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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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December 20, 2006

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director
Commission Clerk and Administrative
Public Services Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: PSC Docket No. 060726-WS, Application by Silver Lake Utility Corporation for an original water certificate in Glades and Highlands Counties, and a wastewater certificate in Glades County

Dear Ms. Bayo:

The Department has completed its review of the Silver Lake Utility Corporation's application to the Public Service for an original water certificate in Glades and Highlands Counties, and a wastewater certificate in Glades County.

The Silver Lake Utility Corporation plans to establish service areas to provide potable water service in both Glades and Highlands Counties and provide wastewater service within Glades County. The accompanying service area maps suggest that most of Glades County will be included, while the service area in Highlands is along the eastern most portion of the county. The Department does not have any concern with the proposed service area to be established to provide potable water and wastewater service for the Muse Village, located in southern Glades County and for the West Glades School campus or for other areas of Glades County that are designated for urban development. However, outside the Muse, Moore Haven, and Palmdale areas, much of the area included in the proposed service area within Glades County is designated as Agriculture/Open on the Future Land Use Map, which allows a residential density of one dwelling unit per 20 acres. The area of eastern Highlands County that is proposed to be included in the service area is designated as Agriculture on the Future Land Use Map and allows residential density at one dwelling unit per five acres and is eastward of development patterns with Highlands County.

The Department is concerned about including these large agricultural zones in a utility service area. Given the low densities, rural nature, and scattered housing pattern, it is unclear there is need to establish such broad utility districts in these areas. Furthermore, the Department is concerned that approving these areas for inclusion in a utility service district ahead of

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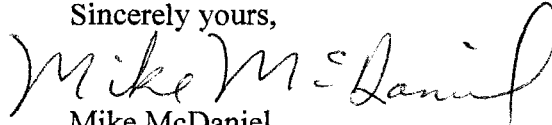
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appropriate designations in the comprehensive plan could lead to premature development pressure and urban sprawl.

We very much appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on this application. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Thomas J. Tumminia, Planner. Mr. Tumminia can be reached at (850) 922-1824.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike McDaniel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike McDaniel
Growth Management Administrator

MMD/tjt

Cc: Mr. Martin S. Friedman, Exquire, Rose, Sunstrom & Bentley, LLP
Ms. Patricia M. Steed, Executive Director, Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Mr. Jim Polatty, Director, Planning Development