



## Public Service Commission

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

**DATE:** April 07, 1997
**TO:** Roseanne Capeless, Division of Legal Services  
 Alice Crosby, Division of Legal Services  
 Division of Records and Reporting

**FROM:** Billie Messer, Division of Water and Wastewater

**RE:** Docket No. 970028-WS: Application for change of name from Southern States Utilities, Inc. to Florida Water Services Corporation.

On January 7, 1997, Southern States Utilities, Inc. (the applicant) filed a petition with this Commission to change the name on its water and wastewater certificates to Florida Water Services Corporation, and to make minor clarifications to its tariff. The Commission has authorized the applicant to provide water and wastewater service pursuant to the following certificates:

Water

84-W (Orange County)  
 171-W (Nassau County)  
 368-W (Martin County)  
 373-W (Marion County)  
 106-W (Lake County)  
 422-W (Highlands County)  
 46-W (Hernando County)  
 177-W (Duval County)  
 452-W (Collier County)  
 03-W (Clay County)  
 570-W (Charlotte County)  
 002-W (Brevard County)  
 554-W (Bradford County)  
 501-W (Washington County)  
 238-W (Volusia County)  
 562-W (St. Johns County)  
 279-W (Seminole County)  
 209-W (Pasco County)  
 66-W (Osceola County)  
 306-W (Lee & Charlotte Counties)  
 76-W (Putnam County)  
 189-W (Citrus County)

Wastewater

435-S (Washington County)  
 182-S (Volusia County)  
 482-S (St. Lucie County)  
 226-S (Seminole County)  
 284-S (Putnam County)  
 154-S (Pasco County)  
 289-S (Osceola County)  
 73-S (Orange County)  
 122-S (Nassau County)  
 319-S (Martin County)  
 120-S (Lake County)  
 359-S (Highlands County)  
 047-S (Hernando County)  
 124-S (Duval County)  
 386-S (Collier County)  
 134-S (Citrus County)  
 496-S (Charlotte County)  
 255-S (Lee & Charlotte Counties)  
 322-S (Marion County)

ACK \_\_\_\_\_  
 AFA \_\_\_\_\_  
 APP \_\_\_\_\_  
 CAF \_\_\_\_\_  
 CMU \_\_\_\_\_  
 CTR \_\_\_\_\_  
 EAG \_\_\_\_\_  
 LEG \_\_\_\_\_  
 LIN \_\_\_\_\_  
 OPC \_\_\_\_\_  
 RCH \_\_\_\_\_  
 SEC   1    
 WAS \_\_\_\_\_  
 OTH \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

03601 APR-85

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

According to the applicant's petition for name change, Southern States Utilities, Inc. is changing its name to Florida Water Services Corporation because the new name clearly describes who the utility is, what it does and where it is located. Also, the addition of the word "Services" indicates a new attitude and direction which will re-focus and re-commit the utility to very important issues, like outstanding customer services, the best tasting water possible in Florida and a commitment to the preservation and conservation of Florida's precious natural water resources. The application states that ownership and control of the applicant and its assets will not change under the new name. The applicant filed amended Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State to reflect its name change which became effective January 2, 1997. A copy of the January 2, 1997 corrective certificate issued by the Secretary of State is included with the application.

Also included in the application is the applicant's notice to its customers informing them of the name change and the original and two copies of the applicant's proposed revisions to its water and wastewater tariffs. The applicant's rates and charges will not be affected by the name change and staff has verified that all revisions to the proposed tariffs are specifically related to the name change, or are minor corrections or text changes which could have been administratively approved in a separate filing. These corrections include numerous minor changes to reflect past orders such as new jurisdictional counties, counties no longer jurisdictional, amendments approved during the pendency of the approval of the name change, rule changes, and also various text changes. The staff researched and reviewed each change to verify compliance with rules or orders. The applicant has returned its original water and wastewater certificates to the Commission for modification, with the exception of the certificates for water and wastewater in Lee & Charlotte counties which are included in an amendment still pending at the time of the name change. In addition, the original water certificate for Putnam county was not returned to the utility after the company sold its River Park facility. Copies of all pending certificates were included in the name change application.

Section 2.07(C)(3) of the Administrative Procedures Manual grants the Director of the Division of Records and Reporting, in coordination with the appropriate industry division and the Division of Legal Services, the authority to approve changes of names of regulated utilities where no change of ownership or control or transfer of assets is involved. As stated in the application, ownership and control of the applicant and its assets will not change under the new name. Staff finds the application is in compliance with all provisions of Rule 25-30.039, Florida Administrative Code. Staff therefore recommends that an administrative order be issued as soon as possible approve the name change on the certificates specified in the body of this recommendation. The applicant's amended water and wastewater tariffs should become effective for services provided or connections made on or after the stamped approval date on the tariff sheets. Furthermore, staff recommends that this docket be closed.