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January 24, 1997

Blanca S. Bayo, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

HAND DELIVERY

RE: Docket No. 970003-GU  
Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) True-up

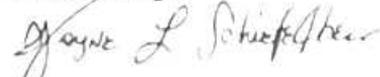
Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above docket on behalf of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation are an original and fifteen copies of the following:

1. Prehearing Statement; and
2. our Certificate of Service.

Please acknowledge receipt of the foregoing by stamping the enclosed extra copy of this letter and returning same to my attention. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Wayne L. Schiefelbein

ACK \_\_\_\_\_  
 AFA 1  
 APP \_\_\_\_\_  
 CAF \_\_\_\_\_  
 CMU \_\_\_\_\_  
 CTR \_\_\_\_\_  
 EAG \_\_\_\_\_  
 LEG 1 WLS/pav Enclosures  
 LIN 3  
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TALLAHASSEE

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: Purchased Gas Adjustment )  
(PGA) True-up )

Docket No. 970003-GU  
Filed: January 24, 1997

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that true and correct copies of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation's Prehearing Statement have been furnished on this 24th day of January, 1997 by hand-delivery to Wm. COCHRAN KEATING IV, ESQ., Division of Legal Services, Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, and by regular U.S. Mail to the following:

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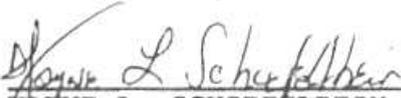
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Utilities Corporation

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ORIGINAL  
FILE COPY

In re: Purchased Gas Adjustment )  
(PGA) True-up )

Docket No. 970003-GU

PREHEARING STATEMENT OF  
CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION  
FLORIDA DIVISION

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation ("CUC") submits this Prehearing Statement for the hearing scheduled in February, 1997.

a) WITNESSES:

<u>Witness</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Issues</u>
1. A. V. Wood (CUC)	Purchased Gas Adjustment Factor, True-up, and Projections	1, 2, 3, 4

b) EXHIBITS:

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Witness</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>AVW-1 (Composite)</u>	Wood	April 1995 - March 1996 True-Up, Schedules A-1 through A-7
<u>AVW-2 (Composite)</u>	Wood	April 1997 - March 1998 PGA Factor, Schedules E-1 through E-5

c) STATEMENT OF BASIC POSITION

CUC'S STATEMENT OF BASIC POSITION:

The appropriate over (under) recovery amounts and purchased gas adjustment factor are as shown in the Company's positions on Issues 1 - 4.

DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE

00978 JAN 24 97

FILED IN THE PUBLIC UTILITY REPORTING

PREHEARING STATEMENT OF CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION

Page 2

d) STATEMENT OF ISSUES AND POSITIONS: (Questions of Fact)

Issue 1: What is the appropriate final purchased gas adjustment true-up amount for the period April, 1995 through March, 1996?

CUC'S Position: \$140,484 underrecovery. (Wood)

Issue 2: What is the estimated purchased gas adjustment true-up amount for the period April, 1996 through March, 1997?

CUC's Position: \$815,801 underrecovery. (Wood)

Issue 3: What is the total purchased gas adjustment true-up amount to be collected in the April, 1997 through March, 1998 period?

CUC's Position: \$956,285 underrecovery. (Wood)

Issue 4: What is the appropriate levelized purchased gas cost recovery (cap) factor to be charged during the period April, 1997 through March, 1998?

CUC's Position: 48.537 cents per therm. (Wood)

e) QUESTIONS OF LAW:

None.

f) POLICY QUESTIONS:

None.

g) STIPULATED ISSUES:

None.

h) MOTIONS

None.

i) OTHER MATTERS:

None.

Dated this 27th day of January, 1997.

Respectfully submitted,  
CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION  
FLORIDA DIVISION

By Anne V. Wood  
Anne V. Wood  
Accounting and Rates Manager