MEMORANDUM

February 1, 1999

TO:

DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM:

DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (JACCER, FLEMING)

RE:

WITHDRAWAL OF PROTEST IN DOCKET NO. 971401-WS -APPLICATION FOR A STAFF-ASSISTED RATE CASE IN BAY COUNTY

BY BAYSIDE UTILITIES, INC.

Please place the hard copy of the withdrawal of protest of PAA Order No. PSC-98-1269-FOF-WS in the docket file. (Faxed copy was sent ear ier).

RRJ/1w

. TH _____

Attachment ACK _ Division of Water and Wastewater (Casey, T.Davis, Rendell, cc: AFA __ Lingo, Willis) APP ____ CAF _____ CMU ____ CTR ____ EAG ____ EG ____ 1N ____ CPC ____ DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE S ____

01302 FEB -2 8

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION EIVED

In re: Application for staff) Docket No. 97	Docket No. 971401-WS	9 01 AH	'99
assisted rate case in Bay County)	Filed:	MAIL ROOM	
by Bayside Utilities, Inc.)			

NOTICE OF YOLUNTARY DISMISSAL

Petitioners Tarver Kitchens, Jim Wharton and Bobby J. Pattillo, each individually in his own name, and jointly as representatives of Bayside Homeowners' Association, voluntarily dismiss their Protest of Proposed Agency Action filed on October 15, 1998, and submit:

- On October 22, 1997, Bayside Utilities, Inc. (Bayside) filed an application for a staffassisted rate case. On September 24, 1998, the Public Service Commission issued Proposed Agency Action Order No. PSC-98-1269-FOF-WS, which granted increased rates and charges for Bayside Utilities.
- 2. On October 15, 1998, the undersigned Petitioners timely protested certain portions of Order No. PSC-98-1269-FOF-WS, and petitioned for a hearing on the controverted issues. The PSC duly established the various dates for an orderly hearing process. The deadline for Bayside's testimony has passed. The utility opted not to file comprehensive testimony on the issues, but rather to allow the PSC staff to defend the substance of the PAA.
- 3. Notwithstanding that PSC staff will present the entire case for Bayside, Petitioners have been advised that Bayside intends to hire counsel and other consultants, and thereby incur significant rate case expense. Petitioners further have been advised that the Commission routinely passes on this rate case expense to the customers' bills.
- The fundamental unfairness of this predicament seems self-apparent, and the
 Petitioners believe the PSC should re-assess its approach to such threats of rate case expense.

RECEIVED

JAN 29 1999

1/14/1727 1/102 610460447

Nevertheless, the Petitioners must acknowledge the harsh reality of the present Commission policy.

 Accordingly, in order to prevent undue rate case expense from being levied on fellow customers, the undersigned Petitioners voluntarily withdraw their Protest.

WHEREFORE, Petitioners Tarver Kitchens, Jim Wharton and Bobby J. Pattillo hereby issue this Notice that they voluntarily withdraw their Protest of PAA Order no. PSC-98-1269-FOF-WS.

Respectfully submitted,

TARVER KITCHENS, PRESIDENT

IM WHARTON

BOBBY OATTILLO

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DOCKET NO. 971401-WS

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing NOTICE

(FAX)

OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL has been delivered by (*)hand-delivery or U.S. Mail to the following parties this 20 day of 11 thank, 1999.

Robert Casey, Esquire Florida Public Service Commission Division of Legal Services 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 Bayside Utilities, Inc. 6325 Big Daddy Drive Panama City Beach, Florida 32407-5506

TARVER KITCHENS, PRESIDENT BAYSIDE HOMEOWNERS ASSOC. BAYSIDE HOMEOWNERS C/0 TARVER KITCHENS 1045 BAY CIRCLE PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL 32407





ROBERT CASEY, ESQUIRE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

32333-0850 01

hallaaddaladdaddaddadddhaddaddaaldaald