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RICHARD D. MELSON
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(850) 413-6199
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Public Service Commission

February 10, 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL

August P. and Joann E. Strachovsky
35200 Silver Oak Drive
Leesburg, FL 34788-3151

Re: Docket No. 050028-WU - Application for authority to transfer a non-regulated water system, for a limited proceeding to implement rates and charges, and for amendment to extend territory of Certificate No. 539-W in Lake County by Raintree Utilities, Inc.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Strachovsky:

Thank you for your letter dated January 29, 2005, regarding the application filed in the above-referenced docket. In your letter, you indicated that you object to the transfer and registration of Certificate No. "106-W to provide water service to Silver Oak Subdivision: by Raintree Utilities, Inc., 2100 Lake Eustis Drive, Tavares, Florida 32778." You then went on to list five separate objections, to include the questions of ownership, the inability to determine the quality of service provided by Raintree, the financial integrity or ability of Raintree, the lack of an opportunity to invite competitive quotations, and a vague rate schedule.

The Commission's Division of Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Assistance advises that they have never received a single complaint from a customer of Raintree Utilities. Also, in any amendment or transfer application the Commission always investigates and insures that the utility has the financial and technical ability to provide service, and that it owns the land or has continued long-term use of the land on which the utility facilities are located. As to competitive quotations, a notice is provided to the municipal and county governing bodies, plus any privately owned utilities in the area. Finally, as to objection number five, most residential customers have 5/8" x 3/4" meters, and would be billed a base charge of \$39 quarterly. Of course, if you have a larger meter, you would be billed the appropriate higher base charge.

I believe you have made an error in referencing the certificate number. In this docket, we are dealing with Raintree Utilities, Inc., and its application to amend Certificate 539-W (not 106-W), pursuant to a Transfer Agreement entered into with RTG Properties, a Florida general partnership, located in Clermont, Florida. Certificate No. 106-W is held by Florida Water Services Corporation (Florida Water) for its Silver Lake Estates and other water systems. Florida Water has applied to transfer those facilities to Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. Because you refer to the Silver Oak Subdivision, and the well site to be transferred by RTG Properties is in the Silver Oaks Subdivision,

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presume you have filed your protest in the correct docket, but merely quote the wrong certificate number.

Please advise this Commission by March 11, 2005, if you intend to pursue your objection and wish to request a formal hearing. Your request should be made in writing and should be addressed to Blanca Bayó, Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-0850. If we do not hear from you by March 11, 2005, we will assume that you do not wish to pursue a formal hearing and your letter will be placed in the correspondence side of the docket file in this case for informational purposes.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (850) 413-6234.

Sincerely,



Ralph R. Jaeger
Senior Attorney

RRJ:jb

cc: Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services
Martin S. Friedman and Valerie L. Lord, Esquires
Division of Economic Regulation (Clapp, Redemann)

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<p>1. Article Addressed to:</p> <p>August P. or Joann Strachovsky 35200 Silver Oak Drive Leesburg, FL 34788-3151</p>	<p>C. Signature X _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Addressee</p> <p>D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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