

ORIGINAL
FILE COPY

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 960576-WS

MAD HATTER UTILITY, INC.

APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF

WATER AND WASTEWATER CERTIFICATE

NOS. 340-W AND 297-S IN PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL ORSI

Q. What is your name and occupation?

A. Michael Orsi and I am a land developer. My family business is Sunfield Homes, Inc.

Q. Is Sunfield Homes developing any property in Pasco County?

A. Yes. It is developing a number of parcels including the Oak Grove subdivision.

Q. Did Sunfield Homes attempt to negotiate a contract with Mad Hatter Utility to provide water and sewer service to the Oak Grove subdivision and the Denham Oaks School?

A. Yes.

Q. Was Sunfield Homes able to reach an agreement with Mad Hatter?

A. No.

Q. Why not?

A. There were several reasons. First, Mad Hatter did not have sufficient potable water for our project. Mad

Hatter asked Sunfield Homes to lend Mad Hatter

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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1 to develop two wells on our own property for Mad Hatter to
2 provide the water for our project. So Sunfield Homes
3 determined that Mad Hatter did not have sufficient water
4 available to serve the Oak Grove subdivision. As for sewer
5 service, Mad Hatter refused to guarantee service to Oak
6 Grove. Pasco County encouraged Sunfield Homes to negotiate
7 with Mad Hatter but we were unable to reach an agreement
8 with Mad Hatter because it refused to guarantee service.

9 Q. Whose idea was it for Sunfield Homes to enter into
10 a contract with the County for sewer service?

11 A. It was my idea. Mad Hatter tried to stop the
12 County from providing service to the development,
13 particularly the school. The school had a deadline to open
14 by August 23, 1996, and we tried to meet that deadline so
15 that the school children would not have to go on double
16 session. Mad Hatter filed two administrative complaints to
17 stop us from obtaining service and thus force the school
18 children into double sessions.

19 Q. If the County had not been permitted to provide
20 service to the Oak Grove subdivision, would Sunfield Homes
21 have accepted service from Mad Hatter?

22 A. No. I sought legal advice at the time and
23 determined that Sunfield Homes could provide its own water.
24 I am prepared to form a non-profit organization to do that
25 rather than to pay Mad Hatter \$100,000.00 to drill drinking


1 wells on Sunfield Homes' property. As for sewer service, I
2 would consider septic tanks rather than accepting service
3 from Mad Hatter.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy hereof has been served upon Roseanne Capeless, Florida Public Service Commission, 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0863, and F. Marshall Deterding, Rose Sundstrum & Bentley, 2548 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, this 17 day of March, 1997.

JOHNSON, BLAKELY, POPE,
BOKOR, RUPPEL & BURNS, P.A.

By

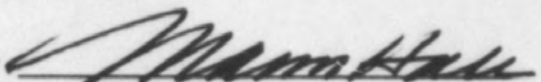

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960576-WS
MICHAEL ORSI

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