

JACK SHREVE PUBLIC COUNSEL

## STATE OF FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison St Room 812 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400 850-488-9330

March 6, 2003

ORIGINAL

03 MAR -6 PM 3:

Ms. Blanca S. Bayó, Director Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0870

> RE. Docket No. 020071-WS

Dear Ms Bayó:

Enclosed are an original and fifteen copies each of a Motion to Dismiss, Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony and Request for Oral Argument for filing in the above-referenced docket.

Please indicate receipt of filing by date-stamping the attached copy of this letter and returning it to this office Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

AUS CAL CMP OPC MMS SCB/dsb SEC Enclosures OTH

Sincerely,

Stephen C. Burgess Deputy Public Counsel



RECEIVED & FILED L. V. A FPSC-DUREAU OF HECORDS

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

**FPSC-COLIMISSION CLERK** 

02271 MAR-68

## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In ter Application for rate increase ) in Maiton, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, ) and Seminole Counties by Utilities, ) Inc. of Florida. )

DOCKET NO.: 020071-WS FILED: March 6, 2003

## MOTION TO DISMISS

The Citizens of the State of Florida, through their attorney, the Public Counsel, hereby file this Motion to Dismiss As grounds therefor, the Citizens submit.

1. On February 12, 2003, the Commission issued Order No. PSC-03-0213-PCO-WS. (hereinafter "Order No. 0213" or "the Order") that Order granted the Citizens first, second, third, fourth and fifth motions to compel discovery responses. The Order required Utilities, Inc. to provide responses to all discovery referenced in the Citizens' five motions to compel, and to provide those responses by February 22, 2003. Specifically, the Order stated:

The Citizens' First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Motions to Compel are granted. UIF shall provide all outstanding answers to these discovery requests within ten days of the date of this Order.

\* \* \* \*

Further delays in responding to the discovery requests will not be tolerated.

[Id., at page 3]

2 Utilities, Inc has failed to meet all the requirements of Order No 0213 As of this writing, the Citizens still have not received several of the items of discovery that were subject to the requirements of the Order.

3 From the Citizens' (first) Motion' to Compel, Utilities, Inc. has not supplied an answer to Interrogatory 20, nor Document Production requests 5, 16 and 32.

DOCUMENT RUMBER - PATE

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FPSC-CONTRISSION CLERK

From the Citizens' Second Motion to Compel, Utilities, Inc. has not produced Documents
49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54 or 55.

5. From the Citizens' Fourth Motion to Compel, Utilities, Inc. has not provided a response to Document Requests 44, 45, 46, 47 or 48

6. In addition to the failures specified in paragraphs 3 through 5, above, Utilities, Inc. also has failed to meet the specified deadline on several of the discovery responses which it has provided pursuant to Order No. 0213

7. Under the rules of civil procedure, a party that fails to make discovery is subject to various possible sanctions. One such sanction is the dismissal of the action in question. Rule 1 380 (b)(2)(C), Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. Given the extent of the utility's noncompliance with the rules of civil procedure, and with Order No. 0213, the most severe sanction is appropriate in this case. Accordingly, the Citizens move the Commission to dismiss the application for rate increase filed by Utilities, Inc.

WHEREFORE, the Citizens of the State of Florida respectfully move this Commission to dismiss the petition for rate increase filed by Utilities, Inc. in Docket No. 020071-WS.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen C. Burgess Deputy Public Counsel

Office of Public Counsel c/o the Florida Legislature 111 West Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400 -850-488-9330

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DOCKET NO. 020071-WS

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion to Dismiss has

been furnished by hand delivery, facsimile and/or U.S. Mail to the following parties on this 6th day

,

of March, 2003:

By U.S. Mail & Facsimile

Martın S. Friedman, Esquite Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley, LLP 650 S. North Lake Boulevard Sunte 160 Altamonte Springs, FL 32701 By Hand Delivery:

Rosanne Gervasi, Esquire Lorena Holley, Esquire Division of Legal Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevaid Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Stephen C Burgess Deputy Public Counsel