

LAW OFFICES  
**ROSE, SUNDBSTROM & BENTLEY, LLP**  
2548 BLAIRSTONE PINES DRIVE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301  
(850) 877-6555

**ORIGINAL**

CHRIS H. BENTLEY, P.A.  
F. MARSHALL DETERDING  
MARTIN S. FRIEDMAN, P.A.  
JOHN R. JENKINS, P.A.  
STEVEN T. MINDLIN, P.A.  
JOSEPH P. PATTON  
DAREN L. SHIPPY, LL.M. TAX  
WILLIAM E. SUNDBSTROM, P.A.  
DIANE D. TREMOR, P.A.  
JOHN L. WHARTON

MAILING ADDRESS  
POST OFFICE BOX 1567  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302-1567

TELECOPIER (850) 656-4029

April 20, 2001  
**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

ROBERT M. C. ROSE  
OF COUNSEL

Blanca Bayo, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Aloha Utilities, Inc.; PSC Docket No. 010156-WS  
Our File No. 26038.17

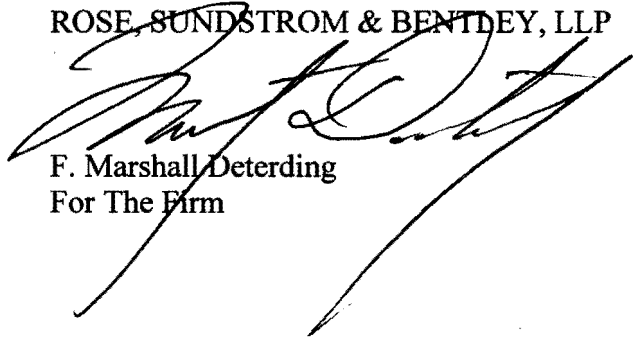
Dear Ms. Bayo:

Attached in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Final Order in the above-referenced docket is the most recent report on the status of the pilot project. Please see the attached letter for more detail concerning this status report.

If you have problems with the way in which we are proceeding or have any questions, please let me know.

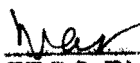
Sincerely,

ROSE, SUNDBSTROM & BENTLEY, LLP

  
F. Marshall Deterding  
For The Firm

FMD/tmg  
Enclosure  
cc: Tom Walden, PSC  
David W. Porter, P.E.  
Stephen G. Watford

aloha\17\bayopilot.ltr

RECEIVED & FILED  
  
FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE  
**05003 APR 20 01**  
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

RECEIVED-FPSC  
01 APR 20 PM 3:14  
RECORDS AND REPORTING

APD  
CAF  
CMP  
COM  
CTR  
ECR  
LEG  
OPC  
PAI  
RGO  
SEC  
SER  
OTH

**DP**  
**EC** **David W. Porter, P.E., C.O.**  
**Engineering Consultants**

April 19, 2001

Ms. Connie Kurish, General Manager  
Aloha Utilities, Inc.  
6195 Perrine Ranch Road  
New Port Richey, FL 34655

Re: Project Number AUI-021-1-S  
Seven Springs WS Pilot Plant  
Status Report for April 2001

**Regulatory Assistance;  
Process Troubleshooting;  
System Design, Permitting,  
Construction Observation;  
Forensic Engineering,  
Expert Witness Testimony;  
Rate Case Support**

Dear Connie,

I have prepared this project update letter so that you may use it in the preparation of your monthly report to the FPSC concerning this project. In my March 2001 report I informed you that on-site pilot testing for the "MIEX-DOC" process was scheduled to begin in late April. On April 9, 2001 the pilot unit was assembled at Well Number 9 and has been in continuous operation since. In my last report I told you that I would prepare a bench-top testing report for your review in early April. However, since the actual start date for the pilot trials was moved up to April 9 from the end of April, I have decided to combine the results of the bench-top and on-site pilot trials into one report at the conclusion of the on-site trials. This will reduce the cost of preparation of reports and will allow for a much more comprehensible presentation of the data.

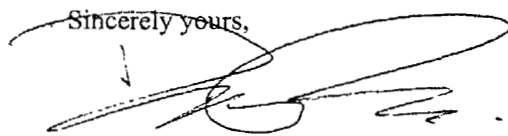
The results obtained at the on-site pilot plant to date are very encouraging. The finished water being produced by the pilot unit has very low hydrogen sulfide, TOC, UV absorbance and Color values. The pilot unit will remain at Well Number 9 until next week so that two complete trials can be completed. Also, the plant may remain at Well Number 9 for an additional week or two if the MIEX vendor can supply us with a reactor-clarifier demonstration unit in the next week. The reactor clarifier will take the place of the existing separate reactor and separate clarifier combination that presently make up the on-site pilot unit. The present units allow a small quantity of resin to be lost with the finished water. This resin loss is not desirable and it is hoped that the newly designed reactor-clarifier will prevent this resin loss.

During the control trial of the pilot unit (without resin in the reactors) we found that approximately 40% of the hydrogen sulfide present in the raw water was lost due to simple aeration taking place in the mixed reactor tanks. This may not be desirable in the full-scale unit as this escaping hydrogen sulfide could cause odorous conditions in the immediate vicinity of the water plant. This odor would be similar to that experienced at tray aeration plants currently in operation in many locations throughout Florida. We are investigating alternative process changes that may prevent the release of the gaseous hydrogen sulfide. To test out these process changes may require that the plant remain at Well Number 9 for an additional week or two.

We had planned to move the pilot plant to Well Numbers 3 and 6 after completing work at Well Number 9. Based on the time required to work out the reactor configuration optimization which is needed to prevent the release of resin from the unit and prevent hydrogen sulfide escape to the atmosphere, we may not move the pilot to the other wells. We will provide you with more details in the next report.

If you have any questions please call me.

Sincerely yours,



David W. Porter, P.E., C.O.  
Engineering Consultant

PCHD//Status Report 04-19-01//proj/via Hand