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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Application for 1996)	
disposition of contributions)	Docket No. 961152-SU
in aid of construction by)	
Hudson Utilities, Inc. d/b/a)	Filed: March 5, 1997
Hudson Bay Company.)	
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**HUDSON UTILITIES, INC.'S
MOTION FOR CONSOLIDATION**

Hudson Utilities, Inc. d/b/a Hudson Bay Company ("Hudson"), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby moves for consolidation of its Petition on Proposed Agency Action ("Petition") filed on March 5, 1997 in Docket No. 961152-SU with three other pending petitions on proposed agency action which, like Hudson's Petition, challenge the Commission's determination that the costs incurred for preparation, filing and processing of CIAC gross-up refund reports are to be recovered from a utility's general body of ratepayers in a rate case rather than directly from the contributors of the gross-up by reducing the refunds to be paid. In support of this motion, Hudson states as follows:

1. On March 5, 1997, Hudson filed a Petition on Proposed Agency Action challenging the Commission's preliminary determination in Order No. PSC-97-0197-FOF-SU that the accounting costs incurred by Hudson for the preparation, filing and processing of its 1993 and 1994 CIAC gross-up reports should not be recovered directly from the contributors of gross-up (thereby reducing the amount of refunds due) but should instead be recovered at some future date from Hudson's general body of ratepayers in a rate-setting proceeding.

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2. Similar petitions on proposed agency action challenging the Commission's preliminary determination that the costs incurred for preparing, filing and processing of CIAC gross-up refund reports should be recovered from the general body of ratepayers rather than from the contributors of gross-up have been filed by Hydratech Utilities, Inc. in Docket No. 961076-WS (protesting Order No. PSC-96-1352-FOF-WS), Eagle Ridge Utilities, Inc. in Docket No. 961077-SU (protesting Order No. PSC-96-1394-FOF-SU) and Forest Utilities, Inc. in Docket No. 961237-SU (protesting Order No. PSC-97-0007-FOF-SU). These three petitions have been consolidated for purposes of hearing pursuant to Order No. PSC-97-0174-FOF-WS issued February 13, 1997.


3. Hudson's Petition and the petitions on proposed agency action filed by the other three above-named utilities raise similar issues of fact, law and policy. Holding separate hearings on these petitions is unnecessary and will only cause duplication of the time and resources of the Commission. By consolidating Hudson's Petition with the other three petitions, the Commission will minimize the time and expense necessary to resolve the similar issues of fact, law and policy raised in the petitions. Consolidation of the four petitions will clearly promote administrative economy and minimize the time, expense and resources of the Commission and the parties in resolving the issues raised in the petitions.

4. Counsel for Hudson has conferred with counsel for Hydratech Utilities, Inc., Eagle Ridge Utilities, Inc. and Forest

Utilities, Inc. and is authorized to represent that he concurs with the relief requested in this motion.

WHEREFORE, Hudson respectfully requests that the prehearing officer enter an order consolidating Hudson's Petition on Proposed Agency Action with the petitions on proposed agency action filed by Hydratech Utilities, Inc., Eagle Ridge Utilities, Inc. and Forest Utilities, Inc. for final hearing and disposition by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of Hudson Utilities, Inc.'s Motion for Consolidation was furnished by U. S. Mail to the following this 5th day of March, 1997:

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Hudson Consolidate

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