

ORIGINAL

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CHARLES L. SWEAT
BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
ON BEHALF OF
FLORIDA WATER SERVICES CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED DOCKETS NOS. 980261-WS & 970657-WS

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

10877 OCT-5 88

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

1 Q. WHAT IS YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS?
2 A. My name is Charles L. Sweat and my business address
3 is 1000 Color Place, Apopka, Florida 32703.
4 Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND WHAT IS YOUR POSITION?
5 A. I am employed by Florida Water Services Corporation
6 (hereinafter referred to as "Florida Water" or the
7 "Company") as Vice President of Corporate
8 Development.
9 Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AN EMPLOYEE OF FLORIDA
10 WATER?
11 A. Approximately 34 years.
12 Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN EMPLOYED AS AN OFFICER OF
13 FLORIDA WATER?
14 A. Approximately 23 years.
15 Q. WOULD YOU PROVIDE A BRIEF HISTORY OF YOUR TRAINING
16 AND EXPERIENCE IN THE WATER AND WASTEWATER
17 INDUSTRY?
18 A. My training includes attendance at management
19 courses offered by Michigan State University,
20 Rollins College, Management Institute of Virginia
21 Tech, Seminole Community College and participation
22 in numerous seminars sponsored by the American

1 Water Works Association. I have also attended
2 various technical seminars and classes on the
3 subject of water and wastewater facility operation
4 and management.

5 **Q. ARE YOU A MEMBER OF ANY TRADE AND/OR PROFESSIONAL**
6 **ORGANIZATIONS?**

7 A. Yes. I am a member of the American Water Works
8 Association, National Association of Water
9 Companies and the Pollution Control Operators
10 Association. I also serve on the board of
11 directors for SunBank, NA, College Park Office,
12 Orlando, Florida.

13 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE A REGULATORY**
14 **AGENCY?**

15 A. Yes. I have testified before the Florida Public
16 Service Commission, the Polk County Utilities
17 Board, and the Sarasota County Hearing Examiners on
18 various occasions. I also have testified in
19 proceedings involving the Florida Department of
20 Environmental Regulation (DER).

21 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS**
22 **PROCEEDING?**

1 A. To explain why Florida Water filed the territory
2 amendment application at issue in this proceeding,
3 to address the bulk water agreement Florida Water
4 is negotiating with DeSoto County, and to address
5 two matters relative to Charlotte County's claim to
6 the disputed territory.

7 **Q. WHY DID FLORIDA WATER FILE THE TERRITORY AMENDMENT**
8 **APPLICATION AT ISSUE IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

9 A. The territory in dispute, known as the Links
10 Subdivision, abuts Florida Water's existing Deep
11 Creek service area. Florida Water has water and
12 wastewater lines abutting the subdivision's border.
13 Florida Water's philosophy is to achieve customer
14 growth whenever practical; we believe this benefits
15 existing and future customers. None of the parties
16 to this case dispute that there is a need for
17 service in the Links Subdivision, which consists of
18 approximately 50 lots. So, very simply, it makes
19 practical business sense for Florida Water to amend
20 its Deep Creek service areas to include the Links
21 Subdivision.

22 **Q. IS FLORIDA WATER NEGOTIATING A BULK WATER AGREEMENT**

1 WITH DESOTO COUNTY?

2 A. Yes. DeSoto County will have available to it an
3 increased allocation of potable water from the
4 Peace River Authority, and Florida Water is engaged
5 in negotiations with DeSoto County to purchase this
6 water. This water can be used to serve the Links
7 Subdivision as well as other portions of Florida
8 Water's Deep Creek service area. This source of
9 supply could be used to replace capacity Florida
10 Water has reserved pursuant to the bulk services
11 agreement with Charlotte County. Florida Water has
12 a significant number of reserved connections not
13 yet utilized under that agreement.

14 Q. WHAT IS FLORIDA WATER'S POSITION REGARDING
15 CHARLOTTE COUNTY'S CLAIM TO THE LINKS SUBDIVISION?

16 A. The Director of Charlotte County Utilities ("CCU")
17 assured me on more than one occasion that,
18 independent of any connection fee dispute, CCU
19 would not oppose Florida Water's providing water
20 and wastewater service to the Links Subdivision.
21 When Florida Water's application was originally
22 filed, Florida Water requested an area greater than

1 the Links Subdivision. To accommodate an objection
2 by CCU to this larger area, Florida Water amended
3 its requested territory to include only the Links
4 Subdivision. At that time and thereafter, CCU's
5 Director stated that Charlotte County would
6 withdraw its objection and did not oppose Florida
7 Water's providing water and wastewater service to
8 the Links Subdivision. Florida Water also maintains
9 that it would not be as practical for Charlotte
10 County to provide wastewater service to the Links
11 Subdivision as it would be for Florida Water. The
12 County does not have wastewater lines abutting the
13 subdivision boundary; the County would have to bore
14 under I-75 to provide wastewater service. By
15 contrast, Florida Water has a wastewater line which
16 it could use to provide service without difficulty.
17 Under the bulk services agreement between Charlotte
18 County and Florida Water, the County could not use
19 this line.

20 Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

21 A. Yes.