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August 8, 1996

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## D. BRUCE MAY

 904-425-5507Internet :__dress
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## VIA HAND DELIVERY

| ACK | Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director |
| :--- | :--- |
| AFA | Division of Records and Reporting |
| A | Florida Public Service Commission |
|  | 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard |
|  | Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 |

Re: Petition for approval of modifications to tariff that would add a late payment charge to customers' past due balances, by St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc., Docket No. 960657-GU

Dear Ms. Bayo:

1 ("Order"), St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("SJNG") has enclosed copies of First Revised Tariff Sheet No. 26 and Original Tariff Sheet No. 26-A that will enable SJNG to apply a late payment charge to a customer's past-due balance. In accordance with the Commission's Order, the proposed late payment charge (other than for accounts of federal, state, or local governmental entities) is $\$ 3.00$ or $1.5 \%$ of any unpaid balance, whichever is greater.

The effective date of First Revised Sheet No. 26 and Original Sheet No. 26-A of SJNG's tariff should be October 1, 1996, which will coincide with the date that SJNG's billing system will be capable of implementing the late payment charge. As stated in SJNG's original filing, the company will provide 30 days advance notice to its customers via bill insert prior to the proposed late payment charge policy taking effect. SJNG has submitted a copy of the proposed bill insert to Commission staff for approval. SJNG will also modify its monthly consumer bills to reflect the applicable late payment charge and the past due date by which the bills must be paid to avoid imposition of such charge.

## Ms. Blanca S. Bayo

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Page 2

By copy of this letter, originals of these tariff sheets are being forwarded directly to Mr. Wayne Makin for administrative approval once the Order becomes final.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Enclosure
DBM/sms
cc: Mr. Wayne Makin (w/enclosure)
Lorna Wagner, Esquire (w/enclosure)
Mr. Stuart Shoaf

TAL-88777

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. FPSC TARIFF

First Revised Sheet No. 26 Cancels Original Sheet No. 26

RULES AND REGULATIONS (continued)
6. BILLING
A. BILLING PERIODS - Bills for Gas Service will be rendered each month. Bills shall be considered received by the Customer when mailed to the most recent billing address supplied by Customer to Company.
B. INITIAL OR FINAL BILLS - When the period of Gas Service for which an initial or final bill is rendered is less than fifty ( 50 ) percent of the normal billing period, the customer charge or minimum bill shall be one-half (1/2) of the charge per applicable rate schedule. When the period of Gas Service is fifty (50) percent or more of the normal billing period, there shall be no reduction in the customer charge or minimum bill. The energy charge for gas consumed shall be at the applicable billing rate.
c. NON-RECEIPT OF BILLS - Failure of Customer to receive a bill shall not relieve Customer of its obligation to pay the bill.
D. METER READINGS NOT COMBINED - If a customer takes Gas Service under more than one rate schedule at a single delivery point, the bill shall not be calculated separately for the Gas Service provided under each such rate schedule.

If a Customer takes Gas Service under one or more rate schedules at two or more points of delivery, a bill shall be calculated separately for Gas Service provided under each rate schedule at each point of delivery.
E. DELINQUENT BILLS - A bill shall be considered delinquent upon the expiration of twenty (20) days from the date of mailing or other delivery thereof by Company.

Charges for services due and rendered which are unpaid as of the past due date are subject to a Late Payment Charge
of three (3) dollars or $1.5 \frac{\text { of }}{}$ ofy unpaid balance. whichever is greater, except the accounts of federal. state and local governmental entities, agencies and instrumentalities. Unless otherwise agreed by contract, a Late Payment Charge shall be applied to the accounts of federal, state and local governmental entities, agencies and instrumentalities at a rate no greater than allowed and in a manner permitted by applicable law.
F. DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE AND/OR CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY Unless otherwise provided in the specific rate

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. FPSC TARIFF

First Revised Sheet No. 26
Cancels Original Sheet No. 26

RULES AND REGULATIONS (continued)
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