



Public Service Commission

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: November 6, 1998
TO: All Parties of Record and the Office of Public Counsel
FROM: Samantha McRae, Staff Counsel *S.M. AS*
RE: Docket No. 980887-SU - Application by Rampart Utilities, Inc. for amendment of Certificate No. 497-S in Charlotte County to extend territory to service San Antonio Catholic Church

Docket No. 980888-SU - Application by Rampart Utilities, Inc. for amendment of Certificate No. 497-S in Charlotte County to extend territory to service Pilgrim United Church of Christ

Please note that an informal meeting between Commission Staff, Rampart Utilities, Inc., Maple Leaf Estates Homeowners' Corporation and the Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium has been scheduled at the following time and place:

10:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 18, 1998
 Room 309, Gerald L. Gunter Building
 Florida Public Service Commission
 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the possibility of mediation in the above-referenced matters. Attendance is not required. However, all interested persons are encouraged to attend. Parties may participate by telephone by calling (850) 921-6580 or SunCom 291-6580. If you have any questions about the meeting, please call Samantha McRae, Staff Counsel, at (850) 413-6202.

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cc: _____ Division of Water and Wastewater (Williams, Messer, Redemann, Dunbar)
 _____ Division of Records and Reporting

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

12567 NOV -98

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

STATE OF FLORIDA

Commissioners:
JULIA L. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN
J. TERRY DEASON
SUSAN F. CLARK
JOE GARCIA
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.



CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER
2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-0850

Public Service Commission

October 9, 1998

RECEIVED PSC
98 OCT - 9 PM 4:43
REGULATORY AND
REPORTING

Ms. Barbara Levin
Abel, Band, Russell, Collier, Pitchford & Gordon, Chartered
Post Office Box 49948
Sarasota, Florida 34230-6948

Re: Docket No. 980887-SU and No. 980888-SU - Application by Rampart Utilities, Inc. for amendment of Certificate No. 497-S in Charlotte County to extend territory to service San Antonio Catholic Church and Pilgrim United Church of Christ.

Dear Ms. Levin:

Pursuant to Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, state agencies have been charged with the responsibility of promoting mediation of administrative disputes consistent with the provisions of Section 120.573, Florida Statutes. Mediation is an informal dispute resolution process in which a neutral third party, the mediator, helps the disputing parties reach an agreement upon the disputed matter. The mediator has no power to impose a decision on the parties. Mediation is a desirable alternative to an administrative hearing in that it can be less expensive, less time-consuming, and allows the parties themselves to negotiate settlement of disputed issues.

Additionally, the Public Service Commission has been selected to participate in a mediation pilot program led by the Conflict Resolution Consortium and the Governor's office. Our staff will contact you regarding a meeting to discuss whether this case can be handled through mediation. We encourage you to attend this meeting and raise any questions or concerns you may have in this regard.

If the parties agree to proceed to mediation, staff would draft and submit for your approval an agreement to mediate. The agreement would include provisions for mediator selection, the allocation of any costs and fees associated with the mediation, and the mediating parties' understanding regarding the confidentiality of discussions and documents introduced during mediation, as well as the participation by staff in the mediation process. The mediation would conclude within 60 days of the agreement unless otherwise agreed upon by the parties. If mediation results in settlement of the administrative dispute, staff will present the settlement to the Commission for consideration and will recommend appropriate action consistent with the agreement to mediate. If mediation terminates without settlement of the dispute, the Commission would notify

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the parties in writing that the administrative hearing process under Section 120.57, Florida Statutes, would resume.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (850) 413-6199. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Lila A. Jaber, Chief
Division of Legal Services
Bureau of Water and Wastewater

LAJ/lw

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cc: Maple Leaf Estates Homeowners' Corporation (Robert Gill)
Division of Water and Wastewater (Williams, Messer, Redemann)
Division of Records and Reporting (Bayo)