

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for rate increase)
in Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas,)
and Seminole Counties by Utilities,)
Inc. of Florida.)
_____)

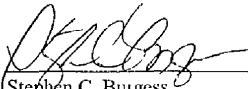
DOCKET NO. 020071-WS
FILED, March 6, 2003

REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT

The Citizens of the State of Florida, through their attorney, the Public Counsel, pursuant to Rule 25-22.058, F.A.C., hereby request the Commission to allow oral argument in their Motion to Dismiss and their Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony, filed contemporaneously with this Request. Both Motions involve the same factual underpinning, and the format of oral argument would aid the Commission in understanding the full effect that discovery delays have had in the OPC's preparation of its case.

WHEREFORE, the Citizens request the Commission to allow oral argument on its Motion to Dismiss and its Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephen C. Buiness
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

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

02272 MAR -6 03

FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
DOCKET NO. 020071-WS

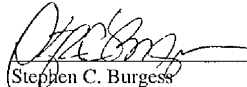
I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Request for Oral Argument has been furnished by hand delivery, facsimile and/or U.S. Mail to the following parties on this 6th day of March, 2003:

By U.S. Mail & Facsimile:

Martin S. Friedman, Esquire
Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley, LLP
650 S North Lake Boulevard
Suite 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 Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850



Stephen C. Burgess
Deputy Public Counsel