State of Florida

Public Service Commission

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

DATE: January 18, 2002
TO: Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services and All Parties of Record
FROM: Office of General Counsel (Jaeger)
RE: Docket No. 010503-WU - Application for increase in water rates for Seven Springs System in Pasco County by Aloha Utilities, Inc.

Attached is Late-Filed Exhibit 3, consisting of one page, which outlines the treatment process that Pasco County performs on its water.

RRJ/lw

cc: Division of Auditing and Safety (McPherson, Vandiver)
Division of Economic Regulation (Fletcher, Jones, Lingo, Merchant, Stallcup, Wetherington, Willis)
Department of Environmental Protection (Foster)
Office of General Counsel (Espinoza)

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LATE-FILED EXHIBIT 3

WITNESS: Gerald Foster

DESCRIPTION:

Treatment Process that Pasco County Performs on its water

PROFERRING PARTY: STAFF

DOCKET NO. 010503-WU

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LATE-FILED EXHIBIT 3

DADE CITY (352) 521-4274 UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
LAND O' LAKES (813) 996-7341 PUB.WORKS/UTILITIES
NEW PORT RICHEY (727) 847-8145 BLDG., S-205 7530 LITTLE ROAD
FAX (727) 847-8064 NEW PORT RICHEY, FL 34654

January 11, 2002

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Gerald Foster
Environmental Specialist II
Drinking Water Department
Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
Southwest District
3804 Coconut Palm Drive
Tampa, FL 33619-8318

RE: Little Road WTP Treatment Processes

Dear Mr. Foster:

Per your request concerning specifics of water treatment at Pasco County's Little Road WTP, please note that the Little Road WTP receives raw water from the Starkey and North Pasco Wellfields, which tend to contain high concentrations of sulfides. Pasco County treats this water by first using a cascade aeration process to remove sulfides. The off-gas from the aeration process is treated in a scrubber that traps the sulfides under alkaline conditions, oxidizing then to sulfates.

After aeration, the raw water is sent to storage tanks containing cultures of a naturally-occurring bacteria belonging to the genus *Beggiatoa*. Pasco County does not add these bacteria to the water. Rather, they are already present in the raw water coming from the wellfields. These sulfur-oxidizing bacteria consist of colorless cells in unattached filaments and are typically found in sulfide-rich aquatic environments whereby they covert hydrogen sulfide into elemental sulfur. The water is then treated with chlorine, which removes the bacteria and oxidizes remaining sulfide.

Finally, the water is treated with sodium hydroxide, a caustic used to adjust pH for corrosion control within the distribution system.

If you have questions concerning this information, please contact me at (727) 847-8145.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. Yowell
Operations and Maintenance Manager
Pasco County Utilities