



# Public Service Commission

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

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

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RECORDS AND REPORTING

**DATE:** JANUARY 25, 2001

**TO:** DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (BAYÓ)

**FROM:** DIVISION OF REGULATORY OVERSIGHT (BUCKLEY) *MB RH a*  
 DIVISION OF ECONOMIC REGULATION (QUIJANO) *uma*  
 DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (BRUBAKER) *SB PJS PUM RIM*

**RE:** DOCKET NO. 001440-WS - APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION, PURSUANT TO RULE 25-30.110(1)(b), FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, TO MAINTAIN ACCOUNTING RECORDS OUTSIDE THE STATE OF FLORIDA, BY AQUASOURCE UTILITY, INC., OCALA OAKS UTILITIES, INC., JASMINE LAKES UTILITIES, INC., ARREDONDO UTILITIES, INC., CRYSTAL RIVER UTILITIES, INC., AND LAKE SUZY UTILITIES, INC.

**AGENDA:** 02/06/01 - REGULAR AGENDA - PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

**CRITICAL DATES:** NONE

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** NONE

**FILE NAME AND LOCATION:** S:\PSC\RG0 \WP\001440.RCM

### CASE BACKGROUND

On September 21, 2000, pursuant to Rule 25-30.110(1)(b), Florida Administrative Code, AquaSource Utility, Inc., Ocala Oaks Utilities, Inc., Jasmine Lakes Utilities, Inc., Arredondo Utilities, Inc., Crystal River Utilities, Inc., and Lake Suzy Utilities, Inc., (hereinafter referred to as AquaSource or utility), filed a request that the Commission authorize AquaSource to maintain its records out-of-state. The utility requests authorization to maintain various accounting records at AquaSource's corporate office, located in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania, rather than at its offices within the State of Florida. The Commission has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 367.121(1)(k), Florida Statutes.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission authorize AquaSource to keep its accounting records out-of-state?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, the Commission should approve AquaSource's request to keep its records out-of-state. (Buckley)

STAFF ANALYSIS : Rule 25-30.110(1)(b), Florida Administrative Code states:

Unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, each utility shall maintain its records at the office or offices of the utility within this state and shall keep those records open for inspection during business hours by Commission staff.

In its filing, AquaSource states that:

AquaSource Utility, Inc. owns directly and through wholly-owned subsidiaries water and wastewater systems in many states other than Florida. Many of the systems are relatively small and cannot independently support proper accounting and record keeping functions. In order to provide all of its systems with professional accounting and record keeping functions, those functions are consolidated in AquaSource Utility, Inc.'s headquarters at 200 Corporate Center Drive, Coraopolis, PA 15108. AquaSource Utility, Inc. and its Florida subsidiaries (and, in turn, their customers) benefit from this consolidation of those functions.

Section 367.121(1)(k), Florida Statutes, authorizes the Commission "[to] assess a utility for reasonable travel costs associated with reviewing the records of the utility and its affiliates when such records are kept out-of-state." Rule 25-30.110(1)(c), Florida Administrative Code, defines reasonable travel expenses as "those travel expenses that are equivalent to travel expenses paid by the Commission in the ordinary course of its business." Rule 25-30.110(1)(c)1, Florida Administrative Code,

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states that "[t]he utility shall remit reimbursement for out-of-state travel expenses within 30 days from the date the Commission mails the invoice." The utility's filing confirms the utility's awareness of the rule by stating that the utility acknowledges the requirements of Rule 25-30.110(1)(c), Florida Administrative Code, with regard to reimbursing Commission staff travel expenses incurred for review of records maintained out-of-state, or to alternatively make those records available at a location within the State of Florida.

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**ISSUE 2:** Should this docket be closed?

**RECOMMENDATION:** Yes, if no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order. (Brubaker)

**STAFF ANALYSIS:** If no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order, this docket should be closed upon the issuance of a consummating order.