

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for approval to ) DOCKET NO. 960143-WU  
change billing from monthly to ) ORDER NO. PSC-96-0491-FOF-WU  
quarterly in Marion County by ) ISSUED: April 8, 1996  
Quail Meadow Utilities, Inc. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

SUSAN F. CLARK, Chairman  
J. TERRY DEASON  
JOE GARCIA  
JULIA L. JOHNSON  
DIANE K. KIESLING

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF CHANGE TO QUARTERLY BILLING CYCLE

BY THE COMMISSION:

Quail Meadow Utilities, Inc. (Quail Meadow or utility) is a Class C water utility located in Marion County. As of December 31, 1994, the utility served 106 customers. The utility reported gross operating revenues of \$22,918 and net operating income of \$8,821. The overall rate of return according to the 1994 annual report is 8.40%.

By Order No. 172111, issued on February 20, 1977, this Commission granted the utility Certificate No. 485-W. On February 14, 1996, Quail Meadow submitted a request to revise its tariff to change from monthly to quarterly billing. In support of its request, the utility states its administrative cost of sending bills on a monthly basis is overly burdensome for the small utility. The utility further states that many of its customers surveyed indicated they would prefer quarterly billing.

We find it appropriate to approve the utility's request to change from monthly to quarterly billing. The utility has filed a revised tariff reflecting the requested quarterly service rate pursuant to section 367.091, Florida Statutes. The tariff shall become effective pursuant to Rule 25-30.475, Florida Administrative Code, provided the customers have received notice and upon staff's approval of the proposed customer notice and tariff sheets. The tariff sheets shall be approved upon staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with the our decision, that the proposed customer notice is adequate, and that any required security has

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been provided. The utility shall provide proof that the customers have received notice within 10 days after the date of the notice.

The proposed tariff sheets shall become final if a formal protest is not received from a substantially affected person within 21 days of the issuance date of this Order. If a protest is filed within 21 days of the issuance date of this Order, the tariff shall remain in effect, on an interim basis, with any increase held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. If no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed.

Based on the foregoing, it is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Quail Meadow Utilities, Inc.'s tariff request to change its billing cycle from monthly to quarterly billing is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that the appropriate quarterly rate for Quail Meadow Utilities, Inc., is a monthly base facility charge of \$36.33 plus a gallonage charge of \$1.09 per 1,000 gallons. It is further

ORDERED that the tariff shall become effective for services rendered on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets, provided that the customers have received notice. The tariff shall be approved after staff's verification that the tariffs are consistent with the Commission's decision, that the proposed customer notice is adequate, and that any required security has been provided. The utility shall provide proof that the customers have received notice within 10 days after the date of the notice. It is further

ORDERED that the tariff revision approved herein is interim in nature and shall become final unless a substantially affected person files a petition for a formal proceeding which is received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, by the date in the Notice of Further Proceedings set forth below. It is further

ORDERED that if a timely protest is filed in accordance with the requirements set forth below, this tariff shall remain in effect pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no timely protest is filed, this docket shall be closed.

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By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 8th  
day of April, 1996.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting

by: Kay Dejeu  
Chief, Bureau of Records

( 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.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.036(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on April 29, 1996.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this Order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

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If this Order becomes final on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater 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 of the date this Order becomes final, 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.