#### State of Florida



# Public Service Commission

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

**DATE:** January 30, 2001

TO: Division of Records and Reporting (Bayo)

FROM: Division of Legal Services (Jaeger)

RE: Edward O. Wood letter dated January 25, 2001 concerning wastewater increase in

Docket No. 991643-SU and impending order

Please place the attached letter dated January 25, 2001 of Mr. Edward O. Wood in the file for Docket No. 991643-SU.

#### Attachment

cc: Division of Economic Regulation (Willis, Fletcher)

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### Mr. & Mrs. E.O. Wood

1043 Daleside Lane New Port Richey, Fl. 34655-4293 727-376-0380 January 25, 2001

## RECEIVED

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FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION Chairman Vacobs

Mr. E. Leon Jacobs Capital Circle Office Center 2540 Shumard Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850.

Dear Mr. Jacobs

I have reviewed your recent decision in the rate case involving Aloha Utilities (991643 SU). I saw many statements regarding the DEP requiring Aloha to upgrade their system, but no statement as to what the problem really is. In the St. Petersburg times this AM there was a story about a Utility adjacent to Aloha that needs a wastewater treatment plant update because they are disposing of wastewater with too high a copper content into the local wetlands. It is "ok" for Aloha to supply water that causes copper to leach from the customers pipes (990545 WS) but don't dump water with copper into the wetlands where it may hurt the fish and wildlife. I think the State of Florida better get its priorities straight.

I don't understand why other local utilities can charge less for their services, and Aloha always needs more. Why is there a 9.6% return on equity when the only equity in the utility has been invested by the customers?

There were many other items that the PSC Staff and the Commission were willing to award Aloha that seem contrary to good of the customer. Why should the commission allow \$426000.00 dollars for the cost of a rate case be charged to the customer? That kind of thinking only permits the Utility to file all the frivolous rate cases they want, with no financial consequences. Why does the customer bear the burden?

Permitting the Utility to go back and file another case for the cost of their new building is ludicrous. With the Large number of rentals available in the area, they could have rented another facility at the same rate or less. There is also the item about giving away the reclaimed water to the Mitchell Ranch property. Have you ever determined the relationship between these two parties?

We could continue on because the discrepancies in the investigation are so flawed. The information in arriving at the decision completely ignored anything that the customers said when they were permitted to testify. Aloha's performance is Totally Unsatisfactory!!! Based on the above I wish this letter to be considered an appeal to the ruling.

Sincerely

Edward O. Wood

CC: Representative Mike Fasano