1 BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 2 3 In the Matter of DOCKET NO. 950495-WS 4 Application for a rate increase 5 and increase in service availability charges by SOUTHERN: STATES UTILITIES, INC. for Orange-Osceola Utilities, Inc. 7 | in Osceola County, and in Bradford, Brevard, Charlotte, 8 Citrus, Clay, Collier, Duval, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Martin, Nassau, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Putnam, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Volusia and Washington Counties. 11 12 VOLUME 3 - EVENING SESSION 13 Pages 259 through 330 14 PROCEEDINGS: 15 PREHEARING CONFERENCE 16 COMMISSIONER DIANE K. KIESLING **BEFORE:** 17 Prehearing Officer DATE: Friday, April 19, 1996 19 TIME: Commenced at 10:00 a.m. Concluded at 6:25 p..m. 20 PLACE: The Betty Easley Conference Center 21 Room 148 4075 Esplanade Way 22 Tallahassee, Florida REPORTED BY: 23 JOY KELLY, CSR, RPR 8424 24 Chief, Bureau of Reporting Official Commission Reporter 25 DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE APPEARANCES: (As heretofore noted.) 04593 APR 22 # FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

## PROCEEDINGS 1 (Transcript continues in sequent from Volume 2.) 2 3 4 5 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Are we ready? Before we get back too far into it, I have been given 6 the rewording for Issue 75 that I understand everyone has at least discussed and is okay with. And so to 8 that extent I won't read it in the record unless there 9 10 is some disagreement about it. MR. FEIL: Could we have one additional 11 moment to look at it, please? (Pause) 12 Commissioner, though we're still somewhat 13 concerned with what specifically is being driven out 14 by wording of the issue, we can stipulate as to the 15 wording of the issue. We're going to have to revise 16 17 our position, however. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: So is everybody --18 MR. FEIL: Apparently so. 19 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And that would also 20 go for Mr. Twomey, if I could impose on you enough to 21

MR. McLEAN: No imposition. I'd be happy to do so.

pass that on to him.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Thank you. All

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101. I guess I was trying to figure out, did
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    right.
    SSU propose this simply as a defensive issue, and if
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    the issue wasn't raised by anyone else, do you still
    want it in there?
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              MR. HOFFMAN: Which issue is that?
              COMMISSIONER KEISLING:
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              MR. HOFFMAN: 61.
              COMMISSIONER KEISLING: 62, 63.
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              MS. O'SULLIVAN: Is that Issue 101?
              COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Yeah, I'm sorry.
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    I'm sorry. Issue 101, 102, 103.
              MR. FEIL: Commissioner, we can delete Issue
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    101.
              COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Dropping that
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    one.
              MR. FEIL: But Issues 102 and 103 we would
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    request stay in.
              MR. BECK: Commissioner, I'd like to address
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    those two issues.
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              COMMISSIONER KEISLING: All right.
              MR. BECK: With respect to Issue 102, I'd
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   ask that it be reworded to be "Should an attrition
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    adjustment of 2.49% be applied," and so forth.
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   think the way Southern States has worded it it's a
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   bit, let's say, leading. I don't really mean that but
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1	it's biased towards the conclusion they want you to
2	draw.
3	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I'm having trouble
4	hearing you because you've moved the mike away from
5	you.
6	MR. BECK: I'd ask that it be changed. I
7	think the way Southern States has worded it leads you
8	to the conclusion they want you to reach. And I think
9	a more neutral wording would be "Should an attrition
10	factor of 2.49%" and then go the same from there.
11	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 1996 attrition
12	factor or is that also
L3	MR. BECK: That's fine.
L4	MR. FEIL: That's fine with SSU,
۱5	Commissioner.
L6	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Then does OPC have a
L7	position on 102? You hadn't up until now. And
18	MR. BECK: The answer would be no.
۱9	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. 102. Is
20	that also one that needs to be rephrased or dropped or
21	what?
22	MR. BECK: I think we just did 102.
23	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 103. I should have
24	gotten up and walked around. (Laughter)
25	MS. O'SULLIVAN: Commissioner, we need to

update Staff's position on that to say no. We agree 2 with OPC. No. 3 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: No. 4 MR. BECK: Commissioner, with respect to 5 103, I object to the issue. It relates to the Motion to Strike the testimony of Broverman that we've filed. 6 7 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Oh. Okay. 8 MR. BECK: Perhaps this would be the time to address the motion to strike the testimony. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Staff, 10 do you have any words of wisdom on this? 11 12 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Commissioners, I'd like to 13 double-check with you. I know you have the Motion to Strike Mr. Broverman's testimony. Did you receive a 14 15 copy of the Utility's reponse to that? It was filed 16 yesterday afternoon. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes, and that's what 17 I was just reading. And I have not finished reading 18 it. I, however, did not read the entire footnote on 19 20 Page 3. MS. O'SULLIVAN: It's a pretty big footnote. 21 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And considering what 22 it was a footnote to, I decided to ignore it. 23 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Staff went back and removed 24

Mr. Broverman's testimony and Ms. Lock's testimony.

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We initially believe this testimony is not necessary.

Ms. Lock addressed this type of material in her direct

testimony and filed rebuttal on that. So we would

tend to agree with OPC.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Tend to or you do?

MS. O'SULLIVAN: We do. I haven't had the time to review this that I'd like, but -- in looking at the Utility's response just right now, so --

a couple of questions and I'm not trying to put you on the spot, but the Motion to Strike -- I guess maybe I just need to let Mr. Beck tell me. The Motion to Strike, what are the grounds for it? You said a lot of stuff in here, so is it that -- I mean, all of Paragraph 1 summarizes what his testimony says. So is your entire position that FAS 106 expense is not at issue in this proceeding?

MR. BECK: The grounds are that the

Company's filing is a supplemental change of its case
in disguise; that they attempted to disguise as
rebuttal testimony. They have filed their case. The
intervenors, Staff and other parties then filed our
case responding to that. No one took issue with FAS
106 expenses. Then comes in Southern States' witness
and says, "Well, here's some more information about

FAS 106," purporting to be rebuttal, when, in fact, it doesn't rebut anybody. It's just an attempt to create a new direct case.

So my grounds for it is that it's a change in their case, it's not rebuttal, and it should be stricken because it's not rebutting any testimony of any witness that was filed.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. And I'm not trying to be picky but your motion doesn't say those things.

MR. BECK: We tried to.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Where? The only place -- only thing I can find that you say is that FAS 106 expense is not at issue in this case, that's one ground, therefore, I assume it's irrelevant. The second ground would be prefiled testimony -- there's no prefiled testimony of any intervenor witness that addressed FAS 106 expenses. The third is that no customer testimony addressed FAS 106 expenses.

MR. BECK: And based on that I conclude that there's a ruse.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: A ruse to submit untimely direct testimony.

MR. BECK: That's what I was trying to say there, as I just explained it.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. It's not really rebuttal; it's not rebutting anything.

MR. BECK: That's correct.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. And I've read your response, but you went into things like how bulky it was and --

MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner, I think too many points need to be made.

set forth for taking the position that the additional rebuttal testimony we wish to submit should not be submitted, was that this company has the right to file rebuttal testimony when such testimony responds to the testimony of customers at customer service hearings.

Now that's what they said this morning. Now that's a true statement. Because that right is unequivocal.

It's in your rules. And we cited that in our motion.

Now, at the customer service hearings, and we have this in our response, it was repeatedly stated that we have inflated our costs for the projected test year. Mr. Broverman's rebuttal testimony responds to those allegations.

Secondly, in the prefiled direct testimony filed back with the Minimum Filing Requirements, Public Counsel and anyone else who has read the

testimony of Dale Lock was placed on notice that the study attached to Mr. Broverman's rebuttal testimony was forthcoming, and so it has. And this is a study that Ms. Lock is not competent to sponsor. We cannot get it in through Ms. Lock. We have put it in through Mr. Broverman and his firm. So there was plenty of notice. And it directly responds to allegations of customers at the customer service hearing.

MR. BECK: May I respond?

MR. HOFFMAN: They can't pick and choose which customer statements we get to respond to in our rebuttal.

commissioner Keisling: I'm not suggesting that they can. I just am trying to understand then it's your position that anyone who questioned the accuracy of the projections in the MFRs, projected expenses, was bringing up FAS 106 even though they didn't bring it up in that way.

MR. HOFFMAN: They didn't bring up FAS 106 in that way. But when they contest the accuracy of our projections, don't we have a right to respond?

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I'm not disagreeing with that.

MR. HOFFMAN: I understand. And I'm saying that we do and this is how we have done it. And the

way we have done it is consistent because we have used the information that we anticipated would be forthcoming, through Ms. Lock direct testimony filed last year. And a copy of this study was provided as a late-filed deposition exhibit in January of this year. You know, they have -- I'll conclude this.

They have not been prejudiced. They don't claim that they have been. But had they made such a claim -- you know, they have, with Ms. Dismukes's testimony on two occasions filed motions to supplement her testimony to respond to information that they received, you know, at a certain date and time. If they were at all prejudiced by this, they could have filed the same type of motion to have some individual rebut this testimony and they've chosen not to do so.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Now back to you.

MR. BECK: This is a sham that no customer -- taking their argument to its logical conclusion, that means they can refile their case on any expense, any revenue, any rate base item they choose because some customer gets up and says, "I don't trust your numbers." Nobody contested FAS 106 expenses, and they are taking a generalized statement from customers to try to go in and bolster their case

on this. Now, perhaps when this study was done they should have filed supplemental direct testimony along with a motion asking to do that. But instead of doing that, they came up with a sham excuse of trying to put it in as rebuttal testimony when it is not rebutting any testimony that was filed in the case.

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Had they followed that procedure, it might be different. But I am prejudiced. I'm trying to go through this last weekend when I saw this testimony. I said, "What am I going to do with this? Here's some brand-new testimony that we didn't even contest that the Company is trying to put in." So we are prejudiced in our ability to prepare for this case. And I object to the way they put it in and object to them putting it in at all at this point in time.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Let me just be sure
I understand one other thing. I believe that
Mr. Hoffman said that this study was furnished in
January as part of Lock's --

MR. HOFFMAN: January 23 of 1996. A late-filed exhibit to the deposition of Dale Lock.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING:

MR. BECK: Filing a late-filed deposition exhibit doesn't give them permission to file sham rebuttal testimony.

To Dale Lock.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I'm not asking that.

Did you get this? I'm trying to figure out the

prejudice in terms of when you got this material, for

one thing. There are a lot of factors I have to look

at.

MR. BECK: I can't answer that. I don't know when I got it. And certainly they didn't notify me that they were going to try to present it as testimony.

Now, if they put in direct testimony, which is what they're saying, the fact that Dale Lock files direct testimony, says maybe there will be something coming later, that doesn't equate in any way, shape or form to me to all of a sudden get rebuttal testimony that doesn't rebut anything. The filing of a late-filed deposition exhibit doesn't give me notice that we're going to be facing that as testimony in the case. Because that's purely discovery materials that I think that Staff asked for. I don't recall getting it. I'm sure we've gotten it. I'm not contesting that. But nothing put me on notice that this is going to be testimony that I've got to prepare for and question for the hearing. It's just different.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. One more from you and then I'm going to see what Staff has to say.

1 MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner, the only thing 2 that I would add is that I think that Mr. Beck's whole 3 argument, he characterizes this whole thing as a sham and, of course, we disagree with that. His whole 4 argument comes down to the fact that he's essentially saying that had this testimony been styled as supplemental direct, well then maybe it's okay. 7 The way they did Ms. Dismukes' testimony, which, of course, they being the intervenor, they don't have any direct or rebuttal. They only have what I would call 10 direct testimony. And I would submit to you that 11 that's a distinction without a difference. Because it 12 would end up in their hands on the same day. And to 13 the extent they needed some type of opportunity to 14 respond, they could have used it. Whether it was 15 called rebuttal -- and, again, we do believe it 16 rebutted those customers' comments -- or whether it 17 was called supplemental direct. 18

MS. O'SULLIVAN: Commissioner, in looking at the testimony itself there's basically a few lines mentioned rebutting customer testimony without naming the customers, without naming the service hearing where it was made. What you typically do in rebuttal is list who you're rebutting, or at least discuss more in detail. The rest of the testimony goes into great

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detail into FAS 106. I think there's a great leap made from the statement they are rebutting testimony which suggests that SSU has inflated expenses in the MFR projections to a very, very detailed updating of FAS 106. Again, Staff would agree with OPC, the main purpose of this was to increase the FAS 106, not rebut other witnesses.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. And do you have a recommendation then as to the Motion to Strike?

MS. O'SULLIVAN: We recommend granting it.

more thing. Since I'm serving here as a Prehearing Officer, is this one of those items that I could preserve for the whole Commission to decide whether to strike this or not, since at this point I have not had an opportunity to read all of the testimony that is being referred to. And, you know, I have some level of concern about striking this if -- you know, if the other Commissioners think that it would be useful.

MS. O'SULLIVAN: Certainly you could defer that ruling. You could even take it up at the very beginning of the technical hearing as a pending matter.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. I

realize that doesn't help you much, but I mean I haven't had a chance to read this yet. And -- I mean I had read the motions, but I hadn't had the response until just now when I started reading it. And I just feel like I'm not prepared to be able to rule on that right now. And --

MR. FEIL: Commissioner, if I may make a suggestion. It's probably the most efficient thing for you to do, to take it up at the beginning of the technical hearing. That way if Mr. Broverman doesn't need to show up, we'll know ahead of time rather than bringing him here and then perhaps having his testimony stricken.

don't rule on it it will be one of the items I'll indicate the whole panel needs to take up before we begin taking evidence. I can only suggest even though you have plenty to do, that you need to at least be prepared to deal with that testimony if the Commission votes to allow it. And, again, you know, I just don't have time to get the answer to everything. And I hate delaying ruling on a motion. That's not my style.

But I just don't feel like I can rule on this one.

MR. BECK: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: So that's how we'll

handle it. So, how does that relate to Issue 103? This 2 issue is in here solely to deal with this testimony. 3 MS. O'SULLIVAN: I believe Ms. Lock also 4 testified. 5 6 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. MS. O'SULLIVAN: I'm not sure it's the 7 Utility's issue. 8 MR. HOFFMAN: It's the Utility's issue. 9 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Utility is saying 10 yes, OPC and Staff say no. 11 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Our position would be no. 12 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: It's as clear as it 13 Twomey is not here. can be. 104. Darn. 14 That was --MS. O'SULLIVAN: 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I mean, I'm almost 16 inclined to strike this issue because I cannot even 17 understand what this issue is. And Mr. Twomey is not here to clarify it. It's his issue and his only 19 answer is no. Does anyone have any insight into this 20 21 issue or what he was getting at or anything? MS. O'SULLIVAN: I think it's the similar 22 problem with earlier issues, if the answer is yes, 23 then what? The issue just says are they reasonable 24

and prudent. If not, what's the penalty? What's the

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reduction? What's the adjustment? That's not being asked for as stated in their position.

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conveyed to Mr. Twomey again -- and I guess it's going to be you, Mr. McLean, that unless we have a restated issue that examines all of the repercussions of the issue that's stated here, that I'm going to strike the issue and -- if he can reword it and have it to us by noon on Monday, then I allow the issue. I'll allow all of the parties to give some kind of a response to it.

MR. McLEAN: Yes, ma'am I'll advise him.

MR. FEIL: Commissioner, tentatively I suppose our position could be yes. We don't know what the issue is, as you've indicated.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, so you --

MR. FEIL: We have an objection to the issue as stated.

that I have an objection to the issue as stated. So it will be stricken unless there is a restatement of the issue that satisfies the concerns that we've discussed. And if there is a restated issue that I do allow, you'll have some time from when you get it to -- and I'll figure out what that time is after I

see it. I mean it all becomes then this, then this --1 and I can't think that far ahead. 2 MR. McLEAN: If Twomey can get the issue 3 right, I can get him to fax it to SSU. 4 5 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And Staff. MR. McLEAN: And Staff, of course, try to 6 get it done before Monday. 8 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That would be great. MR. McLEAN: Try to get Twomey to do it 9 10 before Monday. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Good luck. 105, no 11 changes. I'm just going to keep on rolling. 106 any 12 changes? 13 MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner, we submitted an 14 updated revised addition, one sentence addition, on 15 our positions on 105 and 106 and that was in writing. 16 Filed -- rather served today. 17 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: And OPC, your 18 response to 106 is as per your memo from the 16th. 19 MR. BECK: Yes. 20 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. And Staff has 21 22 no position. 23 MS. O'SULLIVAN: That's correct. OPC has COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 107. 24 not taken a position. Are you agreeing with Staff?

MR. BECK: Yes, we agree with Staff. 2 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 108. 109 is 3 there a stipulation? 4 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Let me double-check just 5 one moment. 6 Staff noticed that Staff's position, which is agreeing with OPC, is that it should be reducing property tax. However, the Utility is proposing 8 reduction to A&G expenses and there is a difference 10 there. 11 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 109. just using -- do you need to make any changes to yours 12 in order to have the stipulation? 13 MR. HOFFMAN: We can stipulate to OPC's 14 position. 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes, you can. 16 17 you? MR. HOFFMAN: Yes, we can. I'm saying that 18 19 we can. 20 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And if they can, can 21 you? 22 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Yes. 23 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: 110. Staff. MS. O'SULLIVAN: We have a revision. 24 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Let's see, 110 is 25

one of the ones that has been updated by SSU. OPC any changes? No. Then Staff. 2 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Yes, Commissioner. 3 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: What's your answer 4 now? 5 MS. O'SULLIVAN: I'll restate it since it's 6 7 pretty much crossing out what we have right there. "The amount of the parent debt adjustment (PDA) is 8 dependent on the resolution of other issues. PDA 9 should be allocated to the individual plan basis." 10 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: 111. OPC has no 11 12 position and SSU has revised. Still no position. 13 MR. BECK: That's correct. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: For Staff. 14 15 position at all. 16 MR. BECK: Yes. 17 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 112, has been revised by SSU. Any position OPC? 18 19 MR. BECK: No. 20 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 113 has also been revised. 21 22 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Back to 112 for just a We have a small change to our position. second. 23 | The second sentence beginning on the third 24 line should read, regarding the proper amount, "No 25

position pending receipt of other --1 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Receipt of. 2 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Crossing out "review" 3 replacing "receipt" of discovery received. 4 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Thank you. 5 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 113 has been revised 6 by SSU, their position has. Has OPC got a position? 7 MR. BECK: No, we do not. 8 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Staff has revised their 9 position. Basically flipping around the sentences. 10 "The appropriate amount of federal income tax expense 11 is dependent upon further discovery and the resolution 12 of other issues. However, income tax expense should 13 be reduced for state income tax, which are zero because of state net operating loss carry forwards." 15 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: 114. Has been 16 revised by SSU. OPC any position. 17 MR. BECK: No, Commissioner. 18 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Staff any change to 19 20 yours? MS. O'SULLIVAN: 21 No. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: The 115. I had some 22 trouble trying to understand the wording of it. Have 23 you had any success in trying to make -- use words 24 that I can understand?

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1	MS. O'SULLIVAN: I think if we cross a few
2	words out.
3	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Which ones should we
4	cross it?
5	MS. O'SULLIVAN: Cross out first line "a
6	total PSC jurisdictional or individual."
7	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: So it's just going
8	to be "Should SSU revenue requirements be calculated
9	on plant-specific basis?"
10	MS. O'SULLIVAN: Correct.
11	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Not a plant.
12	MS. O'SULLIVAN: On a plant-specific basis.
13	Yes. Staff's position would be yes to that answer.
14	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: SSU's position is
15	yes. I mean you haven't revised it but you also
16	didn't put a yes or no, so I'm just inserting a yes
17	for you in front of yours. OPC any position?
18	MR. BECK: No.
19	COMMISSIONER KEISLING: 116. Is a fallout.
20	SSU has begin us a revised one. OPC has not taken a
21	position but it's a fallout, so
22	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 117. Any changes?
23	OPC.
24	MR. BECK: No position.
25	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: No position. 118.

Any Staff position yet? 1 2 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Staff has a position. 3 think we passed this one out. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Pardon? 4 5 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Passed a copy of that one out to the parties. Shall I read it into the record? 6 7 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, it's been passed out I think we've all got it. I'm willing to 8 l 9 not read it unless you all haven't read it. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 119. OPC do you 10 have any position on this, yes or no? 11 MR. BECK: On 119. I think that was in our 12 memo and Issue 122 in the memo. 13 MS. O'SULLIVAN: They did provide us with a 14 position. 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: The answer was yes. 16 17 MR. BECK: Yes. 18 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Which way, up or 19 down? I mean, you know, --MR. BECK: I think Ms. Dismukes has a 20 21 proposal on changing the base facility charge and gallonage and proportions and I believe that's what 22 23 that would refer to. 24 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Is there any 25 way you could have that by Monday at noon, just let us

know which way you think it would be adjusted, up or 1 2 down? MR. BECK: We'll endeavor to do that. 3 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: OPC any position? 4 That's bulk rates. 5 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 120, any position? 6 MR. BECK: No position. I think also on 119 7 we'd like to take no position at this time. 8 9 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Instead of yes then? 10 MR. BECK: That's correct. 11 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. So noted. 12 121. 13 MR. FEIL: Commissioner, on Issue 121 SSU's 14 position should state "Not at this time." With the 15 16 remainder of what is there stricken, except for witnesses are still Kowalsky and Ludsen. 17 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Any OPC 18 19 position on this one? MR. McLEAN: No position. 20 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. 122. 21 needed a little bit of clarification on SSU's and 23 you've given it to me. So it's marked as revised. OPC no position? 25 MR. McLEAN: I thought our testimony

addressed that. These cases merge after a while. know we had testimony about that in several recent 2 3 cases. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: You may but you 4 5 didn't take a position in your prehearing, so that's all I'm trying to do is find out if you have a 6 7 position. MR. McLEAN: I'm trying to imagine whether 8 we do or not. I think I had better get back to you before Monday on that one, or before Monday noon. 10 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. If you're 11 going to take a position just get it in on Monday by 12 noon. 13 MR. McLEAN: Yes, ma'am. 14 MR. FEIL: Commissioner, so you're advised 15 we might have a minor change to our wording on but 16 Issue 122, that will be a Monday submittal. 17 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. All right. I 18 have a problem with Issue 124 as stated. Is there any 19 proposed rewording of it? 20 21 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Could I go back to 123's position briefly for Staff. I'm sorry. 22 23 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes. MS. O'SULLIVAN: The last sentence of the 24 25 paragraph at the beginning of Staff's position.

Should have the phrase in front of it, "If a revenue increase is granted, --" 2 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: The following --3 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Right. Thank you. 4 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: All right. 124. Is 5 there anything from Staff on this? 6 MS. O'SULLIVAN: No, we have not changed our 7 position. 8 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, then all I can 9 say is I don't believe that setting goals and 10 objectives is part of this proceeding, and unless we 11 can reword --12 | MS. O'SULLIVAN: We could reword the issue 13 itself. 14 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's what I'm 15 16 asking. 17 MS. O'SULLIVAN: I'm sorry. We could reword it to make clear what goals and objectives the Commission should consider for rate structure for SSU 19 in particular. Is that what your concern lies towards 20 is that it's too generic in its policy setting. 21 22 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yeah. What it says right now is "What goals and objectives of the 23 Commission are appropriate to consider?" I mean this 24 25 Commission may have hundreds of goals and objectives,

and I don't know any way that, you know, the parties can sort through or the Commissioners can sort through to try to figure out which ones are appropriate to consider. So that's my problem.

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MR. HILL: Commissioner, if I may try to clarify. Perhaps it's poorly worded. I made this an issue specifically because our analysis in this case, the work that we do in formulating our professional opinion in making a recommendation, will include an evaluation of how the various rate structures mesh with the Commission's policies, goals and objectives. And I certainly didn't want to get to the end of the proceeding and have the parties say they had no idea that that was going to be a part of the analysis. And so we felt that an issue specifically on that would allow the parties to say, "Yes, these are goals and objectives." "No, they aren't. We think they should be considered and should not." And that's specifically why it is here. Just an overabundance of caution to put everyone on notice as to what our analysis will include.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Is it possible to reword it something like "What factors should the Commission consider in deciding the -- in determining the appropriate rate structure and service

availability charges?" No? Okay. Somebody help.

MS. JABER: I think, Commissioner, when we looked at that yesterday, quite frankly, we went to the dictionary and we went to the Thesaurus. Factors are different. Factors are subparts, they are elements that go into looking at something before you make a final determination. Goals and objectives are a term of art that -- how can I describe it? Do you remember what some of the words were, Chuck, that we came across? Goals and objectives are something like ensuring financial viability of a utility. They are like ensuring that customers don't go through rate shock. Factors are contribution levels.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. I guess where my concern comes in is it would seem to me that before I would want -- as a Commissioner before I would want a goal or an objective attributed to me, I would have liked to have had some proceeding where I made a decision that that was a goal, and what objectives I was going to engage in to try to reach that goal.

MS. JABER: Exactly. And that's what we're trying to do with this issue.

Believe it or not this issue was actually at the suggestion of the Commission. I don't mean to imply the wording of the issue or the focus of the

issue, but this was, I think -- Mr. Hill can correct me if I'm wrong -- but it first came about in a 2 separate docket, a more generic kind of a docket, 3 where the Commission at that time said, well, if you're going to look at specific things involving 5 utilities, you need to do it within the context of 6 rate cases. And that's what this is all about. We do 7 have suggested rewording if you want me to read it 8 9 out. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I'd love to hear it. 10 MS. JABER: "For SSU, what goals and 11 objectives should the Commission consider in 12 determining the appropriate rate structure and service 13 availability charges?" 14 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All it does is move 15 "for SSU" to the beginning. 16 MS. JABER: And making it clear that the 17 Commission would consider -- the Commission has to 18 consider what its goals and objectives are. 19 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. As opposed to 20 what's here, which makes it sound like we have goals 21 and objectives --22 23 MS. JABER: Exactly.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: -- and we're just

deciding among them as to which is appropriate.

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MS. JABER: Exactly.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: That's my concern.

MS. JABER: That's what I'm attempting to do and we could certainly work on the language if that's not to everyone's satisfaction. But that's exactly the intent. The Commission needs to set the goals and objectives for this utility for this docket. Do you want me to try reading that again?

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Sure.

MS. JABER: "For SSU, what goals and objectives should the Commission consider in determining the appropriate rate structure and service availability charges?"

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I still am pretty hesitant on that one, but --

MS. JABER: What about putting in parenthesis after "goals and objectives", a "for example," taking something out of Greg Shafer's testimony.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Or Beecher's, since you also cite to Beecher's testimony.

MS. JABER: Well, actually Witness Beecher is more on a national scope. I don't think she ever uses the words "goals and objectives" but Witness Shafer does say, for example, "you could look at the

following" and some of those things are safe and efficient service at an affordable price, resource protection, financially healthy and independent utility, regulatory inefficiency,

commissioner KIESLING: That's fine. I mean, that sounds more like a list of criteria that we need to weigh and balance in deciding appropriate rate structure. And I can live with that.

MS. JABER: So the way I've reworded the issue, if I put in parenthesis what I just read to you --

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Let me ask you this, if we were to call it "What criteria and standards should the Commission consider in determining the appropriate rate structure and service availability charges," does that do it?

MS. JABER: No. It may be semantics.

Again, goals and objectives are a term of art.

commissioner kiesling: I know that. My problem is that within management kinds of publications and articles, setting goals and objectives is a specific kind of process also. And so I'm having trouble separating the process, or lack of such a process, from your use of it as a term of art in some other kind of discipline. I mean who is it a

term of art for?

MS. JABER: Just in management and business.

It's a business term.

commissioner kiesling: I know. But if I understand what happens in management and business is that, you know, you set out to adopt a set of goals. Then once you adopt those goals you go back and you look at all of the possibilities and adopt objectives for how to get to those goals, etcetera, etcetera.

MS. JABER: And I think that's what Staff is saying.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That we have to go through that entire process in this case?

MS. JABER: I think that Staff is suggesting that you may need to do that in this case.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Well, let me just tell you then, the very best I'm going to give you is bringing this up at the beginning of the technical hearing because that is so far beyond what I think we're doing in this case that, you know, either I don't understand what we're doing in this case or other Commissioners will find it equally of concern. But I'm willing to leave it in only tentatively at this point until we can —

MS. JABER: Beginning of the hearing.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yeah.

MS. JABER: Thank you. And the one thing I do want to bring to your attention to emphasize our intent here, is separating it out as an issue like this gives the parties the opportunity to say, "No, Commission. These should be your goals, these should be your objectives." And I understand that you don't agree with those words, but that is the intent. I think we could have easily combined this with the rate structure issue but that would have served no one any purpose.

commissioner kiesling: Okay. I would suggest that you go ahead and at least use the rewording that you did suggest in this tentative issue, but indicate that it's not a firm issue until the entire Commission says -- or a majority of the Commission says they want it as an issue stated in that way.

MS. JABER: Thank you, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Can SSU -- you have formulated a position. How, I don't know, but you did. Do you have any changes, corrections, etcetera to that? No?

MR. HOFFMAN: No.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. OPC you

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didn't take any position and since --MR. McLEAN: We have entirely too many dogs 2 in that fight. 3 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: You have too many 4 dogs. That's what I was trying to figure out. 5 understand rate structure has a number of components 6 and certainly service availability charges is 7 something that you are involved with. So have you got 8 a suggestion on what you might do with that issue if it stays in? Because --10 MR. McLEAN: I'm reasonably certain we won't 11 take a position on it. 12 13 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: No position. MR. McLEAN: Which is what I meant to say. 14 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Is Staff going to enlarge upon its position in any way? 16 MS. O'SULLIVAN: In 124? 17 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yeah. 18 19 MS. O'SULLIVAN: I think we may, dependent 20 upon the rewording of the issue. 21 MS. JABER: It will be done by Monday if we have a reword, Commissioner. 22 23 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 125, any 24 changes? 25 MS. O'SULLIVAN: No.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: None to Staff. 126. 1 2 No changes. 127 is a fallout issue and SSU has filed a 3 4 revised --MS. O'SULLIVAN: Staff is revised as well. 5 Strike that position and instead state "The rates are 6 dependent upon the resolution of other issues." 7 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I'm sorry, the rates 8 are dependent upon the --9 MS. O'SULLIVAN: -- the resolution of other 10 issues. 11 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 128. 12 position from OPC on that? I'm assuming no, but --13 MR. BECK: That's correct. 14 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Staff, any change in 15 your position on 128? 16 MS. O'SULLIVAN: No, Commissioner. 17 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 129 is another 18 fallout. We have a revised from SSU. I'm assuming we 19 20 have no position from OPC. MR. FEIL: Commissioner, on 129 I noticed at 21 the bottom there we cross-reference Issue 122, and I assume the numbering of the issues is going to change 23 so that cross-reference may have to change as a 25 result.

1	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: The numbering of the
2	issues as they are set out in
3	MR. FEIL: Here. Are we going to maintain
4	this number?
5	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes. We're
6	maintaining these numbers.
7	MR. FEIL: Then that's not a problem.
8	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Anything from
9	Staff on 129? If not, 130, is there a stipulation?
10	Says there may be.
11	MS. O'SULLIVAN: I think at this point we
12	probably cannot stipulate to that.
13	COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Fallout. Fallout?
14	That's going to be the position?
15	MS. O'SULLIVAN: Yes.
16	COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. 131.
17	Anything from OPC on this one? No position.
18	MR. McLEAN: No position.
19	COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 132 has been revised
20	by SSU. This is service availability charges.
21	Anything from OPC on that one?
22	MR. McLEAN: No position.
23	COMMISSIONER KEISLING: 133. No change?
24	SSU's revised. Nothing from OPC.
25	MR. McLEAN: No position.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And Staff has a 1 position on this one. No, it's the next one. 2 That's correct. Next one. MS. O'SULLIVAN: 3 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okav. 134. 4 another Marco one that I don't know that I understand 5 but --6 MS. O'SULLIVAN: We took a shot at it. 7 Took a shot at it. 8 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: MS. O'SULLIVAN: We have passed out the 9 deposition. It's pretty lengthy. 10 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And has SSU taken a 11 position or are you objecting to this issue or what 12 13 are you doing? MR. HOFFMAN: We're going to be submitting a 14 position. 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 16 MR. McLEAN: OPC has no position. 17 18 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: No position. Staff? I won't make you read it into the record. 20 We'll just go with what you've already submitted in writing. 21 Yes or no SSU? 22 135. MR. FEIL: SSU is going to have to revise 23 its position obviously. The position should say "Yes. 24 25 The changes should be segregated between the -- I'm

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sorry, I'm reading somebody else's handwriting.
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              COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Why don't you just
 2
    turn it in.
 3
              MR. FEIL: I'll turn it in Monday.
 4
              COMMISSIONER KIESLING: OPC, any position on
 5
 6
    135?
              MR. McLEAN: No position.
 7
              COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Any change from
 8
    Staff on 136?
                                    I mean on 135. 136
              MS. O'SULLIVAN: No.
10
    any change for SSU? Or OPC is no position.
11
              MR. McLEAN: Correct.
12
              COMMISSIONER KIESLING: No change from
13
    Staff. 137. No position OPC?
14
              MR. McLEAN: Correct.
15
              COMMISSIONER KEISLING: I'll keep assuming
16
    that until you tell me differently.
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              MR. McLEAN: Good idea. Thank you.
18
              COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 138 is a fallout
19
    issue. We do have a revised from SSU and no position
20
21
    from OPC: And no change for Staff.
              139 is the one that we've -- that Mr. Twomey
22
   withdrew, so the Staff position that's in here we
23
   don't need.
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             MS. O'SULLIVAN: I assume he withdrew it.
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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's what he said. 1 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Delete that. 2 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Drop that issue. 3 141. I'm just going through. Anybody that has 140. 4 got anything, let me know. 5 MR. FEIL: 141 SSU can stipulate to Staff's 6 7 position. MS. O'SULLIVAN: We have a slight addition 8 to our position that should change that. We just 9 wanted to add reference to a rule at the end of our 10 position, "comma, pursuant to Rule 25-30.434(4) 11 12 Florida Administrative Code." COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. Still okay 13 14 SSU? 15 MR. FEIL: Can you give us a moment to check the rule and we'll come back to it. What was the rule 16 17 cite again? MS. O'SULLIVAN: 25-30.434(4) 18 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: It's the rule on 19 20 AFUDC. MS. O'SULLIVAN: Right. I'm sorry, FPI. 21 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes. What? Where 22 are you? Somebody said "Commissioner". Okay. 23 You look at that and then you let me know if 24 25 you still agree with Staff. OPC, any position?

MR. McLEAN: No, ma'am. No position. 1 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: 142. No position 2 3 for OPC. MR. BECK: Our position is yes. 4 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Oh. You have a 5 6 position. Okay. Yes. Any Other changes? 7 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Are we on 142? 8 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: We're on 142. 9 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Staff has a new position. 10 We provided it. It's fairly short. "Through further 11 development of the record, if it is --" 12 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I've found it. 13 We'll do it consistent with what you've already filed. I don't have a clue what this issue is 14 143. about other than what I was able to ascertain when I 15 first saw it, which is that apparently there was a 16 customer at a customer hearing who complained about 17 something. Other than that, can you tell me what this 18 issue is and why it is here? It's got to be your 19 20 issue. 21 MR. BECK: This is a customer who addressed the Commission at Marco Island. The Staff, I believe, 22 23 began an investigation. I received a letter from a 24 li Staff engineer transferring the case to us, and

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subsequently about a week later Ms. Jaber sent a

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letter to the customer saying Staff was going to 1 handle it in the quality of service portion of the 2 hearing. And that's what I think led to this issue 3 being here. 4 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 5 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Commissioner, Staff 6 provided the information to Public Counsel, I believe, 7 I'm not quite sure the exact circumstances, but we did 8 clarify we do not mean to make it a separate 9 complaint. 10 OPC has requested that it be an issue in 11 this docket apparently because Mr. Gross is not 12 satisfied with the resolution that's been suggested by 13 the Utility; that he be required to pay for the 14 gallons which registered in December of '95. 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Why aren't we just 16 dealing with it through our regular complaint process? 17 I mean --18 MS. O'SULLIVAN: That is a possibility. 19 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's what I'm 20 trying to understand. Is this an OPC issue? 21 MR. BECK: It's a long tortured history. 22 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: It may be. 23 MR. BECK: I think the complaint process may 24

be fine for handling it.

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1 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: I mean I just don't want to introduce a complaint process into this 2 3 that --MR. BECK: If Staff would take Dr. Gross's 4 5 complaint and deal with it in that fashion that would 6 be fine I believe. 7 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Has Dr. Gross filed 8 a complaint? 9 MR. BECK: I think he has been led to believe that it would be handled in this case. 10 MS. JABER: Commissioner, we can open up a 11 docket Monday or Tuesday. 12 13 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. MS. JABER: To deal with it. 14 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Through Complaints. 16 You can open up a complaint. 17 MS. JABER: Yes. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. And if 18 Complaints needs any more information, I'm sure they 19 20 can get it from Dr. Gross. 21 MR. BECK: Yes. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Then 143 is 22 not going to be an issue here. It will get dealt with 23 24 through the regular complaints process. 25 144. Anything from OPC on this one?

MR. BECK: No position. 1 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Nothing from 2 Staff on 144. 3 MS. O'SULLIVAN: No, Commissioner. 4 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: 145. 5 MR. FEIL: Commissioner, intuitively I 6 wouldn't think it would be appropriate to list 7 witnesses on what's going to be a legal issue, 8 although those witnesses do testify concerning that subject matter. And there's an issue earlier on in 10 the Prehearing Order that deals with that. It doesn't 11 seem to me to make sense to list them as witnesses on 12 what is defined as a legal issue. 13 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's what I had 14 marked on here, too, as well. I didn't know if any of 15 them were lawyers and if they were going to be testifying as to the legal issue or why you had 17 witnesses listed there. 18 MR. FEIL: They do rely on the law, however, 19 in their testimony. 20 21 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: They rely on their interpretation of the law. 22 23 MR. FEIL: Yes, ma'am. 24 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. I'll delete them as witnesses as to the legal issue, although I 25

recognize they will be testifying based on their understanding of those statutes, one of which is 2 primarily within their jurisdiction, or authority, and 3 one of which is primarily in ours. So to the extent 4 that we may have a difference of opinion, I don't know 5 how we'll resolve that. 6 7 146. Legal issue 146. We reworded that one after speaking with Mr. Twomey, and that's it. 8 9 MS. O'SULLIVAN: I have just a couple little things to fix, if you want to go back to the ones we left behind. 11 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: And then we have, I 12 13 think, one or two from somebody. MR. BECK: We have one. 14 MR. FEIL: Commissioner, I did want to 15 16 address just one thing with respect to 146, even though Mr. Twomey is not here. He has posited it as a 17 18 constitutional issue. I'm assuming he has done that 19 to preserve some sort of right of appeal. 20 SSU doesn't intend to brief a constitutional 21 issue --22 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I agree. 23 MR. FEIL: -- since the Commission doesn't 24 have jurisdiction to decide it. 25 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Obviously. The only

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purpose for even bringing it up would be to have the opportunity to make your record and bring it up on 2 3 appeal. MR. FEIL: Commissioner, with respect to one 4 5 of the issues we're supposed to go back to on AFUDC. 6 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Which number? 7 MR. FEIL: 141. We can stipulate to Staff's position but the rule that Ms. O'Sullivan cited was 8 the AFPI rule, not AFUDC rule. So if the reference is corrected to 25-30.116. 10 MS. O'SULLIVAN: That's the correct 11 reference. Yes. We've corrected that. 12 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. And then with 13 that -- okay, that takes care of that one. Let me go back here to the paper clipped 15 ones quickly before we get to the witnesses. 16 40 is one that I still have outstanding. 17 Has there been anything reworded on 40? 18 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Yes, commissioner, we've 19 got a proposed rewording of the issue. The issue 20 should now be worded "Should iron filtration equipment 21 be considered water treatment plant? And if so, 22 23 what's the appropriate used and useful percentage?" 24 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: So you are leaving out from consideration in Issue 40 RO and lime 25

1 softening. 2 MR. FEIL: That's correct. The wording we 3 agreed to focused in just on iron filtration 4 equipment. That was the only issue. And SSU will submit a position Monday noon. 5 6 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Staff's position would be 7 yes. 8 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And OPC, you have a 9 problem with the rewording. And if you do, tell me 10 now. 11 MR. McLEAN: No problem with the rewording of the issue. 12 13 MR. BECK: We may need to change our position. 14 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's what it looked like, you might need to. So I'll just put you 16 17 down to revise it on Monday with everybody else. MS. O'SULLIVAN: Commissioner, I have a 18 correction to a Staff position on Issue 127. 19 We had previously reworded the issue. We'd 20 like to go back to our original statement of "No 21 position pending further development of the record." 22 23 I think I was looking at the wrong issue when I gave 24 you that one.

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Okay.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING:

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MS. O'SULLIVAN: That's square one on that 1 Thank you. 2 one. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I still had a clip 3 4 on Issue 51 that -- is there anything else I need to do with that until we get the updates? 5 MS.O'SULLIVAN: I think 51 we fixed. 6 7 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: You're right. 8 You're right. I'm sorry. I didn't pull the clip off. MS. O'SULLIVAN: We have one on 65 we need 9 to go back and correct as well. 10 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Position or 11 rewording? 12 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Rewording of the issue. 13 14 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: MS. O'SULLIVAN: We were I think trying to 15 clarify the issue. I think we may have gone too 16 narrowly on that. We had added the phrase 17 "adjustments to gain on sale." And we notice that 18 some parties' positions talked about more than 19 adjustments to gain on sale. So we'd like to strike 20 21 that. 22 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: So the issue should go back to "question mark" after "structure". 23 24 MS. O'SULLIVAN: That's correct. 25 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And delete "for

gains on sale." 1 2 MS. O'SULLIVAN: We would be striking that. 3 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I said delete. 4 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Okay. Sorry. 5 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's okay. And it 6 doesn't make anyone's position. Okay. Sorry I keep 7 hitting the mike. 8 71. There was a question of whether this one was going to be stipulated or not. Did we finally 10 stipulate it? 11 MR. FEIL: Commissioner, it's my understanding that we can agree to stipulate to 12 Staff's wording with the understanding that we're talking about projected test year revenues before any 15 rate increase in this case. Staff is nodding yes. MS. O'SULLIVAN: That's correct. You are 16 17 correct, sir. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Then OPC you agreed 18 with Staff so this is now a stipulated issue. 19 20 MR. BECK: Yes. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. 75 I still 21 had some questions on, anything -- or is that just 22 23 going to happen by Monday? MR. McLEAN: Yes, ma'am, that's for Monday 24 noon, Dismukes and Twomey.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. 85, that was 1 also one you were going to consult with Ms. Dismukes 3 on. That was another one. And I think 100. 4 that's all the others that I had clipped. 5 Are there any other issues we need to talk 6 about before we spend the last seven minutes on 7 exhibit list? 8 MR. BECK: Yes. We wish to add an issue 9 concerning the Palm Coast. 10 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: And you've already 11 turned that in somewhere. 12 MR. BECK: Yes. 13 MS. O'SULLIVAN: It was the last page of 14 their issue filing. 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Why don't I 16 first find out if there's any objection to this issue. And then if there is, we'll figure out where to go from there. Yes, SSU objects to this issue. 19 20 MR. HOFFMAN: Madam Chair, we don't have a copy of that document. We weren't served with a copy 21 of that document. 22 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: You're right. 23 Ιt just went to Ms. O'Sullivan. 24 25 MR. BECK: Yes.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: So have you served 1 in any way a copy of your proposed new issue to SSU? 2 I had not. It was an oversight. MR. BECK: 3 But I did not. 4 MR. FEIL: As Mr. Beck said earlier, he did 5 hand deliver to us, when we came in this morning, the 6 proposed supplemental testimony but we don't have a 7 8 motion or --9 MR. BECK: And this goes back to the request for Ms. Dismukes Third Supplemental Testimony, we've 10 made the oral motion and this would be the issue that 11 accompanies that. 12 Okay. And the issue 13 COMMISSIONER KEISLING: you're proposing is "Should the Commission allocate a portion of the company's overhead cost to the 15 facilities at Palm Coast which an affiliate of 16 Southern States has the option to purchase?" 17 MR. BECK: 18 Yes. 19 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. do you have any position on that proposed issue and 20 21 whether it's appropriate at this time? MS. O'SULLIVAN: We could have a position. 22

MS. O'SULLIVAN: We could have a position.

I think our position, and I guess our stance on the issue, is that it is very speculative, both in terms of when the purchase will take place and the

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affiliated party involved. We're not sure how you could possibly include that in the overhead costs when it hasn't occurred yet.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I kind of have some of those same kind of questions. Why don't I hear from SSU and then we'll have a quick discussion about what this -- what inclusion of this issue could possibly add to this case.

MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner, our intention was to have an opportunity to further review the proposed Third Supplemental Testimony of Ms. Dismukes and to file a response, hopefully, by the end of the day on Monday, maybe sooner in the day on Monday.

> COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay.

MR. HOFFMAN: At this time we would reserve the objection to the inclusion of the issue until we have had an opportunity to study it further.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Let me see if I understand. I understand you have not even reviewed Ms. Dismukes' testimony. I'm still looking at kind of the base level things of is this relevant? Is it probative of any issue in this proceeding? Is it material? Is it speculative? And can I assume that by reserving your opportunity you're not waiving any of those objections?

MR. HOFFMAN: You can assume, Commissioner Kiesling, that we object to the inclusion of the issue, and if you don't rule on it today, that we will expound on that objection on Monday.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Mr. Beck, why don't you deal with speculative first since I don't know any more about this transaction than what I have heard here. Some affiliate of Southern States --

MR. BECK: Commissioner, we have, on a number of times, asked Southern States about their anticipated purchase and sales of utility systems.

I'm not trying to -- facilities, whatever, and have gotten back "No, no."

It was approximately the beginning of last week that we said well, Southern States isn't purchasing any facilities, but we'd like you to know an affiliate of Southern States has acquired an option to purchase Palm Coast.

Whether or not it's speculative or so forth

I think would be something that the witnesses would

address and would question Southern States witnesses

about it. I'm sure that would be an issue on it.

Nonetheless, there's a forecasted test year with a

large amount of overheads that get allocated to

various systems. Whether or not this system is

included will have a very large affect on the rates that are charged to customers. If you allocate a portion of the overheads, because this is a forecasted test year, it will change the rates customers pay.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Let me ask this:

Does SSU hold the option to purchase? Can they

exercise that option?

MR. BECK: My understanding, it is an affiliate of SSU. And we would have to develop evidence -- again, we had no opportunity to do this because it didn't happen until just this month. But we would have to develop evidence during the hearing regarding that.

Let me be up front about this, I would anticipate asking for leave to question some Southern States witnesses about that issue.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: I am going go strike the issue. And if you get more information that indicates that, you know, that it is something that is going to happen -- is going to happen during this test year -- and that SSU is going to do it, then fine. If after this case and after this projected test year, if it turns out that something does happen, you do have evidence to bring that up. I simply -- this is too complicated a proceeding at this point to also go into

things that are purely speculative, and are only at this point tangentially tied to SSU.

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MR. BECK: Without any offense, I wonder if we could raise this with the full Commission.

This is a large adjustment. I think it would be very unfair to customers to allow Southern States to purchase this system.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: But you see, this is where my problem comes in: SSU is not purchasing this system.

MR. BECK: I understand.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: I mean, that's what makes it speculative. You can file a motion for reconsideration if you want to.

MR. BECK: Okay.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: But I'm telling you I'm making a ruling on this one right now, recognizing that any ruling that goes against you, you ask for reconsideration anyway, so you can go right ahead.

MR. BECK: Okay.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I think that raising this at this time with these nebulous facts and without a direct connection to SSU is unconscionable. So no, you're not going to include it. You can do whatever you wish to do about it.

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MR. BECK: I understand.

MR. HOFFMAN: Do I understand then that part of your order on this issue would also be that

Ms. Dismukes, that her supplemental testimony shall not be filed?

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: If it relates only to this, then -- if this isn't an issue, there's no need for testimony on it.

Anything else on issues before -- I recognized I promised you 6 o'clock but we're very close. Can you push it another 15?

THE REPORTER: Oh, sure.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: We're this close.

I'd like to go through.

Exhibits, other than the addition of exhibits from Mr. Twomey, which he raised earlier, are there any renumbering additions, deletions or corrections to the exhibits that are listed here and I'll go to SSU first. Since your exhibits are all the first ones for the first -- let see, until page -- your exhibits.

MR. HOFFMAN: We'll double-check. If we see anything we'll include it in the Monday submission.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. I mean I'm at Page 102 and I still haven't reached the end of your

witnesses. Here we go. OPC, any to yours, which begin on Page 105? 2 3 MR. BECK: No changes. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: No changes no 4 additions no. 5 6 MR. BECK: That's correct. COMMISSIONER KEISLING: And Staff, any to 7 yours? 8 MS. O'SULLIVAN: No Commissioner. 9 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Then I think 10 that gets us to an unnumbered page, must be 128. 11 Proposed stipulations. So all of the things that we 12 were able to stipulate today you're going to include 13 there; is that correct? 14 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Yes. Yes. 15 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And I don't need to 16 17 look at this Category 1, Category 2, Category 3 stipulations which I understand I have Mr. Feil to 18 thank for from previous cases. Who came up with these 19 20 categories? 21 MR. FEIL: I recognize the language there. 22 MS. O'SULLIVAN: I won't take any ownership 23 of it. 24 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And pending motions. 25 Let's see, I have taken care of -- well, pending

motion No. 1 had been dealt with by the Commission.

Pending motion No. 2 has been dealt with by the

Commission. Motions Nos. 3, 4 and 5 I signed this

morning. Motion No. 6 I ruled on during the course of

this hearing and permitted the late filing. Motion

No. 7, what's that take us to on that one?

MR. FEIL: Commissioner, we filed objections

to some of OPC's discovery requests. In the

to some of OPC's discovery requests. In the objections we told OPC the information that we would provide. They didn't file a response to that objection. I took that to mean that they would be stated with what we proposed providing them. I'm prepared to argue the objection though if need be.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: When does the response time run on this?

MS. O'SULLIVAN: Runs on the 17th.

MR. FEIL: Commissioner, I believe these are some of the interrogatory requests and document requests which you recently ordered we serve by the 22nd.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Other than those,
Mr. Beck, are you planning to take any further action
on the objections?

MR. BECK: I don't believe so. I'm really not -- can't even say what they are. Mat, do you

recall what objections they are? 1 2 MR. FEIL: Hewitt Study calculations. 3 MR. BECK: Yes. We didn't plan to respond to that. 4 5 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: So their objections 6 are acceptable to you if I sustain them. 7 MR. BECK: Yes. 8 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I mean you're not. 9 MR. BECK: You order them to provide the balance of the unobjected once. 10| 11 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Yes. That's what's I understood. I've dealt with Staff's request to 12 strike witnesses. OPC's motion for a protective 13 order. This is the one, if I understand, is asking for the work papers that were asked for at the 15 deposition but not provided? 16 17 MR. BECK: Oh, no, there's much, much more than work papers. There must be 50, 60 interrogatories as well as numerous interrogatory 19 20 document requests. 21 MS. O'SULLIVAN: The Utility filed a 22 response on the 15th which in itself expedites requests. 23 24 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: This is No. 9. 25 does the response time pass? Has it be filed?

1 MS. O'SULLIVAN: I have a copy if you don't. 2 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: I have it now but 3 obviously I haven't read it, so --4 Do either of you want to argue this or do 5 you want to just leave it to me, once I have had a 6 change to review both of the pleadings, that I'll 7 enter some kind of an order? 8 MR. BECK: We'll go ahead and accept a ruling without oral argument. MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner, I'd like to make 10 a very brief argument. 11 MR. BECK: Then I would want to, also. 12 MR. HOFFMAN: It's Mr. Beck's motion so I'll 13 let him go first. 14 COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. It is your 15 motion, Mr. Beck. 16 MR. BECK: Commissioner, this deals with a series of discovery requests that Southern States 18 served on us in violation of your order cutting off 19 discovery as of this Monday. 20 There isn't one of their discovery requests that doesn't relate to information they had on 22 February 12th. That's when we filed our testimony. They ignored our testimony, they never deposed the 24 25 witness. They waited until this late hour to file

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discovery relating to our testimony that had been filed in February.

One of the discovery requests, about 50, 60 interrogatories and so forth, is due next Friday. The remaining are due during the second week of the hearings, according to their schedule.

Many of them are --

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Have you seen their response where they also included a motion for expedited discovery responses?

MR. BECK: Yes. They mailed that to us on Monday.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay.

MR. BECK: Let me say this: They have not shown good cause for why they delayed until this late hour to serve their discovery, particularly in view of the fact that it all relates to our testimony filed in the beginning of February. It would be extremely onerous for us to have to respond to this at this point.

We mentioned with respect to Ms. Dismukes.

She is testifying in a case before the Commission next

week, she will be preparing testimony for us in the

Palm Coast case and has this case as well. She's

extremely busy, and I think it's unconscionable for

the Utility to expect us to answer their questions while the hearing is going on. So we object very strongly to their discovery.

MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner Kiesling, I'm glad he uses the word "unconscionable" because I think that appropriately characterizes the way they have conducted themselves in this case in terms of discovery.

You entered a discovery order on December

20th and we received nothing for over two months from
these folks. And what we got was basically useless.

We tried to get into the the substantive issues on discovery back in November of this year.

And what we got was basically useless. What they said to us was basically "Wait until someone files testimony. Then you "can take a look at that.

I think that you've entered a ruling over the last few days, when you granted their motion, which said April 22nd. I'm taking the position, "I, Commissioner Kiesling, am saying April 22nd is the deadline for responding to discovery." And our position is very simple. If that's your interpretation of the discovery deadline, then certainly it applies equally to all parties.

I think you indicated in your order that it

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was appropriate to file a motion for expedited discovery responses. And in quick response to that order we have done so. We've moved as quickly as we can in this case. You know, we have been very busy in this case as has everyone else. We have been at all of these depositions, many of which, you know, go to the allegations in the Motion to Dismiss. We've responded to hundreds and hundreds of discovery requests, and we've tried to give them all of the information they need. And in comparison with what they've requested of us, what we have requested of them is very, very small. They won't even give us the work papers that purport to support the testimony, and we need to see the work papers that their witnesses used and relied on in the submission of their testimony.

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We took the deposition of Ms. Dismukes the other day. And she made it very clear that it would take her about a few hours, maybe as long as as day, to put together a copy of work papers for us. We think we're entitled to this discovery. We think we have the very same discovery rights that the Office of Public Counsel has in this case. No more, no less.

And the last thing I'll say because I said
I'll be brief, is that with respect to the second set

of interrogatories, which were served by hand delivery on March 29th under the Order Establishing Procedure, the Motion for Protective Order, which I view to be tantamount to objections, is not timely. It was filed on April 12th.

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COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Do you want to respond to the timeliness, which was raised for the first time?

MR. BECK: Yes. I consider their discovery a nullity, first of all, because it was served in violation of your order. I don't see -- in fact, I filed a motion for protective order in abundance of caution rather than just ignoring their discovery requests. I thought it better to bring the issue before you at this point. So it's not. It's a total objection to discovery that was not authorized.

With respect -- and this will be it -- with respect to the late filing of discovery, you granted our motion but it was -- we filed discovery concerning their rebuttal, which was voluminous, and processed our discovery in one week's time and served it on them immediately. This is completely different because none of this relates to anything they have received recently. They've had it since February. For whatever reason they have waited until this point to

serve discovery that relates to items they have had for months. And they have still not provided good cause. Mr. Hoffman's argument, there's nothing in there about the good cause about why they waited until this point in time.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: All right. Let me just -- as to the work papers, which is the only part that I know anything about right now, do you have a problem with providing those work papers which apparently Ms. Dismukes indicated she would provide within a few hours of her deposition?

MR. McLEAN: I think I'm probably best situated to answer that.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay.

MR. McLEAN: After this weekend Ms. Dismukes is getting on a plane Tuesday morning, meet me in Tampa Tuesday afternoon; go down to a case for two days. In the meantime, she'll be writing the Barefoot Bay brief.

I think the simple answer is we will be prejudiced in our other cases as well as this one if she is to spend her time that way. And for my part I would say that had Southern States asked for the work papers contemporaneously with this particular piece of testimony, I would have carried it to them myself if

need be because I think it is of critical importance. But they waited until a time that would be virtually impossible for us to comply with. That's my objection.

To answer your question, Commissioner

Kiesling, we'll have to take her off of the other

thing she is doing for a day to deal with it. That

doesn't get it to them at the same time.

Ms. Dismukes gathers up her papers, carries them off to a contractor to copy them, carries them back home, tries to put them where they were and tries to get them to us and to the Utility.

COMMISSIONER KEISLING: I want to ask my Staff something. Were either of you present at the deposition of Ms. Dismukes?

MS. O'SULLIVAN: No. Mr. Jaeger was.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: So you don't have any knowledge as to whether Ms. Dismukes indicated in that deposition that she could or would provide the work papers within a few hours?

MS. JABER: No, we do not.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. Do you have that deposition with you?

MR. HOFFMAN: No. It's at my office.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. But is it

indicated on the record in there?

MR. HOFFMAN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Or was that an off-the-record discussion?

MR. HOFFMAN: On the record.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And did Ms. Dismukes say she would or she could provide those work papers?

MR. HOFFMAN: She could.

What happened was I asked her for them.

Mr. McLean objected. Then I asked her -- Mr. McLean
objected to preserve the consistency with the
objections that Public Counsel had filed. Whereupon,
I asked Ms. Dismukes, "Would it be burdensome for you
to put these materials together?" Over Mr. McLean's
objection she then, my best recollection, said, "I can
put these together in a few hours." I think she also
said maybe as long as a day.

MR. McLEAN: I think Mr. Hoffman and I are agreed on the length of time where she said she'd take. We don't have a disagreement as to anything substantive with respect to that. I think we both agreed it would take somewhere between a few hours and a day to put them together.

MR. HOFFMAN: I think that's what she said.

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MR. McLEAN: Mr. Hoffman did not ask her

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about any of the other things which would be attentive to that, for example, taking them, copy them and send them here.

MR. HOFFMAN: I understood, Commissioner, that when she was answering my question she was answering how long it would take her to put the documents together to get them out to us.

MR. McLEAN: If that's Mr. Hoffman's recollection I agree with it, because I don't have a specific recollection.

commissioner kiesling: My concern here is that if I take this under advisement, and even if I rule on it on Monday, according to what you've just indicated to me, Ms. Dismukes is going to be not even in the city of Tallahassee for three, four of the five days next week.

MR. McLEAN: It might do to mention that

Ms. Dismukes doesn't live here. She lives in

Louisiana as of six or eight months ago. We deal with

her -- she's in Baton Rouge as we speak now, I

believe. So she has to fly to Tampa.

But she has Saturday, Sunday and Monday when she could deal with this if she weren't dealing with many other things.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: And I understand

that but I'm dealing with this case.

MR. McLEAN: Well, she's dealing with this case as well. But I wanted to clarify the point that she no longer lives with us here in Leon County.

commissioner KIESLING: I would make this suggestion. It's probably -- having not reviewed all of the requests, I can only deal with the work papers, but I am inclined to have those provided by -- when do you need them by? Monday, the 22nd, like everybody else?

MR. HOFFMAN: Yes.

commissioner Keisling: Since this is Friday and I'm not going to have an opportunity to look at this and advise you, if she's spending the weekend doing something, she probably needs to be spending it getting those work papers together.

I have looked at the interrogatories, or some of the other things, but if the work papers were discussed at her deposition, be prepared to provide them.

MR. BECK: Commissioner, I don't see how -I guess it would have to leave tomorrow morning for
Federal Express to get here by Monday. I don't even
know how we can physically do it in that time frame.

MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner, if it would

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assist Ms. Dismukes and OPC, we would agree to having Ms. Dismukes Federal Express those documents out on Monday. COMMISSIONER KEISLING: Okay. MR. BECK: That's certainly a big difference. MR. HOFFMAN: We ask they be Federal Expressed by overnight courier. Of course, I would remind you for the record that the work paper request went to all of their witnesses, it was as to all of their witnesses, not just Ms. Dismukes. MR. McLEAN: In discovery but not -- in your interrogatories or PODs perhaps, but not your deposition. 14 MR. HOFFMAN: The document request that we served went to -- requested the work papers of all of 16 the Office of Public Counsel's witnesses. exchange that took place that Mr. McLean and I have talked about was only as to Ms. Dismukes during her deposition. COMMISSIONER KIESLING: That's why I was dealing with that one. Let me do this: Is there some reason that you did not request the work papers of the

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MR. HOFFMAN: Commissioner, I can't add

other witnesses back when their testimony was filed?

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anything other than to what I've already told you, and that is that we were busily engaged in responding to an approximately 2,000 pages of testimony filed by the intervenors and Staff, attending depositions and doing all of the things that I articulated in our response. I wouldn't add anything to that.

it may be a burden for you, I'm going to have to reserve ruling until Monday, and then I'll let you all know what I'm going -- what, if anything, I'm going to require, and by when. I can't deal with it today.

MS. JABER: Commissioner, when we find out from you we'll immediately call --

would. And, you know, if you all can put together -since I don't have copies of these particular
interrogatories, etcetera, if you could put together
what it is they are seeking so that I can have all of
it in a packet first thing Monday morning, I'll make a
ruling before noon.

MS. JABER: Certainly.

COMMISSIONER KIESLING: Okay. That was

Issue 9. Other matters. 1, was addressed at the

agenda conference. 2, I've already taken care of. 3,

we've already taken care of. 4, we've already taken

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care of. Is there anything else that we need to do
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    today?
              MS. O'SULLIVAN: If there was I wouldn't say
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    it. (Laughter)
              COMMISSIONER KIESLING: You all have a good
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    weekend.
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              MR. HOFFMAN: You do the same.
             (Thereupon, the hearing concluded at
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    6:25 p.m.)
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1 STATE OF FLORIDA) CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER 2 COUNTY OF LEON 3 I, JOY KELLY, CSR, RPR, Chief, Bureau of Reporting, Official Commission Reporter, 4 DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the Prehearing 5 Conference in Docket No. 950495-WS was heard by the Prehearing Officer at the time and place herein 6 stated; it is further 7 CERTIFIED that I stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this transcript, consisting of 329 pages, constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings. 10 DATED this 22nd day of April, 1996. 11 12 Chief, Bureau of Reporting 13 Official Commission Reporter (904) 413-6732<sup>1</sup> 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

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