HAND DELIVERY

RUTLEDGE, ECENIA, PURNELL & HOFFI

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

STEPHEN A ECENIA RICHARD M ELLIS KENNETH A HOFFMAN THOMAS W KONRAD MICHAEL G MAIDA MARTIN P McDONNELL J STEPHEN MENTON

POST OFFICE BOX 551, 32302-0551 215 SOUTH MONROE STREET, SUITE 420 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301-1841

> TELEPHONE (850) 681-6788 TELECOPIER (850) 681-6515

R DAVID PRESCOTT HAROLD F X PURNELL MARSHA E RULE GARY R RUTLEDGE

GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTANTS MARGARET A MENDUNI M LANE STEPHENS

April 26, 2004

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director Commission Clerk & Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 110 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

> Docket No. 980744-WS Re:

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-referenced docket on behalf of Florida Water Services Corporation ("Florida Water") are the original and fifteen copies of a Joint Motion for Continuance.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the copy to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Hoffman

AUS KAH/rl Enclosures COM cc: **ECR** Bayo 426 GCL OPC

MMS

SEC

Counsel of Record

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FPSC-COMMISSION OF FF :

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Investigation into ratemaking)	
considerations of gain on sale from sale)	Docket No. 980744-WS
of facilities of Florida Water Services)	
Corporation to Orange County.)	Filed: April 26, 2004
)	

JOINT MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

Florida Water Services Corporation ("Florida Water") and the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC"), by and through their respective undersigned counsel, jointly move for a continuance of the prehearing conference and final hearing scheduled in this docket. In support of this Joint Motion, Florida Water and OPC state as follows:

- 1. The prehearing conference and final hearing in this matter are currently scheduled for July 8, 2004 and July 21, 2004, respectively.
- 2. Over the course of last few months, Florida Water has sought and received Commission approval for the sale of major portions of its statewide utility. On April 20, 2004, Florida Water and Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. executed an Asset Purchase Agreement for the sale of the remaining portions of its statewide utility.
- 3. The consummation of the sale of the remaining Florida Water systems will eliminate the need for the instant gain on sale proceeding.
- 4. Florida Water and OPC believe it would be appropriate to continue the prehearing conference and final hearing scheduled in this proceeding and reschedule the same no sooner than six months after the date of the issuance of the Order granting this Joint Motion for Continuance.

WHEREFORE, Florida Water and OPC jointly request the Prehearing Officer to continue the prehearing conference and final hearing for at least six months pending the completion of Florida Water's efforts to sell the remaining assets of its statewide utility.

Respectfully submitted,

KENNETH A. HÖFFMAN, ESQ.

J. STEPHEN MENTON, ESQ.

Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell & Hoffman, P.A.

P. O. Box 551

Tallahassee, FL 32302

(850) 681-6788 (Telephone)

(850) 681-6515 (Telecopier)

Attorneys for Florida Water Services Corporation STEPHEN C. BURGESS, ESQ

Office of Public Counsel 111 West Madison Street

Room 812

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

(850) 488-9330 (Telephone)

(850) 488-4491 (Telecopier)

Attorney for Office of Public Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished by hand delivery to the following this 26th day of April, 2004:

Jennifer Brubaker, Esq. Division of Legal Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Room 370 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Stephen C. Burgess, Esq. Office of Public Counsel 111 West Madison Street Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

KENNETH A. HOFFMAN, ESQ.

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