931</u>

S.V. UTILITIES, LTD.
TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013
SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE

SCHEDULE NO. 2 DOCKET NO. 130211-WS

		PER	SPECIFIC ADJUST-	BALANCE BEFORE PRO RATA	PRO RATA ADJUST-	BALANCE PER	PERCENT OF		WEIGHTED
	CAPITAL COMPONENT	UTILITY	MENTS	ADJUSTMENTS	MENTS	STAFF	TOTAL	COST	COST
1.	COMMON STOCK RETAINED EARNINGS	(\$268,179) 0	\$360,767 0	\$92,588 0					
3.	PAID IN CAPITAL	0	0	0					
4.	TREASURY STOCK	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>					
5.	TOTAL COMMON EQUITY	(\$268,179)	\$360,767	\$92,588	158,549	251,137	100.00%	8.74%	8.74%
6. 7.	LONG TERM DEBT LONG TERM DEBT TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT	\$0 360,767 \$360,767	\$0 (360,767) (\$360,767)	\$0 <u>0</u> \$0	0 <u>0</u> 0	0 <u>0</u> 0	0.00% <u>0.00%</u> 0.00%	7.00% 6.00%	0.00% 0.00%
8.	CUSTOMER DEPOSITS	<u>0</u>	0	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	0.00%	2.00%	0.00%
9.	TOTAL	\$92,588	<u>\$0</u>	\$92,588	\$158,549	\$251,137	100.00%		<u>8.74%</u>
				R		ONABLENESS RN ON EQUITY FE OF RETURN	<u>LOW</u> <u>7.74%</u> <u>7.74%</u>	HIGH 9.74% 9.74%	

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013	NG INCOME				SCHEDULE NO. 3-A DOCKET NO. 130211-WS
	SCHEDULE OF WATER OPERATI	NG INCOME		STAFF	ADJUSTMENTS	
		TEST YEAR	STAFF	ADJUSTED	FOR	REVENUE
		PER UTILITY	ADJUSTMENTS	TEST YEAR	INCREASE	REQUIREMENT
		120011201	7,0000111,011,10	.201 .2	ordines	
1.	OPERATING REVENUES	\$74,417	(\$55)	\$74,362	\$32,639	\$107,001
					43.89%	
	OPERATING EXPENSES:					
2.	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	\$43,891	\$39,514	\$83,405	\$0	\$83,405
3.	DEPRECIATION (NET)	11,374	(3,123)	8,251	0	8,251
		_				
4.	AMORTIZATION	0	0	0	0	0
5.	TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME	3,347	0	3,347	1,469	4,816
3.	TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME	3,347	U	3,347	1,409	4,810
6.	INCOME TAXES	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	$\underline{0}$
0.	INCOME TRADE	<u>u</u>	<u>u</u>	<u> </u>	<u>u</u>	₹
7.	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$58,612	\$36,572	\$95,003	\$1,469	\$96,472
8.	OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS)	<u>\$15,805</u>		(\$20,641)		\$10,529
9.	WATER RATE BASE	\$100,652		<u>\$120,475</u>		<u>\$120,475</u>
10.	RATE OF RETURN	<u>15.70%</u>		<u>-17.13%</u>		<u>8.74%</u>

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD.					SCHEDULE NO. 3-B DOCKET NO. 130211-WS
	TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013 SCHEDULE OF WASTEWATER O	PERATING INCO	OME			DOCKET NO. 130211-WS
	SCHEDULE OF WHOLE WHILE OF	LILLY III (O II (C)	51/1L	STAFF	ADJUSTMENTS	
		TEST YEAR	STAFF	ADJUSTED	FOR	REVENUE
		PER UTILITY	ADJUSTMENTS	TEST YEAR	INCREASE	REQUIREMENT
1.	OPERATING REVENUES	<u>\$71,130</u>	<u>\$1,273</u>	<u>\$72,403</u>	\$91,337 126.15%	<u>\$163,740</u>
	OPERATING EXPENSES:					
2.	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	\$119,577	\$15,871	\$135,448	\$0	\$135,448
3.	DEPRECIATION (NET)	11,369	(1,851)	9,518	0	9,518
4.	AMORTIZATION	0	0	0	0	0
5.	TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME	3,197	47	3,244	4,110	7,354
6.	INCOME TAXES	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
7.	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$134,143</u>	<u>\$14,067</u>	<u>\$148,210</u>	<u>\$4,110</u>	<u>\$152,320</u>
8.	OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS)	(\$63,013)		(\$75,807)		<u>\$11,420</u>
9.	WASTEWATER RATE BASE	<u>\$155,043</u>		\$130,662		<u>\$130,662</u>
10.	RATE OF RETURN	<u>-40.64%</u>		<u>-58.02%</u>		<u>8.74%</u>

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013 ADJUSTMENTS TO OPERATING INCOME	DC	SCHEDULE NO. 3-C OCKET NO. 130211-WS PAGE 1 OF 3
		WATER	WASTEWATER
	OPERATING REVENUES		
1.	To adjust utility revenues to audited test year amount.	(\$55)	<u>\$1,273</u>
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES		
1.	Salaries and Wages - Employees (601/701)		
	To allocate utility payroll	\$28,560	<u>\$11,273</u>
2.	Purchased Power (615/715)		
	To remove late fees (AF8)	(\$32)	(\$133)
	To reduce purchase power due to excess unaccounted-for water	(2,395)	<u>0</u>
		(\$2,427)	<u>(\$133)</u>
3.	Chemicals (618/718)		
	To remove out of period expense		(\$336)
	To remove unsupported transactions		(227)
	To reduce chemical expense for excess unaccounted-for water	<u>(\$548)</u>	<u>0</u>
		(\$548)	(\$563)
4.	Materials & Supplies (620/720)		
	To remove unsupported transactions (AF 8)	(\$655)	\$0
	To reclassify expense to water meters (AF2 & 8)	(1,602)	0
	To include proper test year expense	150	0
	To reclassify M&S expense to plant-lift stations		(\$2,988)
	To reclassify M&S expense to water misc. plant		(1,781)
	To remove unsupported transactions (AF 8)		(85)
	To reclassify meter lids, pump, controller to plant	<u>(733)</u>	(3,203)
	Subtotal	(\$2,840)	(\$8,057)
5.	Contractual Services - Billing (630/730)		
	To reflect incremental billing expenses due to monthly billing	\$9,758	<u>\$9,758</u>
	(O & M EXPENSES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)		

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013 ADJUSTMENTS TO OPERATING INCOME	DC	SCHEDULE NO. 3-C OCKET NO. 130211-WS PAGE 2 OF 3
	(O & M EXPENSES CONTINUED)	WATER	WASTEWATER
6.	Contractual Services - Professional (631/731)		
	To remove out of period expense	(\$600)	\$0
	To remove unsupported transactions (AF 8)	0	(455)
	To allocate salaries for accounting and administrative	2,925	2,925
	To remove expense associated with another system	0	(280)
	To reflect annualized permitting expense	<u>0</u>	<u>(707)</u>
	Subtotal	<u>\$2,325</u>	<u>\$1,483</u>
7.	Contractual Services - Testing (635/735)		
	To reflect 3 year lead and copper testing	(\$363)	\$0
	To reflect annual cost of groundwater monitoring for WWTP	0	200
	To remove out of period expenses	(141)	(120)
	To remove unsupported transactions (AF 8)	<u>0</u>	(386)
	Subtotal	(\$504)	<u>(\$306)</u>
8.	Contractual Services - Other (636/736)		
	To remove unsupported transactions (AF 8)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$110)</u>
9.	Rents (640/740)		
	To allocate mini-excavator lease expense	\$873	\$873
	To allocate office rent expense	1,562	1,562
	To reflect savings associated with mini-excavator	(263)	(263)
	Subtotal	\$2,172	<u>\$2,172</u>
10.	Transportation Expense (650/750)		
	To remove out of period expenses	(\$289)	(\$126)
	To remove unsupported expenses	(116)	(201)
	To remove unsupported and out-of-period expenses (AF8)	<u>(\$405)</u>	(\$327)
11.	Regulatory Commission Expense (665/765)		
	To reflect 4-year amortization of rate case expense	\$1,692	<u>\$1,567</u>
12.	Insurance Expense		
	To include current premium for general liability	\$1,732	(\$885)
	TOTAL O & M EXPENSE ADJUSTMENTS	<u>\$39,514</u>	<u>\$15.871</u>

	S.V. UTILITIES, LTD.	SCHEDULE NO. 3-C DOCKET NO. 130211-WS	
	TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013		
	ADJUSTMENTS TO OPERATING INCOME	PAGE 3 OF 3	
	(O & M EXPENSES CONTINUED)	WATER	WASTEWATER
	DEPRECIATION EXPENSE		
1.	To reflect test year depreciation calculated per 25-30.140, FAC (AF10)	(\$3,145)	(\$1,971)
2.	To add depreciation for meter lids, pump, and controller	<u>22</u>	<u>120</u>
		<u>(\$3,123)</u>	<u>(\$1,851)</u>
	TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME		
1.	To reflect appropriate RAFs (AF11)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$47</u>

S.V. UTILITIES, LTD.			SCHEDULE NO. 3-D		
TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013			DOCKET NO. 130211-WS		
ANALYSIS OF WATER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSE					
	TOTAL		TOTAL		
	PER	STAFF	PER		
	UTILITY	ADJUSTMENT	STAFF		
(601) SALARIES AND WAGES - EMPLOYEES	\$852	\$28,560	\$29,412		
(603) SALARIES AND WAGES - OFFICERS	0	0	0		
(604) EMPLOYEE PENSIONS AND BENEFITS	0	0	0		
(610) PURCHASED WATER	0	0	0		
(615) PURCHASED POWER	10,888	(2,427)	8,461		
(616) FUEL FOR POWER PRODUCTION	0	0	0		
(618) CHEMICALS	2,490	(548)	1,942		
(620) MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	7,519	(2,840)	4,679		
(630) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - BILLING	0	9,758	9,758		
(631) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - PROFESSIONAL	13,252	2,325	15,577		
(635) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - TESTING	1,278	(504)	774		
(636) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - OTHER	1,132	0	1,132		
(640) RENTS	0	2,172	2,172		
(650) TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE	3,187	(405)	2,782		
(655) INSURANCE EXPENSE	789	1,732	2,521		
(665) REGULATORY COMMISSION EXPENSE	0	1,692	1,692		
(670) BAD DEBT EXPENSE	138	0	138		
(675) MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	2,366	<u>0</u>	<u>2,366</u>		
	\$43,891	\$39,514	<u>\$83,405</u>		

S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED 6/30/2013			SCHEDULE NO. 3-E DOCKET NO. 130211-WS
ANALYSIS OF WASTEWATER OPERATION AND M	MAINTENAN TOTAL	CE EXPENSE	TOTAL
	PER	STAFF	PER
	UTILITY	ADJUSTMENT	STAFF
(701) SALARIES AND WAGES - EMPLOYEES	\$33,173	\$11,273	\$44,446
(703) SALARIES AND WAGES - OFFICERS	0	0	0
(704) EMPLOYEE PENSIONS AND BENEFITS	0	0	0
(710) PURCHASED SEWAGE TREATMENT	0	0	0
(711) SLUDGE REMOVAL EXPENSE	20,038	0	20,038
(715) PURCHASED POWER	19,166	(133)	19,033
(716) FUEL FOR POWER PRODUCTION	0	0	0
(718) CHEMICALS	6,296	(563)	5,733
(720) MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	13,447	(8,057)	5,390
(730) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - BILLING	0	9,758	9,758
(731) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - PROFESSIONAL	6,588	1,483	8,071
(735) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - TESTING	8,653	(306)	8,347
(736) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - OTHER	5,270	(110)	5,160
(740) RENTS	0	2,172	2,172
(750) TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE	3,370	(327)	3,043
(755) INSURANCE EXPENSE	2,539	(885)	1,654
(765) REGULATORY COMMISSION EXPENSES	0	1,567	1,567
(770) BAD DEBT EXPENSE	138	0	138
(775) MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	<u>899</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>899</u>
	\$119,577	<u>\$15,871</u>	<u>\$135,448</u>

S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013 MONTHLY WATER RATES			SCHEDULE NO. 4 KET NO. 130211-V
	UTILITY CURRENT RATES	STAFF RECOMMENDED RATES	4 YEAR RATE REDUCTION
Residential and General Service			
Base Facility Charge for All Meter Sizes	\$15.71*		
Charge per 1,000 gallons			
0 - 8,000 gallons	\$0.00		
8,001 - 10,000 gallons	\$1.31		
Over 10,000 gallons	\$2.09		
Irrigation			
Base Facility Charge for All Meter Sizes	\$7.86*		
Charge per 1,000 gallons – Irrigation	\$0.65		
for both water and wastewater Residential, General Service and Irrigation Base Facility Charge by Meter Size:			
5/8"X3/4"		\$4.44	\$0
3/4"		\$6.66	\$0
1"		\$11.10	\$0
1-1/4"		\$17.76	\$0
1-1/2"		\$22.20	\$0
2"		\$35.52	\$0
3"		\$71.04	\$1
4"		\$111.00	\$1
6"		\$222.00	\$3
8"		\$355.20	\$5
Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential			
0 - 3,000 gallons		\$1.29	\$0
Over 3,000 gallons		\$1.89	\$0
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General Service and Irrigation		\$1.56	\$0
Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison			
3,000 Gallons	\$7.86	\$8.31	
6,000 Gallons	\$7.86	\$13.98	
10,000 Gallons	\$9.17	\$21.54	

S.V. UTILITIES, LTD. TEST YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013 MONTHLY WASTEWATER RATES		SCHEDU DOCKET NO.		
	UTILITY CURRENT RATES	STAFF RECOMMENDED RATES	4 YEAR RATE REDUCTION	
Residential and General Service Base Facility Charge for All Meter Sizes	\$15.71*			
Charge per 1,000 gallons				
0 - 8,000 gallons	\$0.00			
8,001 - 10,000 gallons	\$1.31			
Over 10,000 gallons	\$2.09			
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size:				
5/8"X3/4"		\$8.94	\$0.	
3/4"		\$13.41	\$0.	
1"		\$22.35	\$0.	
1-1/4"		\$35.76	\$0.	
1-1/2"		\$44.70	\$0.	
2"		\$71.52	\$0.	
3"		\$143.04	\$1.	
4"		\$223.50	\$2.	
6"		\$447.00	\$4.	
8"		\$715.20	\$7.	
* Existing rates include 8,000 gallons in the base facility charge				
for both water and wastewater				
Charge per 1,000 gallons - Residential		\$2.15	\$0.	
8,000 gallon cap				
Charge per 1,000 gallons - General Service		\$2.58	\$0.	
Typical Residential 5/8" x 3/4" Meter Bill Comparison				
3,000 Gallons	\$7.86			
6,000 Gallons	\$7.86			
10,000 Gallons	\$9.17	\$26.14		