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July 26, 1996

HAND DELIVERY

Ms Blanca S. Bavo, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

RE Docket No 960329-WS Application of GULF UTILITY COMPANY for an increase in Wastewater Rates, approval of a decrease in Water Rates and approval of Service Availability Charges in Lee County, Florida

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Attached are an original and fifteen copies of a letter to Mr. Charles Hill, including schedules in response to Mr. Hill's letter of July 16, 1996 The attached letter from Ms. Carolyn B. Andrews. Chief Financial Officer of Gulf Utility Company explains their response to the letter

Also enclosed is Gulf Utility Company's check no 18172 in the amount of \$1,500.00, made payable to the Florida Public Service Commission This check is also in response to Mr. Hill's letter of July 16, 1996

Please acknowledge receipt of the foregoing by stamping the enclosed extra copy of this letter and returning same to my attention.

Check received with filing and towarded to Fiscal for deposit. ricical to forward a copy of check U. RAR with proof of deposit.

Very truly yours,

initials of person who forwarded check:

B Kenneth Gatlin

I nelosures

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING



July 22, 1996

Mr. Charles Hill Director Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Fl 32399-0850

RE: Docket No. 960329-WS, Application For Increased Water and Wastewater Rates and For a Change In Service Availability Charges by Gulf Utility Company in Lee County

Dear Mr. Hill:

Outlined below is additional information requested on July 16, 1996, regarding Gulf's minimum filing requirements submitted on June 27, 1996.

Item 1. Filing Fee. The additional filing fee of \$1,500 is enclosed with this correspondence.
Respondent: Carolyn B. Andrews

Item 2. Schedule A-4, A-8, A-11, A-13, B-7 and B-8. These schedules require that the starting point be the date that rate base was last established by the Commission. Rate Base was last established in Docket No. 900718-WS. The test year used in Docket No. 900718-WS should be the starting point for these schedules.

Response: Enclosed as corrected Schedules A-4, A-8, A-11, A-13, B-7 and B-8. After a phone conversation with Mr. Barry Davis, he explained that these schedules should go back to the historical year for the last water and sewer rate cases filed. The revised schedules do so.

Schedule B-7 does compare to the test year used in the Docket No. 900718-WU, which was a water only rate case. We were unable to determine the detailed Commission adjustments in the final Order No. 24735. Schedule B-8 compares to the Commission Adjusted Test Year 1989 in the Docket No. 880308-SU, which was a sewer only rate case.

Respondents: Carolyn B. Andrews and Brook Rivers

Charles Hill, Director FPSC Page 2 of 3

Item 3. Schedule A-11 does not include Prepaid Connections as does Schedule A-19 line 27, pages 1 and 2 of 4. A footnote was added on A-11 to this effect. Schedule A-19, historic CIAC and Prepaid Connections, Line 27, pages 1 and 2 of 4 were labeled incorrectly, should be labeled CIAC and Prepaid Connections, not just CIAC. Respondent: Carolyn B. Andrews

Item 4. Schedule B-3 was revised to include additional information, for Notes 4 and 12.
Respondent: Brook Rivers

Item 5. Explanation is provided by Mr. Cardey explaining why non-used and useful percentages shown on Schedule A-9 do not reconcile to those shown on Schedule B-13. Also, why the non-used and useful percentages shown on Schedule F-4 do not reconcile to either A-9 or B-13.

Item 5. The non-used and useful percentages shown on Schedule A-9 do not reconcile to those shown on Schedule B-13.

Response: The amounts shown in Column 4 of A-9 and in Column 6 of B-13 apply only to the non-used and useful property in the Corkscrew Wellfield, consistent with the Commission's order in Docket No. 900718-WU, Order No. 24735. An example of the determination of the 1996 depreciation expense of \$ 7,511 is shown in the table below:

Depreciation Expense	D e p. Rate	Plant	Dep. Exp.
Structures	3.13%	\$38,361	\$1,201
Water Treat. Eqt (W/O Membrane)	4.76	1,155	55
Corkscrew Well Field	3.33	103,527	3,447
Corkscrew Raw Water Line	2.86	76,265	2,181
Corkscrew Reuse Line	2.86	21,907	627
Total		\$241,215	\$7,511

The total in Column 2 of A-9 and Column 4 of B-13 includes depreciation from two plants, namely San Carlos WTP and Corkscrew WTP, San Carlos WTP has been in service for a number of years.

Charles Hill, Director FPSC Page 3 of 3

The percentage shown on A-9 is Column 4 divided by Column 2 and on B-13, is Column 6 divided by Column 4.

Item 5-Continued The nonused and useful percentage shown on F-5 do not reconcile with either A-9 or B-13.

Response: With reference to the water operations shown on F-5, the Company's MFR reflects the economies of scale as set forth in the prior rate case, namely Docket No. 900718-WU, Order No. 24735. Therefore the non-used and useful is all related to the Corkscrew WTP as set forth on page 168 of the MFRs. A summary is set forth in the table below:

	NON-USED AND	USEFUL	
	F-5	MPRs	
1995	.4%	2.0%	(Skid 2)
1996	11.8%	62.0%	(Skid 3)

The nonused and useful in 1995 was insignificant (\$9,460), so no adjustment was made. The 62% adjustment in 1996 for non-used and useful facilities is shown on Page 9, Column 3, Line 2 of the MFRs. Respondent: Keith Cardey

Sincerely,

Carolyn/B. Andrews

Chief Financial Officer

Company Gulf Utility Company Docket No. 960329 – WS Test Year Ended: 12/31/96 Revised Schedule: A: 4 July 25, 1996 Page 1 of 1 Preparer: Andrews

Explanation: Provide the annual balance of the original cost of plant in service, for water and sewer separately, for all years since either rate base was last established by this Commission, or the date of inception of utility service if rate base has been established previously by this Commission and yearly additions, retirements, and adjustments by dollar amounts up to the end of the test year. Provide an additional page if necessary. If any amounts shown are projected, state so

Line	Description	Year - End Balance	
No		WATER	SEWER
ţ	12/31/87 balance (h)	***************************************	\$4,108.452
2	1988 Additions		2 634,275
3	1988 Retirements		595
4	12/31/88 balance (i)		\$6 742 131
5	1989 Additions		684 868
6	1989 Retirements		71 500
1	12/31/89 balance (j)		\$7,355,499
В	1990 Additions		743,879
9	1990 Retirements		1.958
10	12/31/90 balance (a)	\$13 575 074	\$8.097.420
1.1	1991 Additions	278,837	768-209
12	1991 Retiréments	61,965	19 056
13	12/31/91 balance (b)	\$13,791,945	\$8 846 662
14	1992 Additions	207 924	1 381 234
15	1992 Aetiremanis	27,726	95 441
16	12/31/92 balance (c)	\$13,972,144	\$10 TJ2 455
17	1993 Additions	478,001	279 029
18	1993 Retirements	20 014	6.257
19	12:31/93 balance (d)	\$14,430 131	\$10,405,227
20	1994 Additions	999,708	1 196 083
21	1994 Retirements	26 316	5 /22
22	12/31/94 balance (e)	\$15.391.146	\$11.607.962
23	1995 Additions	670,704	2.212.025
24	1995 Retirements	39,770	5 152
25	12/31/ 95 (f)	\$16,022,080	\$10.814.805
,ec	1996 Projected Additions	1 270 217	1,276,043
77	1996 Projected Retirements	18 422	24 071
28	12/31/96 (g) Projected	\$17,273,875	\$15,066,855

⁽a) General Plant divided 77% - water and 23% - sewer, based on # of customers

⁽b) General Plant divided 75% - water and 25% - sewer, based on # of customers

⁽c) Conteral Plant divided 73% water and 27% - sewer, based on # of customers

⁽d) General Plant divided 72%-water and 28%-sewer, based on # of customers

⁽e) General Plant divided 70% -- water and 30% -- sewer; rate base audit completed EPSC in 1995, Audit YE 6/30/95

⁽f) General Plant divided 68% - water and 32% sewer, rate base audit completed by FPSC in 1995. Audit YF 6/30/95

⁽g) General Plant divided 66% water and 34%; based on # of customers

⁽h) General Plant divided 86% - water and 14% - sewer, based on # of customers

⁽i) General Plant divided 83% water and 17%-sewer, based on # of customers

⁽j) General Plant divided 80% - water and 20%-sewer, based on # of customers

Company Gulf Utility Company Docket No 960329 - WS Test Year Ended 12/31/96

Schedule A--8 Revised July 25, 1996 Page 1 of 1 Preparer Andrews

Explanation. Provide the annual balance of accumulated depreciation, for water and sewer separately, for all years since either rate base was last established by this Commission, or the date of inception of utility service if rate base has been established previously by this Commission and yearly additions, retirements, and adjustments by dollar amounts up to the end of the test year. Provide an additional page if necessary. If any amounts shown are projected, state so

Line	Description	Year End Balance		
No		WATER	SEWFR	
1	12/31/87 balance (a)	***************************************	\$404 807	
2	1988 Additions		238,345 7.725	
J	roug neurernaria		1 72.1	
4	12/31/88 balance (b)		\$63,1427	
5	1989 Additions		279 611	
6	1989 Retirements		71,500	
7	12/31/89 balance (c)		\$841.538	
8	1990 Additions		25 1 874	
9	1990 Retirements		1.958	
10	12/31/90 balance (d)	\$1,670,917	\$1,093,454	
11	1991 Additions	457,778	284 689	
12	1991 Retirements	61,965	19 056	
13	12/31/91 balance (e)	\$2 086,7 KI	\$1.359.087	
14	1992 Additions	477,058	323,805	
15	1992 Retirements	27,726	95,441	
16	12/31/92 balance (I)	\$2,516,062	\$1.587.451	
17	1993 Additions	4/2,033	148 566	
18	1993 Retirements	20,014	6.257	
19	12-31/93 balance (g)	\$2,968,081	\$1 929 760	
20	1994 Additions	495,105	395,716	
21	1994 Retirements	26,316	5.722	
22	12/31/94 balance (h)	\$3,436,870	\$2,319,754	
23	1995 Additions	530,374	4.10 .302	
24	1995 Retirements	39.225	4 896	
25	12/31 /95 (i)	\$3,921,404	\$2,725,160	
26	1996 Projected Additions	543 439	5.17 (1/4)	
21	1996 Projected Retirements	144-420	85 640	
28	12/31/96 (j) Projected	\$4 320 423	\$4.170.546	

⁽a) 1987 General Plant divided 86% - water and 14% sewer, based on # of customers

⁽b) 1988 General Plant divided 83% - water and 17% sewer, based on # of customers

⁽c) 1989 General Plant divided 80% - water and 20% sewer, based on # of customers.

⁽d) 1990 General Plant divided 77% - water and 23% sewer, based on # of customers

⁽e) 1991 General Plant divided 75%-water and 25% sewer, based on # of customers

⁽f) 1992 General Plant divided 73% - water and 27% sewer; based on # of customers

⁽g) 1993 General Plant divided 72% - water and 28% sewer; based on # of customers

⁽h) 1994 General Plant divided 70% -water and 30% sewer; based on # of customers

⁽i) 1995 General Plant divided 68% - water and 32% sewer, based on # of customers

Schedule of Water and Sewer Contributions in Aid of Construction Annual Balances Subsequent to Last Established Rate Base

Company: Gulf Utility Company Docket No. 960329 – WS Test Year Ended: 12/31/96 Schedule A - 11 Revised July 25, 1996

Page 1 of 1 Preparer Andrews

Explanation: Provide the annual balance of contributions in aid of construction, for water and sewer separately, for all years since either rate base was last established by this Commission, or the date of inception of utility service if rate base has not been established previously by this Commission, and yearly additions and adjustments by dollar amount up to the end of the test year. Provide an additional page if necessary. If a projected test year is used, include the projected additions and/or retirements apecifically identifying those amounts. Show any retirements as adjustments.

Line No	Description	Year E. Weter	nd Balance Sewer
1	12/31/87 balance		\$2,837,674
•			
2 3	1988 Additions 1988 Adjustments		1 301,488 (45)
4	12/31/88 balance		\$4,139.117
5	1989 Additions		814 563
6	1989 Adjustments		
7	12/31/89 balance		\$4 953 680
В	1990 Additions		122 439
9	1990 Adjustments		(5 600)
10	12/31/90 balance	\$8 569,885	\$5,699,562
11	1991 additions	588,898	745 164
12	1991 Adjustments		
13	12/31/91 balance	\$9 158 785	\$ 6 444 726
14	1992 Additions	\$582 769	\$119,579
15	1992 Adjustments		(\$4.550)
16	12/31/92 balance	\$9.741.554	\$6 559 756
17	1993 Additions	581 715	524 901
18	1993 Adjustments	(33)	
19	12/31/93 balance	\$10,323 236	\$7 084 657
20	1994 Additions	867 830	1 043 182
21	1994 Adjustments	(37)	
22	12 31/94 Balance	\$11,191,026	\$8 127 839
23	1995 Additions	617.965	542 136
24	1995 Adjustments		
25	12/31/95 Balance (a)	\$11,808.991	\$8 669 975
26	1996 Projected Additions	411,695	390,388
27	1996 Projected Adjustments		
28	12/31/96 Projected Balance	\$12 220 686	\$9,060,363

⁽a) Rate base established by FPSC audit in 1995

Note: Prepaid connections are not included in Schedule A-11.
Schedule A-19 (Balance Sheet) CIAC and Prepaid Connections were added together on line No. 25.
As prepaid connections go into service, they are transferred to CIAC.

Prepaid Connections change monthly as new connections are prepaid and previous prepaid connections go into service Supporting Schedules: A - 12

Recap Schodules A 19

Schedule of Water and Sewer Accumulated Amortization of CIAC Annual Balances Subsequent to Last Established Rate Base

Florida Public Service Commission

Company: Gulf Utility Company Docket No. 960329 – WS Test Year Ended: 12/31/96 Schedule A: 13 Revised July 25, 1996

Page 1 of 1 Preparer Andrews

Explanation: Provide the annual balance of accumulated amortization of CIAC, for water and sewer separately, for all years since either rate base was last established by this Commission, or the date of inception of utility service if rate base has not been established previously by this Commission, end yearly additions and adjustments by dollar amount up to the end of the test year. Provide an additional page if necessary. If a projected test year is used, include the projected additions and/or retirements specifically identifying those amounts. Show any retirements as adjustments.

		Year End Balance		
Line	Description	Water	Sewer	
No				
1	12/31/87 balance		\$273,362	
2	1988 Additions		120 407	
3	1988 Adjustments			
4	12/31/86 balance		\$393 769	
5	1989 Additions		147 196	
6	1989 Adjustments			
7	12/31/89 balance		\$540 965	
8	1990 Additions		159 124	
9	1990 Adjustments			
10	12/31/90 balance	\$1 144 163	\$700 089	
11	1991 Additions	\$285 399	\$196 606	
12	1991 Adjustments			
13	12/31/91 balance	\$1 429,582	\$896 695	
14	1992 Additions	303 087	198 881	
15	1992 Adjustments		(† 4सप)	
16	12/31/92 balance	\$1 732,669	\$1 094 087	
17	1993 Additions	322 068	224 891	
18	1993 Adjustments			
20	12 31 93 balance	\$2 054 737	\$1.318.978	
21	1994 Additions	334 618	262 075	
4747	1994 Adjustments			
** 4	12-31/94 Salance	685+ ₹*,*;	\$1.561.053	
74	1995 Additions	371 923	₽5₽ 79a	
25	1995 Adjustments			
26	12 31/95 Balance (a)	\$2.761.278	\$1 833 846	
27	1996 Projected Additions	338-290	290-206	
28	1996 Projected Adjustments			
29	12/31/96 Projected Balance	\$3 099 568	\$2 124 052	

⁽a) Rate base established by FPSC in 1995

Operation & Maintenance Expense Comparison - Sewer

Company GULF UTILITY COMPANY Dooket No.: 950329-W5 Test Year Ended: 12/31/86

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Florida Public Bervice Commission

Schedule B 8 Revised 7/25/98

Page 1 of 1 Preparer Rivers

Explanation: Complete the following comparison of the applicant's current and prior test year OSM expenses before this Commission: Provide an explanation of all differences which are not attributable to the change in customer growth and the CPI-U. If the applicant has not had a previous rate case, use the year 5 years prior to the test year for comparison. Provide an additional schedule, if necessary, to explain differences

	(1)	(2) Prior TY	(3) Current TY	(4)	(5) %	(6)
Line No	Account No. and Name	12/31/89 (a)	12/31/98	•	Difference	Explanation
·-i	701 Salaries & Wages - Employees	\$ 63,541	222,361 1	158,820	249.95%	Staffing requirements, wage increases
2	703 Salaries & Wages - Officers, Etc.	24,193	91,968	67,775	280 14%	Add1 officer, wage increases
3	704 Employee Pensions & Benefits	11,078	58,539	47,461	428.43%	Add'i employees, increase in health insurance rates
4	710 Purchased Savage Treatment	0	0	0	0.00%	, ,
5	711 Studge Removal Expense	9,617	90.530	80.913	841.35%	Added TOWWTP, regulation requirements
6	715 Purchased Power	52,565	99,530	46,965	69.35%	
7	716 Fuel for Power Purchased	. 0	500	500	0.00%	
8	718 Chemicala	5,905	44,195	38,290	648 43%	Added TOWWTP
9	720 Materials & Supplies	25,860	29,461	3,611	13.97%	
10	731 Contractual Services - Encr	1,167	8,761	7.594	650 69%	Amortized items see B 3 Note #5
11	732 Contractual Services Acct	219	13,856	13,637	6229 26%	Amortized items see B 3 Note #6
12	733 Contractual Services - Legal	1,205	13,453	12,249	1018.66%	Amortized items see B 3 Note #7
13	634 Contractual Services - Mgmt. Fees	0	0	0	0.00%	
14	735 Contractual Services - Other	11,615	93,319	81,704	703.42%	Required analysis, add'l equip maint & employees
15	741 Rental of Building/Real Prop.	0	20,343	20,343	100 00%	Leased Admin office
16	742 Rental of Equipment	2,365	1,503	(882)	36 16%	
17	750 Transportation Expenses	1,018	8,008	6.990	686.66%	34% of total cost see B 3 Note #10
16	756 Insurance - Vehicle	1,774	4,390	2,615	147 39 %	
19	757 Insurance - General Liability	3,259	12,255	8,896	276.02%	
20	758 Insurance - Workman's Comp	1,145	9,968	8,843	772. 30 %	Rate increase
21	759 Insurance - Other	744	1 001	257	34 48%	
22	760 Advertising Expense	0	0	0	0.00%	
23	766 Reg. Comm Exp Rate Case Amort.	12,717	9,598	(3,119)	24 52%	
24	767 Reg. Comm Exp - Other	0	0	0	0 00%	
25	770 Bad Debt Expense	0	0	0	0 00%	
26	775 Missellaneous Expenses	4,183	26,010	21,827	521 80%	Amortized items see B 3 Note #12
27	TOTAL	\$ 234,151 \$	859,570 \$	625,418	267 1 0Hb	
		a=a				
28	Total Customers	617	2,659	2,:42	330.96%	
29	Consumer Price Index - U	4 40%	2 80%	1 80%	57 14%	
		atans a				

⁽a) Source Schedule 3. A Docket No. 880308 - SU Order No. 20272, Teet Year 12/31/89 as adjusted by Commission

Company. GULF UTILITY COMPANY Schedule Year Ended: 12/31/96 Interim [x] Final { } Historic [] or Projected [X] Schedule B - 3 Revised 7/25/96 Page 4 of 6 Docket No 960329 - WS Preparer Rivers

Explanation. Provide a detailed description of all adjustments to operating income per books, with a total for each line item shown on the net operating income statement.

Note 3 - Chemicale

W	ater

San Carlos Water Treatment Plant	432,963 MG x \$164 89/MG plus chlorine \$742	\$72,133
Corkscrew Water Treatment Plant	310,250 MG x \$205 43/MG	63,735
	Actual January through March 1996	37,540
	Less budgeted amount January through March	(35,420)
	Florida Gulf Coast University	3,150
	Total 1996	\$141,136

Total 1996 \$141,136

Sewer					
SCWWTP		TOWWTP		SCWWTP	\$7,570
Chlorine cylinders	\$4,450	Chlorine cylinders	\$4,450	TOWWTP	34,295
Hydrated Lime	2,210	Hydrated lime	3,120	Fl Gulf Coast Univ	2,330
нтн	910	Hydrogen peroxide	23,725	Total 1996	\$44,195
	07,67 0	нтн	3,000		
			\$34,295		

Note 4 Materials & Supplies

The 1996 budget for Materials & Supplies was based on both historic usage adjusted for customer growth and analysis of project requirements.

	Customer Service &		Water	Sewer
	Admin & General	Treatment Operations	\$11,075	\$7,200
Office, computer supplies	\$7,385	Treatment Maintenance	23,942	10,003
Postage	19,325	Transmission & Dist	8,691	485
Bills, brochures, etc	7,917		43,908	17,688
	\$34,627	Admin & Gen, Cust Svc	22,854	11.773
Water 66%	22,854	Total 1996	\$66,762	\$29,461
Sewer 34%	11 773			

Note 5 Contractual Services - Engineering

Amortization	Water	Sewer
Consumptive Use Permit	\$9,312	
Specifications	1,339	\$690
Water System Developmt	3,324	
SCWWTP Operating Permit		3,693
TOWWTP Operating Permit		571

		\$13,976	\$4,953
General		7,392	3,808
	Total 1996	\$21,386	\$8,761

General Engineering costs were based on 1995 total of \$10,370 90 plus 8% for growth & inflation

Note 6 Contractual Services - Accounting

Amortization	Water	Sewer
Petition for CIAC Gross - up	\$5,400	\$2,541
Gross - up Refund Docket	2,946	1,386
	8,346	3,928
General		
Tax Return Preparation	1,960	1,020
Annual Audri	12,540	6,460
Misc service	4,752	2,448
	19,272	9,926
Total 1996	\$27,616	\$13,856

Schedule of Adjustments to Operating Income

Company: GULF UTILITY COMPANY

Schedule Year Ended: 12/31/96

Interim [x] Final []

Historic [] or Projected [X]

Florida Public Service Commission

Schedule: B-3 Revised 7/25/96

Page 6 of 6

Docket No.: 960329-WS

Preparer: Rivers

Explanation: Provide a detailed description of all adjustments to operating income per books, with a total for each line item shown on the net operating income statement.

Note 11 - Regulatory Commission Expense-Rate Case Amort.

Costs for 1996 Rate Case estimated at \$122,479. Amortization of 25% totals \$30,620; Water \$20,209, Sewer \$10,411

Note 12 - Miscellaneous Expenses

The 1996 budget for Miscellaneous Expenses was projected by analyzing historic costs and adjusting for anticipated conditions.

Amortization	Water	Sewer
Petition CIAC Gross-up	\$225	\$106
Cksw Discharge Permit	6,575	
Consumptive Use Permit	549	
Lime Silo Permit	200	
SCWWTP Operating Permit		600
TOWWTP Operating Permit		1,086
	7,549	1,772

General Director's Fees	Total	Water	Sewer
Education & Awards	\$18,000 10,400	\$11,880	\$6,120
Dues, etc.	17,481	6,864 11,537	3,536 5,944
Travel & meetings	13.970	9,220	4.750
Maint. Assessment	3,088	2,038	1,050
Miscellaneous	6,350	5,511	2,839
	71,289	47,051	24,238
Amortization		7,549	1,772
	Total 1996	\$54,600	\$26,010

Note 13 - Sludge Removal

Sludge removal has been estimated at \$86,400 for 1996 based on anticipated flows and current regulations

#	loads	\$ per load	
TOWWTP	360	\$120	43,200
SCWWTP	360	\$120	43,200
FI Gulf Coast Uni	V		4,130
		Total 1996	\$90,530

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