

## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for rate  
increase in Duval, St. Johns and  
Nassau Counties by United Water  
Florida Inc.

DOCKET NO. 980214-WS  
ORDER NO. PSC-98-1204-PCO-WS  
ISSUED: September 9, 1998

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
SUSAN F. CLARK  
JOE GARCIA  
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.

ORDER SUSPENDING PROPOSED RATES

BY THE COMMISSION:

United Water Florida Inc. (UWF or utility) is a Class A utility providing water and wastewater service to approximately 29,000 customers in Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties. According to its 1997 annual report, the utility's operating revenues were \$9,080,002 for its water service and \$16,375,517 for its wastewater service, and net operating income was \$1,361,740 for water service and \$4,117,334 for wastewater service. UWF is located in a critical use area as designated by the St. Johns River Water Management District. Prior to May 1995, UWF was known as Jacksonville Suburban Utilities Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of General Waterworks Corporation (GWC), now known as United Waterworks, Inc. (UWW). Subsequent to a merger in April 1994, UWW became a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Water Resources, Inc. (UWR), a publicly traded corporation listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

On May 18, 1998, UWF filed an application for a rate increase in Duval, St. Johns and Nassau Counties. Several deficiencies were found in the minimum filing requirements. These deficiencies were corrected, and June 23, 1998 was established as the official filing date. The utility requested that this application be processed as a proposed agency action and did not request interim rates. The

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

09803 SEP-98

PSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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utility's rate case is based on the projected test year ending December 31, 1999.

Section 367.081(6), Florida Statutes, provides that the rates proposed by the utility shall become effective within sixty (60) days after filing unless the Commission votes to withhold consent to implementation of the requested rates. Further, Section 367.081(8), Florida Statutes, states that the utility may implement its requested rates, under bond and subject to refund, at the expiration of five months if: (1) the Commission has not acted upon the requested rate increase or (2) if the Commission's proposed agency action is protested by a party other than the utility.

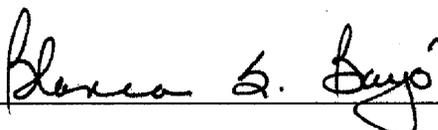
We have reviewed the filing and have considered the proposed rates, the revenues thereby generated, and the information filed in support of the rate application. We believe that further amplification and explanation regarding this data and production of additional and/or corroborative data is reasonable and necessary. We, therefore, find it appropriate to suspend the utility's proposed final rates. Accordingly, this docket shall remain open until we take final action on the utility's requested permanent rate adjustment.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the rates proposed by United Water Florida Inc. are suspended in accordance with Section 367.081(6), Florida Statutes. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 9th day of September, 1998.



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BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

( S E A L )

BLR

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), 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.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by a Prehearing Officer; (2) reconsideration within 15 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by the Commission; or (3) 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 wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

M E M O R A N D U M

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98 SEP -9 AM 10:27

August 28, 1998

RECORDS AND  
REPORTING

TO: DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING  
FROM: DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (REYES) *BLR*  
RE: DOCKET NO. 980214-WS - APPLICATION FOR RATE INCREASE IN  
DUVAL, ST. JOHNS AND NASSAU COUNTIES BY UNITED WATER  
FLORIDA COMPANY.

*PCD*  
PSC-98-1204-~~100~~-WS

Attached is an ORDER SUSPENDING PROPOSED RATES, to be issued  
in the above-referenced docket.

(Number of pages in order - *4*)  
*3*

BLR/lw

Attachment

cc: Division of Water and Wastewater (Willis, Bethea, Crouch, B.  
Davis, J. Gilchrist, Kyle, Lingo, Merchant, Starling, J.  
Williams)

I:980214OR.BLR

*see 12*

*2/10*

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**Item Presented**

Agenda For (Date) \_\_\_\_\_ Order No. 98-1204 In Docket No. 980214-WS  
 Notice of \_\_\_\_\_ For (Date) \_\_\_\_\_ In Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

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