

ORIGINAL

STATE OF FLORIDA

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DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES
NOREEN S. DAVIS
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6199

Public Service Commission

May 21, 1999

Mr. Ken Knowlton
227 Caloosa Lake Cir. North
Lake Wales, Florida 33853

Re: Staff Assisted Rate Case for Crooked Lake Park Sewerage Company in Polk County, Docket No. 980778-SU

Dear Mr. Knowlton:

This will confirm that Commission Staff will hold a customer meeting at 6:30pm on Wednesday, June 23, 1999. The location of the meeting will be Southern Warner College, Fulton Chapel, 5301 U.S. Highway 27 South, Lake Wales, Florida. We ask that, if at all possible, you or another knowledgeable representative of the utility attend the meeting in order to answer customer questions.

The original customer meeting notice is enclosed. Please note the date has been left blank so that you can fill in the date that the notice is sent to the customers. The customers must have at least 14 calendar days' notice of the meeting, calculated from the day that they receive the notice. Please furnish me with a copy of the notice, as reproduced at the time it is distributed to your customers, together with a cover letter indicating the exact date(s) on which the notice was mailed or otherwise delivered to the customers.

Two copies of the staff report dated May 7, 1999 are enclosed. Please ensure that a copy of the complete Application for Staff Assistance and the reports are available for review by all interested persons at the Park Water Company's Office, 25 1st Avenue North, Lake Wales, Florida, during its regular hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Ralph Jaeger
Senior Attorney

CF/dr
Enclosure

cc: **Division of Records and Reporting**
Division of Consumer Affairs (DeMello, Raspberry)
Hearing Reporter (Joy Kelly)
Office of Public Counsel
Division of Water and Wastewater (Willis, Rendell, Dewberry, Chu, T. Davis)

APR 23 1999

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE
06453 MAY 21 99
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
NOTICE OF CUSTOMER MEETINGS
TO THE CUSTOMERS OF CROOKED LAKE PARK SEWERAGE COMPANY
AND
ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS
DOCKET NO. 980778-SU
APPLICATION OF CROOKED LAKE PARK SEWERAGE COMPANY
FOR A STAFF-ASSISTED RATE CASE IN
POLK COUNTY

Issued:

Notice is hereby given that the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission will conduct a customer meeting to discuss the application of Crooked Lake Park Sewerage Company (Crooked Lake or utility) for a staff-assisted rate case in Polk County. The meeting will be held at the following time and place:

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 23, 1999
Southern Warner College, Fulton Chapel
5301 U.S. Highway 27 South
Lake Wales, Florida

All persons who wish to comment are urged to be present at the beginning of the meeting, since the meeting may be adjourned early if no customers are present. The meeting will begin as scheduled and will continue until all the customers have been heard.

The Public Service Commission Staff is also attempting to meet with representatives of customer groups and homeowners associations on June 23, 1999 between 2:00pm and 4:00pm at Warner Southern College, Fulton Chapel. If you are a representative of a customer group or homeowners association and you have not been contacted by the Public Service Commission Staff, and wish to meet with staff, please contact Paulette Dewberry at (850)413-6962 or Min Chu at (850) 413-6968 of the Public Service Commission staff prior to June 23, 1999.

All persons who wish to participate in individual meetings are urged to make an appointment, since individual meetings may be canceled if no appointments are made.

Any person requiring some accommodation at the customer meeting(s) because of a physical impairment should call the Division of Records and Reporting at (850)413-6770 at least five calendar days prior to the meeting(s). Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting is to give customers and other interested persons an opportunity to offer comments to the Public Service Commission Staff regarding the quality of service the utility provides, the proposed rate increase, and to ask questions and comment on staff's preliminary rates included in this notice as well as other issues. Staff members will summarize Crooked Lake's proposed filing, the preliminary work accomplished, and answer questions to the extent possible. A representative from the utility has also been invited to respond to questions.

At the beginning of the meeting, procedures will be established for the order of comments. The Public Service Commission Staff will have sign-up sheets, and customers will be called to speak in the order that they sign-up. Public Service Commission Staff will be available to coordinate customers' comments and to assist members of the public.

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to staff may do so at the meetings, orally or in writing. Written comments may also be sent to the Commission at the address given at the end of this notice. Your letter will be placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Public Service Commission's toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809.

BACKGROUND

Crooked Lake is a Class C wastewater only utility providing service to approximately 407 customers in Polk County. The utility's adjusted test year revenues are \$59,648, with adjusted operating expenses of \$93,697, resulting in a net operating loss of \$34,049 for the test period. The test period for setting rates is the historical twelve month period ending July 31, 1998.

CURRENT AND PRELIMINARY RATES AND CHARGES

Staff has compiled the following rates and charges for the purpose of discussion at the customer meeting. These rates are preliminary and subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further staff review, and the final decision

by the Commissioners. The utility's current and staff's preliminary rates and charges are as follows:

Monthly Wastewater Rates
Residential (including per unit in mobile home park)

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Staff's Preliminary Rate</u>
Flat Rate	\$11.10	N/A
<u>Base Facility Charge</u>		
All meter sizes	N/A	\$11.31
<u>Gallonge Charge</u>		w
Per 1,000 gallons (10,000 gals. max)	N/A	\$ 2.52

General Service
Current Rate

<u>Base Facility Charge</u>	N/A
<u>Gallonge Charge</u>	
Per 1,000 gallons	
0-30,000 gals.	\$2.39
30,001-60,000 gals.	\$3.58
60,001-110,000 gals.	\$4.77
over 110,000 gals.	\$7.16

Staff's Preliminary Rates

<u>Base Facility Charge</u>	
Meter Size	
5/8" x 3/4"	\$ 11.31
3/4"	16.96
1"	28.26
1 1/2"	56.53
2"	90.45
3"	180.89
4"	282.64
6"	565.29
<u>Gallonge Charge</u>	
Per 1,000 gallons	\$ 3.03

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE CHARGES

Currently, the utility's tariff has no provision for miscellaneous service charges. Staff's preliminary charges, below, are designed to more accurately defray the costs associated with each service and place the responsibility of the cost on the person creating it rather than on the ratepaying body as a whole.

<u>Descriptions</u>	<u>Staff's Preliminary Charges</u>
Initial Connection	\$15.00
Normal Reconnection	\$15.00
Premises Visit (in lieu of disconnection)	\$10.00
Violation Reconnection	\$15.00

SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGES

Currently, the utility's tariff has a provision for service availability charges for future customers. Therefore, staff is recommending no change at this time.

CUSTOMER DEPOSITS

The utility's existing tariff does not provide Commission approved customer deposits. Rule 25-30.311, Florida Administrative Code, provides guidelines for collecting, administering and refunding customer deposits. It also authorizes customers deposits to be calculated using an average monthly bill for a 2-month period. Staff has calculated customer deposits based on recommended rates and an average monthly bill for a 2-month period. A schedule of staff's recommended preliminary deposits follows:

<u>Wastewater Residential</u>	
<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Staff's Preliminary Recommended</u>
5/8" x 3/4"	\$45.00
<u>General Service</u>	
<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Staff's Preliminary Recommended</u>
5/8" x 3/4"	\$45.00
All over 5/8" x 3/4"	(2 x average bill)

STAFF REPORTS AND UTILITY APPLICATION

The results of staff's preliminary investigation are contained in a staff report dated May 7, 1999. Copies of the

report may be examined by interested members of the public from 8:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M. at the following location:

Park Water Company's Office
25 1st Avenue North
Lake Wales, FL

PROCEDURES AFTER CUSTOMER MEETINGS

After the meetings, Public Service Commission Staff will prepare a recommendation which is scheduled to be submitted to the Public Service Commission on July 15, 1999. The Public Service Commission will then vote on staff's recommendation at its July 27, 1999 agenda conference. The Commission will thereafter issue a proposed agency action (PAA) order containing rates which may be different from those contained in staff's final recommendation. Substantially affected persons have 21 days from the date the PAA order is issued to protest the Commission's proposed agency action order. Five to ten customers or persons who attend the meeting and who wish to receive a copy of the recommendation and the order should so indicate at the meeting. Those individuals are expected to distribute the information in the recommendation and the order to other customers. Anyone who is unable to attend and who wishes to obtain a copy of the recommendation or the order may do so in writing to the Commission at the address at the end of this notice.

HOW TO CONTACT THE COMMISSION

Written comments regarding the utility and the proposed rates, and requests to be placed on the mailing list for this case, may be directed to this address:

Director, Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

All correspondence should refer to "Docket No. 980778-SU, Crooked Lake Park Sewerage Company."

If you wish to contact the Commission regarding complaints about service, you may call the Commission's Division of Consumer Affairs at the following toll-free number: 1-800-342-3552.

This notice was prepared by Commission Staff for distribution by the utility to its customers.