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REPLY TO ALTAMONTE SPRINGS

MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN, P.A.  
VALERIE L. LORD, OF COUNSEL  
(LICENSED IN TEXAS ONLY)

April 15, 2004

HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca Bayo  
Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Director  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

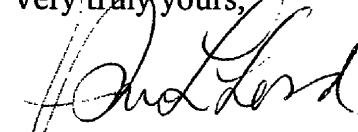
Re: Docket No. 030446-SU; Application by Mid-County Services, Inc., for Rate Increase  
in Pinellas County, Florida  
Our File No.: 30057.59

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and fifteen (15)  
copies of Mid-County Services, Inc.'s Notice of Filing and Affidavit of Mailing Combined  
Initial Customer Notice and Notice of Customer Meeting.

Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed, please do not hesitate to give  
me a call.

Very truly yours,



VALERIE L. LORD  
Of Counsel

AUS \_\_\_\_\_  
CAF \_\_\_\_\_  
CMP \_\_\_\_\_  
COM S VLL/tlc  
CTR \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosures  
ECR \_\_\_\_\_  
GCL \_\_\_\_\_  
OPC \_\_\_\_\_ cc: Mr. Jay Revell (w/enclosures) (via hand delivery)  
MMS \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Steven M. Lubertozi (w/o enclosures)  
SEC H Mr. Patrick C. Flynn (w/o enclosures)  
OTH \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application of  
MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC. for  
an increase in wastewater rates  
in Pinellas County, Florida

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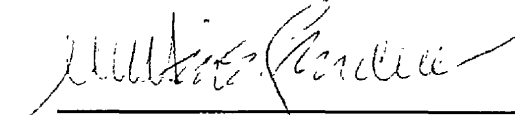
DOCKET NO. 030446-SU

**NOTICE OF FILING**

MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC., hereby notices filing in the above-referenced docket the Affidavit of Mailing Combined Customer Notice and Notice of Customer Meeting to the Customers of Mid-County Services, Inc.

Respectfully submitted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of  
April, 2004, by:

ROSE, SUNDSTROM & BENTLEY, LLP  
600 S. North Lake Boulevard, Suite 160  
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701  
(407) 830- 6331  
(407) 830-8522 (fax)



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MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN  
For the Firm

M:\1 ALTAMONTE\UTILITIES INC\MID-COUNTY\(.59) MID-COUNTY 2003 RATE CASE\NOF - AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING.wpd

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

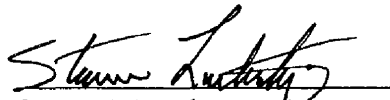
**AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING**

STATE OF ILLINOIS


COUNTY OF COOK

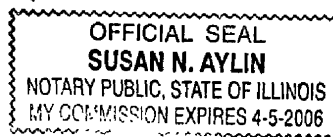
Before me, the undersigned authority, authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments, personally appeared Steven M. Lubertozi, who, after being duly sworn on oath, did depose on oath and say that he is the Director, Regulatory Accounting, of Utilities, Inc., and that on April 8, 2004, he did caused to be sent by regular U.S. Mail, a copy of the Combined Initial Customer Notice and Notice of Customer Meeting to the Customers of Mid-County Services, Inc., attached hereto.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

  
Steven M. Lubertozi

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2004, by Steven M. Lubertozi, who is personally known to me.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF ILLINOIS AT LARGE  
My Commission Expires: 4-5-2006



BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

INITIAL CUSTOMER NOTICE  
AND  
NOTICE OF CUSTOMER MEETING

TO THE CUSTOMERS OF  
MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC.  
AND  
ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

RE: DOCKET NO.: 030446-SU

APPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN RATES IN PINELLAS COUNTY  
BY MID-COUNTY SERVICES, INC.

DATED: April 8, 2004

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission will conduct a customer meeting to discuss Mid-County Services, Inc.'s Application for a rate increase. The meeting will be held at the following time and place:

6:00 p.m., Monday, April 26, 2004

Dunedin City Commission Chambers  
542 Main Street  
Dunedin, Florida 34697

All persons who wish to comment are urged to be present at the beginning of the meeting, since the meeting may be adjourned early if no customers are present. One or more of the Commissioners of the Florida Public Service Commission may attend and participate in this meeting. The meeting will begin as scheduled and will continue until all of the customers have been heard.

In addition to the customer meeting to be held on April 26, 2004, at 6:00 p.m., the Public Service Commission Staff will be available that afternoon from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., to meet with representatives of customer groups, homeowners' associations, and developers who desire a more in-depth discussion of the issues. Appointments may be made for the meeting with Staff by contacting Jay Revell of the Florida Public Service Commission Staff at (850) 413-6425 prior to April 26, 2004. All representatives who wish to participate in individual meetings are urged to make an appointment, since the individual meetings may be canceled if no appointments are made.

Any person requiring some accommodation at the customer meeting because of a physical impairment should call the Division of Records and Reporting at (850) 413-6770 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Any person who is hearing or speech impaired should contact the Florida Public Service Commission by using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the meeting(s) is to give customers and other interested persons an opportunity to offer comments to the Public Service Commission staff regarding the quality of service the utility provides and to ask questions, and comment on the rates included in this Notice as well as other issues. Commission staff will be available to address and coordinate customers' comments and to assist members of the public. A representative from the utility may also be in attendance. At the beginning of the meeting, procedures will be established for the order of comments. The Public Service Commission staff will have sign-up sheets, and customers will be called in the order that they sign up to speak.

### **HOW TO CONTACT THE COMMISSION**

Any person who wishes to comment or provide information to staff may do so at the meetings, either orally or in writing. Other written comments regarding the utility and the proposed rates, or requests to be placed on the mailing list for this case, may be directed to this address:

Director, Division of the Commission Clerk & Administrative Services  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

All correspondence should refer to "Docket No. 030446-SU", Mid-County Services, Inc., Your letter will be placed in the correspondence file of this docket. You may also submit comments through the Public Service Commission's toll-free facsimile line at 1-800-511-0809. The Commission also has a web-site available at <http://floridapsc.com/consumers/complaint/index.cfm>.

If you wish to contact the Commission regarding complaints about service, you may call the Commission's Division of Consumer Affairs at the following toll-free number 1-800-342-3552.

## BACKGROUND

Mid-County Services, Inc. is a wastewater utility located in Pinellas County. As reported in its MFRs, the utility's revenues per books are \$1,052,667 for the wastewater system, with operating expenses per books of \$1,028,983, resulting in net operating income of \$23,684 for the wastewater system, per books, before adjustments. The rate increase application has been filed by Mid-County Services, Inc. because of inadequate earnings.

Copies of the MFRs filed by the utility can be reviewed at the Palm Harbor Library located at 2330 Nebraska Avenue, Palm Harbor, Florida 34683 during the following hours: *Monday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.* A "Rate Case Synopsis" is also available, along with the MFRs.

The test period for setting rates is the historical average twelve-month period ended December 31, 2002. On April 6, 2004, the Commission approved an interim rate increase for Mid-County Services, Inc. The approved interim rates are reflected below and are subject to refund with interest pending the Commission's decision on permanent rates.

## CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATES AND CHARGES

The utility's current and proposed final rates and the Commission's approved interim rates follow. The rates are subject to change based on information gathered at the customer meeting, further Staff review, and the final decision by the Commissioners.

### Residential Service

<u>Class/Meter Size</u>	<u>Test Year Rates at 12/31/02</u>	<u>Present Rates as of 11/23/03</u>	<u>Utility's Proposed Final Rates</u>	<u>Commission Approved Interim Rates</u>
All Meter Sizes	\$24.23	\$23.33	\$32.69	\$26.89
Gallonage Charge (per 1,000 gallons - 20,000 gallon maximum)	\$1.89	\$1.82	\$2.55	\$2.10

**Multi-Residential Services**  
**(Private Residences)**

<u>Class/Meter Size</u>	<u>Test Year Rates at 12/31/02</u>	<u>Present Rates as of 11/23/03</u>	<u>Utility's Proposed Final Rates</u>	<u>Commission Approved Interim Rates</u>
Flat Rate (unmetered) Per Dwelling Unit	\$50.22	\$48.35	\$67.75	\$55.74

**Multi-Residential Service**  
**(Master-metered Residential Customers)**

<u>Class/Meter Size</u>	<u>Test Year Rates at 12/31/02</u>	<u>Present Rates as of 11/23/03</u>	<u>Utility's Proposed Final Rates</u>	<u>Commission Approved Interim Rates</u>
5/8" x 3/4"	\$24.23	\$23.33	\$32.69	\$26.89
1"	\$35.06	\$33.76	\$47.31	\$38.91
1 1/2 "	\$62.18	\$59.87	\$83.90	\$69.01
2"	\$559.77	\$538.97	\$755.25	\$621.25
3"	\$994.86	\$957.90	\$1,342.30	\$1,104.12
4"	\$994.86	\$957.90	\$1,342.30	\$1,104.12
6"	\$2,238.74	\$2,155.56	\$3,020.57	\$2,484.62
Gallage Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$2.27	\$2.19	\$3.07	\$2.52

**Multi-Residential Service**  
**(Master-Metered Residential Customers)**

<u>Class/Meter Size</u>	<u>Test Year Rates at 12/31/02</u>	<u>Present Rates as of 11/23/03</u>	<u>Utility's Proposed Final Rates</u>	<u>Commission Approved Interim Rates</u>
Flat Rate (unmetered)	\$1,544.69	\$1,487.30	\$2,084.14	\$1,714.34

**General Service**

<b><u>Class/Meter Size</u></b>	<b><u>Test Year Rates at 12/31/02</u></b>	<b><u>Present Rates as of 11/23/03</u></b>	<b><u>Utility's Proposed Final Rates</u></b>	<b><u>Commission Approved Interim Rates</u></b>
5/8" x 3/4"	\$24.23	\$23.33	\$32.69	\$26.89
1"	\$35.06	\$33.76	\$47.31	\$38.91
1 1/2"	\$62.18	\$59.87	\$83.90	\$69.01
2"	\$139.90	\$134.70	\$188.75	\$155.26
3"	\$248.72	\$239.48	\$335.58	\$276.04
4"	\$559.77	\$538.97	\$741.24	\$621.25
6"	\$997.99	\$961.03	\$1,346.68	\$1,107.60
Gallage Charge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$2.27	\$2.19	\$3.07	\$2.52

**SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGES**

The utility is not requesting any changes to its service availability charges or its miscellaneous service charges. Even though not requested to do so, the Commission may review and adjust service availability charges.

**PROCEDURES AFTER CUSTOMER MEETINGS**

In addition to the customer meeting notice described above, other important dates in the rate application are as follows:

<b><u>Schedule Item</u></b>	<b><u>Due Dates</u></b>
Staff Audit Report Due	April 16, 2004
Staff's Proposed Agency Action ("PAA") Recommendation	June 24, 2004
Agenda Conference on PAA Rates	July 6, 2004
PAA Order Issued	July 26, 2004
Protest Period Expires	August 16, 2004

This notice was prepared by the utility and approved by the Commission staff for distribution by the utility to its customers.