

By Senator Cowin

11-223-98

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to water and wastewater
utilities; amending s. 367.081, F.S.; requiring
the Public Service Commission to extend time
periods and reschedule events by the number of
days a utility is late in providing discovery;
providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 367.081,
Florida Statutes, to read:

367.081 Rates; procedure for fixing and changing.--

(9) If a utility fails to comply fully with valid
requests for discovery within 3 days after the due date for
the discovery, the commission shall extend all time periods
otherwise provided in this section by at least the same number
of days by which the discovery was provided late, and the
commission shall similarly reschedule all events recognized by
the commission by at least the same number of days by which
the discovery was provided late, including, but not limited
to, prehearing conferences, deadlines for filing testimony,
hearing dates, discovery due dates, and the periods for
withholding consent to rate requests. In addition to the time
extension caused by the delay, the commission shall have 120
days to hold the final hearing.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Requires the Public Service Commission to extend time periods and reschedule events by the number of days a water and wastewater utility is late in providing discovery in rate cases. Allows the commission an additional 120 days to hold a final hearing.