BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2005-83-A - ORDER NO. 2005-158

APRIL 15, 2005

IN RE: Request of Deputy Clerk that the Commission Issue an Order Allowing Deputy Clerk of the Commission to Request a Proposed Notice of Filing from Parties in a Docket that May Require Hearing.	)))))	ORDER REQUIRING FILING OF PROPOSED NOTICE OF FILING IN CERTAIN CASES

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Staff's request that this Commission issue an Order allowing the Deputy Clerk of the Commission to request a proposed Notice of Filing from parties in a docket that may require a hearing. Under the Staff's proposal the proposed Notice of Filing should accompany the pleading that initiates a Docket.

We take judicial notice that a number of our proceedings involve very complex rate requests from various utilities, complex tariff changes, and other matters which require Notices of a complex nature. We believe that a utility furnishing a proposed Notice of Filing would aid in processing the various Applications that arrive in the Commission's Docketing Department. Such proposed Notices would definitely help expedite processing of the Applications.

Accordingly, we hold that, rather than the Deputy Clerk having to request a proposed Notice of Filing on every occasion, all public utilities attempting to have the Commission establish a Docket that may require a hearing shall file a proposed Notice of Filing with all Applications for rate increases and with all tariff filings affecting the

general body of subscribers. A copy of a sample proposed Notice of Filing form shall be posted on the Commission's website as soon as possible. If a pleading which requests a rate increase or a tariff that affects the general body of subscribers does not contain a proposed Notice of Filing, the Deputy Clerk or appropriate Commission Staff member is authorized to request a proposed Notice of Filing from the Applicant prior to acceptance of the pleading for filing with the Commission Staff. Further, if the Deputy Clerk or appropriate Commission Staff member deems a proposed Notice of Filing helpful in other cases, the Deputy Clerk or appropriate Commission Staff member is authorized to request a proposed Notice of Filing from the Applicant after the filing of the pleading. We hold that a copy of this Order shall be mailed to all public utilities under the jurisdiction of the Commission. Because of the foregoing, we make the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Proposed Notices of Filing being furnished by the utilities with pleadings that request an increase in rates or for tariffs involving a Company's general body of subscribers would help expedite the processing of Applications.

2. Proposed Notices of Filing shall be furnished by all utilities with pleadings requesting a rate increase or a tariff that affects the general body of subscribers.

3. If said Notices are not furnished with such Applications, the Deputy Clerk or appropriate Commission Staff member may request such a Notice from the utility, prior to acceptance of a pleading requesting an increase in rates or of a tariff affecting a Company's general body of subscribers.

4. Should the Deputy Clerk or other appropriate Staff member deem a proposed Notice of Filing helpful in other cases, the Deputy Clerk or appropriate Commission Staff member is authorized to request a proposed Notice of Filing from the Applicant.

5. A copy of this Order shall be mailed to all public utilities.

ORDER

An Order is hereby entered encompassing the above-stated Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/
Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice-Chairman

(SEAL)