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November 14, 2001

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HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 110 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

> Docket No. 980744-WS Re:

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-referenced docket on behalf of Florida Water Services Corporation ("Florida Water") are the original and fifteen copies of Florida Water's Motion for Continuance.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the copy to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

KAH/rl Enclosures

Counsel of Record

Bayo.1114

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## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Investigation into ratemaking	)	
considerations of gain on sale from sale	)	Docket No. 980744-WS
of facilities of Florida Water Services	)	
Corporation to Orange County.	)	Filed: November 14, 2001
	)	

## FLORIDA WATER SERVICES CORPORATION'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

Florida Water Services Corporation ("Florida Water"), by and through its undersigned counsel, and pursuant to Rule 28-106.210, Florida Administrative Code, hereby moves for a continuance of the prehearing conference and final hearing currently scheduled for November 16, 2001 and November 27, 2001, respectively. In support of this motion, Florida Water states as follows:

- 1. During the morning of November 14, 2001, Staff counsel brought to Florida Water's attention certain provisions in the <u>Order Establishing Procedure</u>, Order No. PSC-00-1170-PCO-WS, issued June 27, 2000, requiring Florida Water to comply with certain requirements, including the mailing of notices to customers no less than fourteen days prior to the first day of the Final Hearing.
- 2. The noticing provisions found at page 3 of the <u>Order Establishing Procedure</u> are typically found in procedural orders issued in dockets involving petitions for increases in rates. For example, the <u>Order Establishing Procedure</u>, at page 3, requires that the Notices to Customers "include a statement that any customer comments regarding the utility's service or the proposed rate increase be addressed to the (Commission)...." This case does not involve any quality of service issue or a request to increase rates. The noticing requirements in the <u>Order Establishing Procedure</u>, at least in part, do not appear to be applicable to the instant case. Yet they remain within the <u>Order Establishing Procedure</u>. Moreover, at this point, it is too late for Florida Water to comply with the

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requirement of publishing notice and mailing notices to customers fourteen days prior to the currently scheduled final hearing.

3. For these reasons, Florida Water respectfully requests that the Prehearing Conference and Final Hearing be continued and rescheduled to avoid any technical non-compliance with the Order Establishing Procedure. Further, Florida Water anticipates the filing of a Petition for a Waiver and/or Clarification of the noticing requirements in the Order Establishing Procedure that do not appear to be applicable, appropriate or necessary in this case.

4. Counsel for Florida Water has conferred with counsel for the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC") and is authorized to represent that OPC does not object to the relief requested in this Motion.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Florida Water respectfully requests that the Prehearing Officer grant this Motion for Continuance and reschedule the Prehearing Conference and Final Hearing dates in this docket.

Respectfully submitted,

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished by hand delivery(\*) and U.S. Mail(\*\*) to the following this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2001:

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