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FPSC - Records/Reporting

Duane E. and Mary H. Rutledge  
832 Sunset Vista Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33919

October 31, 1997

Public Service Commission  
Capital Circle Office Center  
Attn: Jennifer S. Brubaker  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

970696-WS

Re: Docket No. 970697-WS - Request for authority to extend temporary water service by Florida Cities Water Company - Lee County Division, and for amendment of Certificates 27-W and 24-S to include territory in Lee County

Re: 06-46-25-00-00007.0000  
09-46-25-05-00191.0480

Dear Ms. Brubaker:

As I spoke with you on the phone, I am listing my objections to the proposed water service.

1. We object to the fact that we would become a customer if this is approved and we do not want it.
2. This service will affect our property value and assessment which we do not want.
3. We have absolutely no need for this service.
4. This would only duplicate a service which we successfully provide for ourselves
5. Our perception of the financial ability and stability of the company will directly affect quality of service with this being a service for profit and profit will dictate the quality of water.
6. We do not want the susceptibility of centralized service to biological hazards or even internal/external espionage.
7. Natural disasters wiping out services for blocks of time.
8. My perception of down time from system failures and faults due to incompetent employees.

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9. The service fees would be prohibitive and cost of service outrageous.
10. Talking to many existing customers and they do not have one good thing to say about their service.
11. The potability of your water would always be in question.
12. We do not want to be forced to depend on your service. We grow our own pork and only buy from Publix when we feel like it.
13. We have since spoken to potential customers that are in this proposed area. They don't want the service you propose, but did not receive proper information on time, or proper explanation of ramifications, and only feel the dollar-profit-hungry Florida Cities Water will lawyer and dollar their way in even if they object.
14. What part of NO is not understood here?
15. This gives one company too much influence (monopoly) in one area.
16. The aggressive nature of a utility company is not to serve but to acquire new areas with disregard to private citizens autonomy, thus not truly giving anything, but being in the posture of taking away.
17. Finally, since when have you seen a voluntary utility that did not turn mandatory at a later date under some law/ordinance/permitting/policy/planning process?

We cannot afford a lawyer to represent us and this is ridiculous that we should have to do it just to protect our domicile and property. Any further correspondence regarding this matter should be addressed to my husband who will represent me and our interests should you need it in a formal proceeding. I have enclosed a copy of my original letters as you requested.

Sincerely,

  
Duane E. Rutledge

  
Mary H. Rutledge

Enclosures

**COPY**

Mary H. Rutledge  
832 Sunset Vista Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33919

August 13, 1997

Director, Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0870

Re: 06-46-25-00-00007.0000  
09-46-25-05-00191.0480

Pursuant to the letter I just now received regarding Florida Cities Water Company expanding water and wastewater territory in my area, I in no way, shape or form want to be a part of your service at this time. Neither do I want any taxes or mandatory levies placed upon my property for your service. I have spoken with several of your existing customers and they complained of poor service, poor quality of water, high fees, and general dissatisfaction with no way out. I am adequately serviced by my own well and septic system where I can safely monitor the quality of water my family and I use and keep my cost down. Potability of your water is always in question and you do not adequately inform the public of the problem until way after the fact. I do not want to be forced to depend upon your services.

If in the future, I should decide I want to subscribe to your service, I will at that time pay the necessary hookup fees providing they were within reason. At this time, I am not interested in supporting a Public/Private for Profit company to come in and lay water lines and expect me to foot the bill. I will loudly protest any and all fees associated with this.

As a private property owner, I don't want the Florida Public Service Commission or Florida Cities Water determining for me what's in my best interest and deciding somehow that I am automatically or mandatorily going to support their decision.

To receive this letter on such short notice and allowing only thirty days for an objection does not build trust nor is it appreciated

Sincerely,

Mary H. Rutledge

**COPY**

Mary H. Rutledge  
832 Sunset Vista Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33919

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August 13, 1997

Wayne L. Schiefelbein  
Gallin, Schiefelbein & Cowdery, P.A.  
1709-D Mahan Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Re: 06-46-25-00-00007.0000  
09-46-25-05-00191.0480

Pursuant to the letter I just now received regarding Florida Cities Water Company expanding water and wastewater territory in my area, I object to said expansion.

Sincerely,

Mary H. Rutledge