

DOCKET NO.: 020071-WS - Application for rate increase in Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, and Seminole Counties by Utilities, Inc. of Florida.

WITNESS: **Direct Testimony of Pepe Menendez,**
Appearing on Behalf of the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission.

DATE FILED: June 16, 2003

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF PEPE MENENDEZ

1
2 Q. Please state your name and business address.

3 A. Pepe Menendez, P.E., 4175 East Bay Drive, Suite 300, Clearwater, FL
4 33764.

5 Q. Please state a brief description of your educational background and
6 experience.

7 A. Professional Engineer - Fla. License # 21616. Bachelor in Civil
8 Engineering. 28 years experience in drinking water and other environmental
9 areas.

10 Q. By whom are you presently employed?

11 A. Pinellas County Health Department.

12 Q. How long have you been employed with the Pinellas County Health
13 Department and in what capacity?

14 A. I have been employed with the Pinellas County Health Department for
15 three months, as Assistant Director in the Environmental Engineering Division.
16 Before that, I was the Administrator for Drinking Water with the Florida
17 Department of Health (a Professional Engineer position). I was in that
18 position since 1990. I have been employed by the State of Florida in various
19 positions since 1980.

20 Q. What are your general responsibilities at the Pinellas County Health
21 Department?

22 A. I administer the drinking water, USTDS and SUPER programs.

23 Q. Are you familiar with Utilities, Inc. of Florida's water systems in
24 Pinellas County, particularly the Lake Tarpon Mobile Home Park system?

25 A. My staff is familiar with the Lake Tarpon Mobile Home Park.

1 Q. Does the utility have any current construction permits from the Pinellas
2 County Health Department or the Department of Environmental Protection?
3 A. No. A construction permit is not required for existing systems.
4 Q. Are the utility's treatment facilities and distribution systems
5 sufficient to serve its present customers?
6 A. Yes.
7 Q. Does the utility maintain the required 20 psi minimum pressure
8 throughout the distribution system?
9 A. Yes, as far as we know.
10 Q. Does the utility comply with Section 62-550.515, Florida Administrative
11 Code for an adequate auxiliary power source in the event of a power outage?
12 A. Yes.
13 Q. Are the utility's water wells located in compliance with applicable DEP
14 regulations?
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. Does the utility have certified operators as required by Chapter 62-602,
17 Florida Administrative Code?
18 A. Yes.
19 Q. Has the utility established a cross-connection control program in
20 accordance with Section 62-555.360, Florida Administrative Code?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. Is the overall maintenance of the treatment plant and distribution
23 facilities satisfactory?
24 A. Yes.
25 Q. Does the finished water produced by the utility meet the State and

1 Federal maximum contaminant levels for primary and secondary water quality
2 standards?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Does this include the lead and copper rule?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Has the utility's compliance with the lead and copper rule resulted in
7 a lessening of the monitoring requirements?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Does the utility monitor the organic contaminants listed in Section
10 62-55.410, Florida Administrative Code?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Do recent chemical analyses of raw and finished water, when compared to
13 DEP regulations, suggest the need for additional treatment?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Does the utility maintain the required chlorine residual or its
16 equivalent throughout the distribution system?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Are the plant and distribution systems in compliance with all the other
19 provisions of Title 62, Florida Administrative Code, not previously mentioned?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Has the utility been the subject of any Pinellas County Health
22 Department enforcement action within the past two years?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Do you have anything further to add?

25 A. No, I do not.

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

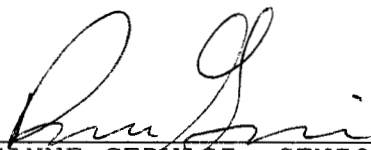
In re: Application for rate
increase in Marion, Orange,
Pasco, Pinellas, and Seminole
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Florida.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Direct Testimony of Pepe Menendez has been furnished to **Martin S. Friedman, Esquire**, Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley, LLP, 600 S. North Lake Blvd., Ste. 160, Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701, and **Stephen Burgess, Esquire**, Office of Public Counsel, c/o The Florida Legislature, 111 W. Madison St., Room 812, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400, by U.S. Mail, this 16th day of June.



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