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June 22, 2004

Florida Public Service Commission
Division of Commission Clerk and
Administrative Service
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: 2003 Water Quality Report - Venture Associates Utilities Corporation (Certificate # WU-512)

To whom it may concern:

Enclosed is a copy of our 2003 water quality report. Venture Associates Utilities Corporation purchases water for resale from the City of Ocala. As such, we use the city's water quality report as our own with our name being reflected above the city's seal.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact my office at (352) 732-8662.

Sincerely,

CMP Theresa Camuso
COM Theresa Camuso
CTR Assistant Comptroller
Venture Associates Utilities Corporation
ECR
GCL
OPC
MMS
RCA
SCR
SEC 1
OTH

5127 Northwest 26th Street • Ocala, Florida 34482

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

# City of Ocala Water Quality

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Permit #406  
Ocala, FL

2003

# WATER QUALITY REPORT

Venture Associates Utilities  
Corporation



Contaminant and Unit of measure	Dates of Sampling Mo./yr.	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliforms						
Bacteria	6/03	N	469%	0	5%	Naturally present in the environment

\*\* Results in the Level Detected column for inorganic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides and volatile organic contaminants are the high average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

Contaminant and Unit of measure	Dates of Sampling Mo./yr.	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected**	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Cyanide (ppb)	3/14/02 4/30/02	N	7.5	ND-7.6	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Fluoride (ppm)	3/24/02 4/30/02 5/8/02	N	1.2	0.28-1.2	4.0	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	4/10/03	N	1.1 (average)	1.1-1.2	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	3/14/02 4/30/02	N	8.4	5.3-8.4	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil.

<b>Lead and Copper (Tap Water)</b>							
Copper (Tap water) (ppm)	9/01	N	0.02	-----	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

<b>Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP) Parameters</b>							
Total trihalomethanes potential (TTHM) (ppb)	2/10/03	N	19.3	7.47-19.3	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Highest Quality Drinking Water Possible



PO BOX 270  
Ocala FL 34476

We are pleased to provide you with this year's annual Water Quality Report. The city wants to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.



Your water source is obtained from ground water sources, is filtered, and is chlorinated for disinfection purposes and then fluoridated for dental health purposes. We ensure that your water meets or exceeds all current federal and state drinking water standards. Ocala's water treatment facilities have won numerous Department of Environmental Protection awards for excellence in operations and maintenance.

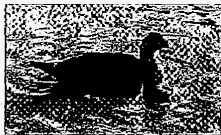
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.



Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or can result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

The city of Ocala routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results for the period January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, is more than one year old.

What does this mean? We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. As you can see by the table, our water system had no violations. We're pleased to report our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The presence of some contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Maximum Contaminant Levels (as seen in the chart) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants: A person would have to drink two liters of water every day for a lifetime at the MCL to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

In the table, you may not be familiar with all the terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the definitions:

**Action level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

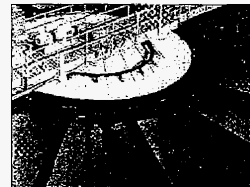
**Maximum Contaminant level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Parts per million (ppm)** or milligrams per liter (mg/l) - One part by weight of analyte to one million parts by weight of water.

**Parts per billion (ppb)** or micrograms per liter (ug/l) - One part by weight of analyte to one billion parts by weight of water.

**Picocurie per liter (pCi/L)** - Measure of radioactivity in water.



If you have questions, please feel free to call the city of Ocala Water and Sewer Department directly at (352) 351-6770.