BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ORDER ACKNOWLEDGING INDEXING AND PASS-THROUGH RATE ADJUSTMENTS

BY THE COMMISSION:

On February 15, 1989, Southern States Utilities, Inc. (Utility) notified this Commission of its intention to increase rates to the customers of its Silver Lakes Estates system in Lake County by application of the price-indexing and pass-through provisions of Subsections 367.081(4)(a) and (b), Florida Statutes, respectively, and Rules 25-30.420 and 25-30.425, Florida Administrative Code, respectively.

By Order No. 19073, issued by this Commission on March 31, 1988, in Docket No. 880005-WS, the rates of water and sewer utilities are subject to adjustment as a result of the application of the price index to certain utility operation and maintenance costs. The indexing factor is 2.89 percent.

The Utility also intends to pass through to its customers an increase in its ad valorem taxes. The Utility waived its right to place the pass-through rates into effect thirty days from the filing date of this notice and states that these rates are to become effective simultaneously with the indexing adjustment.

The documentation submitted by the Utility in support of its indexing and pass-through notice meets the Commission's requirements, as set forth in Rules 25-30.420 and 25-30.425, Florida Administrative Code. In compliance with said rules, the Utility advised us that it will provide notice to its customers prior to the effective date of the rates, informing them of the impending rate adjustment and explaining that the increase is due to the pass-through provisions and the application of the price index to certain operation and maintenance expenses.

Applying an increase factor of 1.0144 to the existing rate schedules results in increased water revenues of \$1,369. The schedule of our computations is as follows:

1988 Price Index and Pass-Through Application Test Year Ended December 31, 1987

		water		
1987	Operation and Maintenance Expenses	\$	50,215	
Less:				
(1)	Pass-through Item:			
	Purchased Power	(13,454)	
(2)	Rate Case Expense Included			
	in 1987 O & M Expenses		0	

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE 03364 APR -4 1989 FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

ORDER NO. 20978 DOCKET NO. 890236-WU Page 2

Costs to be Indexed	\$	36,761
Multiply by Change in GNP Implicit Price Deflator Index	x	.0289
Additional O & M Expenses	\$	1,062
Pass-through Item: Increase in Ad Valorem Taxes	. \$_	292
Total Increased Expenses	\$	1,354
Divide by Expansion Factor for Regulatory Assessment Fees	+	.975
Increase in Revenue	\$	1,389
Divide by 1987 Revenues	÷_	96,191
Percentage Increase		1.44%
Increase Factor to Apply to Existing Rate Schedules	_	1.0144

Rates which will allow the Utility to recognize this increase, are as follows:

WATER (1.44% Increase) Monthly Rate

Residential and General Service

Base Facility Charge	Ex	isting		New
Meter Size				
5/8" x 3/4"	\$	3.00	\$	3.04
Full 3/4"	\$	4.50	\$	4.56
1"	\$	7.50	\$	7.61
1-1/2"	\$	15.00	\$	15.22
2"	\$	24.00	\$	24.35
Gallonage Charge				
Per 1,000 Gallons	\$.53	\$.54

It is, therefore,

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the indexing and pass-through application of Southern States Utilities, Inc., 1000 Color Place, Apopka, Florida 32703, for its Silver Lake Estates Division is hereby acknowledged. It is further

ORDERED that the rates contained herein shall become effective for service rendered on or after April 16, 1989, subject to approval of revised tariff sheets and customer notice as previously indicated in this Order. It is further

ORDERED that the tariff sheets submitted with the Utility's application reflect the rates set forth in this

ORDER NO. 20978 DOCKET NO. 890236-WU Page 3

Order, and Docket No. 890236-WU may be closed upon Staff's approval of the tariff sheets.

By Order of the Florida Public Service Commission, this <u>4th</u> day of <u>APRIL</u>, <u>1989</u>.

SPEVE TRIBBLE, Director Division of Records and Reporting

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