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TIMOTHY DEVLIN, DIRECTOR  
DIVISION OF ECONOMIC REGULATION  
(850) 413-6900

Public Service Commission

April 11, 2003

Mr. Keith Klineman  
Department of Environmental Protection  
South District  
2295 Victoria Ave. Suite 364  
Ft. Myers, FL 33902

Re: Operating Permit No. FLA014336, Harder Hall-Howard, Inc.

Dear Mr. Klineman:

This letter is in regards to Harder Hall Howard, Inc., a Class C wastewater utility in Highlands County. Harder Hall Howard was giving a rate increase by the Public Service Commission in Order No. PSC-02-0382-PAA-SU, issued March 21, 2002. A requirement of this order was to complete several items of plant, which were required by the utility's DEP operating permit, within nine months of the effective date of the order. The utility has not completed these items and has requested a one year extension of time to do so. The required items not completed are:

- Installation of a back up generator,
- Replace /repair walkway grating,
- Install fencing around the percolation ponds,
- Install an aeration tank,
- install a blower
- And install a splitter box/bar screen.

Staff is considering recommending that the utility be given an extension of time to complete these required items.

Pursuant to our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Environmental Protection, the PSC's responsibilities include working with the utilities in the PSC's jurisdiction and with the DEP to strengthen efforts to ensure proper operations and maintenance and to promote compliance with DEP permit requirements. Because the required items are also contained in the utility's DEP operating permit and the utility has failed to complete these items by the dates outlined in the operating permit, we would like input from your agency regarding this

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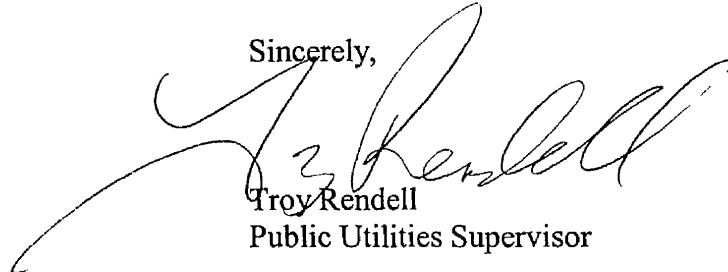
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matter. We do not want to recommend that the utility be given additional time to complete these requirements if DEP is not in agreement with the extension. Therefore, we would like a written response from your agency which includes the DEP's position on granting this utility a one year extension of time, denying an extension of time, or an extension of time other than a year. Because of time constraints, we request that this written response be sent no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. Your input will help us meet our responsibilities under the MOU with your agency. Thank You, if you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Mr. Ryan Fitch at (850) 413-6928.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Troy Rendell", is written over the typed name and title.

Troy Rendell  
Public Utilities Supervisor

TR:rf

cc: Division of Economic Regulation (Willis, Fitch, Davis)  
Office of General Counsel (Harris)  
Division of Commission Clerk and Administrative Service (010828-SU)