

## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request for approval of Sewer	)	DOCKET NO. 900554-SU
Only class of service for Sugar Mill	)	ORDER NO. 23359
system in Volusia County by SOUTHERN	)	ISSUED: 8-15-90
STATES UTILITIES, INC.	)	
	)	

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

THOMAS M. BEARD  
 BETTY EASLEY  
 GERALD L. GUNTER  
 FRANK S. MESSERSMITH

ORDER ESTABLISHING NEW CLASS OF SERVICE

BY THE COMMISSION:

BACKGROUND

Southern States Utilities, Inc. (SSUI or company) is a Class A water and wastewater company. Its Sugar Mill system serves 523 water customers and 506 wastewater customers.

On June 14, 1990, SSUI filed a request for approval of a residential wastewater-only class of service for the Sugar Mill system in Volusia County. The current residential wastewater rates for the Sugar Mill system are a monthly base facility charge of \$11.14 and a gallonage charge of \$2.94 per 1,000 gallons up to a maximum of 10,000 gallons. SSUI currently has two residential wastewater-only customers who obtain their water from private unmetered wells. The company is unable to determine water consumption for these customers, and thus, is unable to correctly apply the base facility charge and gallonage charge. The company is currently charging these customers the base facility charge only. Using the 1989 average residential consumption for all Sugar Mill customers along with the base facility charge, the company has calculated a wastewater-only flat rate of \$20.80 per month.

Customers are usually billed for wastewater service based on their water consumption. However, in situations such as

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this where customers have their own water wells, it is necessary to establish a flat charge for wastewater service using some methodology other than basing the charge on each customer's water usage. In such cases we have historically used the average of the residential wastewater bills in a given geographical area as the appropriate flat rate for wastewater-only customers in that same geographical area.

While it would have been more appropriate for the company to file this request as a tariff revision to establish a new rate since a new class of service is not really being established, no purpose is served by denying this filing and requiring the company to refile the request in the proper form. The company's methodology and calculations are correct. Additionally, in Order No. 22293, issued December 11, 1989, the Commission approved a wastewater-only flat rate for the company's University Shores Subdivision in Orange County for the exact same reason. Upon consideration, we find it appropriate to approve the new class of service for residential wastewater-only customers with unmetered water usage of the Sugar Mill system. A flat-rate charge of \$20.80 per month is hereby approved.

The charge shall be effective for service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the revised tariff sheets. The tariff sheets will be approved upon verification by Staff that they are consistent with our decision.

Based on the foregoing, it is therefore

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the request of Southern States Utilities, Inc. to establish a new class of service for residential wastewater-only customers in the Sugar Mill System is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that Southern States Utilities, Inc. is hereby authorized to charge the flat-rate of \$20.80 per month for this class of service. It is further

ORDERED that the new charge established herein shall be effective for wastewater service rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the revised tariff sheets. It is further

ORDERED that this docket is hereby closed.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission,  
this 15th day of AUGUST, 1990.

  
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STEVE TRIBBLE, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

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

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request: 1) reconsideration of the decision by filing a motion for reconsideration with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of this order in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code; or 2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or sewer utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.