MES E. "JIM" KING, JR. President



Harold McLean Public Counsel

ORIGINAL

STATE OF FLORIDA OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL

C/O THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE 111 WEST MADISON ST. ROOM 812 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-1400 850-488-9330 JOHNNIE BYRD Speaker



Stephen C. Burgess Deputy Public Counsel

June 16, 2004

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. 010503-WU

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed are an original and fifteen copies of Citizens' Answer to Aloha's Motion to Modify Requirements of Order Number PSC-02-0593-FOF-WU 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.

Sincerely,

CMP	(Officing
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CTR		Deputy Public Counsel
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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In re: Application for increase in water rates for Seven Springs System in Pasco County by Aloha Utilities, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 010503-WU DATED: June 16, 2004

CITIZENS' ANSWER TO ALOHA'S MOTION TO MODIFY REQUIREMENTS OF ORDER NUMBER PSC-02-0593-FOF-WU

The Citizens of the State of Florida, through their attorney, the Public Counsel, hereby file this answer to Aloha's Motion to Modify Requirements of Order Number PSC-02-0593-FOF-WU. The Citizens submit:

1. On June 9, 2004, Aloha filed a motion in Docket No. 010503-WU, but has retitled the docket <u>Aloha Utilities, Inc. v. Florida Public Service</u> Commission. The Citizens are of the understanding that the Commission definitively ruled that the rate case docket would remain the same. The Citizens do not understand why Aloha continues to disregard the Commission's authority.

2. The Public Counsel has received a response to Aloha's motion from representatives of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), which was established pursuant to the PSC rate order. A copy of this response is attached and is adopted by reference to be considered as OPC's answer to Aloha's motion.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE 06679 JUN 16 ± FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK WHEREFORE, the Citizens of the State of Florida respectfully file this Answer to Aloha's Motion to Modify Requirements of Order Number PSC-02-0593-FOF-WU.

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Respectfully submitted,

Stephen C. Burgess 1

Deputy Public Counsel

Office of Public Counsel c/o The Florida Legislature 111 West Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

(850) 488-9330

Attorneys for the Citizens of the State of Florida

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE DOCKET NO. 010503-WU

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Citizens Answer to

Aloha's Motion to Modify Requirements of Order Number PSC-02-0593-FOF-WU has been

furnished by hand-delivery(*) or U.S. Mail to the following parties on the 16th day of June, 2004

Marshall Deterding, Esquire Rose Law Firm 2548 Blairstone Pines Drive Tallahassee, FL 32301

Edward O. Wood 1043 Daleside Lane New Port Richey, FL 34655-4293

Charles J. Crist, Jr., Attorney General Jack Shreve, Senior Special Counsel for Consumer Affairs Office of the Attorney General PL-01 The Capitol Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Ralph Jaeger, Esquire* Division of Legal Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shummard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Margaret Lytle, Esquire SWFWMD 2379 Broad Street Brooksville, FL 34604

Senator Mike Fasano 8217 Massachusetts Avenue New Port Richey, FL 34653-3111

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Deputy Public Counsel

Docket No. 010503-WU Attachment Page 1 of 2

V. Abraham Kurien, M.D. 1822 Orchardgrove Avenue, NEW PORT RICHEY, FL 34655

Atty. Steve Burgess, Office of Public Counsel, 111 West Madison Street, Room 812 TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-1400

June 13, 2004

Dear Atty. Burgess,

. . .

Thanking you for sending me a copy of the request of Aloha Utilities Inc., to the PSC, "The motion to modify requirements of Order No. PSC02-0593-FOF-WU".

I have reviewed it carefully and discussed its content with other members of the CAC, who had previously sent you a NO OBJECTION STATEMENT concerning this matter.

In view of pertinent findings and discussions arising from the audit reports, we need to add some qualifiers to our previous statement, to ensure that any modification made to the order does not negatively affect the ability of Aloha Utilities to improve water quality as demanded by the Corporations' customers.

1. The reference to sulfide levels in "finished water" should be stated as a maximum contaminant level for total sulfides of 0.1mg per liter of delivered water at the point of its entry into the domestic system at the domestic meter. (This change is necessary because of recognition during Phase II of the audit that sulfides may be generated within the transmission and distribution system of the Aloha Utility due to conditions over which the customers have no control. This also reflects the standard of the Tampa Bay Water, which meets this level at the point of connection for "the water it supplies to its member governments". The water Aloha supplies to its customers begins at the domestic side of the meter. The wording as proposed by Aloha states " to meet a goal of 0.1mg/l of sulfides in its finished water as that water leaves the treatment facilities of the Utility", is not satisfactory)

2. The improvements should be such that sulfide present as S^2 , HS or H₂S in raw water or generated during treatment and transmission will be removed (not converted) to a level not to exceed 0.1 mg/l in "finished water" delivered at the point of entry into the domestic system. (The method Aloha Utilities now proposes to remove hydrogen sulfide from water involves only a reversible oxidation of the hydrogen sulfide in raw underground water into sulfur and sulfate and there is no elimination from raw water of the byproducts that have not been converted fully into sulfate).

3. Compliance with such requirements shall be determined based upon samples taken at least once a month at a minimum of two sites at domestic meters

Docket No. 010503-WU Attachment Page 2 of 2

most distant from each of the multiple treatment facilities. Such sites shall be rotated to provide the greatest likelihood of detecting any departure from the maximum levels permitted. (This addition is necessary because of the enormous variation in hydrogen sulfide levels among the wells).

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V. Abraham Kurien, M.D On behalf of the CAC of Aloha

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