

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for increase in water and wastewater rates in Alachua, Brevard, DeSoto, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia, and Washington Counties by Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 080121-WS

FILED: October 27, 2008

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the Direct Testimony of Patricia Carrico on behalf of the Florida Public Service Commission, has been furnished by ~~U.S. Mail~~, on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2008, to the following.

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WITNESS: Direct Testimony of Patricia Carrico, Volusia County Health Department  
Appearing on Behalf of the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission.

DATE FILED: October 27, 2008

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF PATRICIA CARRICO

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- 2 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- 3 A. Patricia Carrico, Volusia County Health Department, 1845 Holsonback Drive, Daytona  
4 Beach, FL, 32117.
- 5 Q. Please provide a brief description of your educational background and experience.
- 6 A. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Health (Chemistry-Minor)  
7 from Utah State University. Prior to my current employment with the Volusia County  
8 Health Department (VCHD), I worked for 12 years at the City of Daytona Beach  
9 Drinking Water Plant and Laboratory and five years at Amoco Oil Company (Whiting,  
10 In.) in the Environmental/Quality Control Laboratory. I have been employed by  
11 VCHD since February 2001, as an Environmental Specialist II.
- 12 Q. What are your general responsibilities at the VCHD?
- 13 A. I am responsible for ensuring that public water systems in Volusia County are in  
14 compliance with federal and state Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulations. My  
15 job duties include performing site inspections, reviewing laboratory and monthly  
16 operational reports, entering the results into the state's SDWA database, and initiating  
17 appropriate enforcement action, when necessary.
- 18 Q. Are you familiar with the Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. (Aqua) Jungle Den, Tomoka  
19 View, and Twin Rivers water systems in Volusia County?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Has Aqua been the subject of any VCHD enforcement action within the past three  
22 years?
- 23 A. Twin Rivers and Jungle Den have not been the subject of any enforcement action in  
24 the past three years. However, Aqua has been issued several warning letters and a  
25 consent order as a result of the Tomoka View water system exceeding the maximum

- 1 contaminant levels (MCLs) for total trihalothemane (THM), Total Dissolved Solids  
2 (TDS), Odor, and Total Coliform.
- 3 Q. Please describe the violation regarding THM.
- 4 A. The Tomoka View water system has exceeded the MCL for THM since monitoring for  
5 this contaminant was initiated in 2004 through the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2007. Corrective  
6 action taken by Aqua to reduce THM concentrations included modifying of the  
7 chlorine feed rate, changing the chlorine injection location, increasing system-wide  
8 flushing, and installing a new variable speed, flow-based chlorinator. Subsequently, in  
9 October 2006 the reported THM concentrations in individual distribution samples  
10 dropped below 80 ppb THM. Since the THM MCL is based on a 4-quarter running  
11 annual average, the system still incurred an MCL violation during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of  
12 2007, even though the individual quarterly THM results were below the 80 ppb MCL  
13 in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2006 and the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2007. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2007, the  
14 Tomoka View THM annual average dropped to 76 ppb, which is below the MCL, and  
15 the system has been in compliance with the THM MCL since then.
- 16 Q. Please describe the violations regarding TDS and Odor.
- 17 A. The secondary MCL for TDS and Odor were exceeded in monitoring conducted in  
18 2006 and during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters of 2007. In the most recent samples collected,  
19 the TDS concentration was just slightly over the MCL and the reported Odor  
20 concentration was below the MCL. Since secondary MCLs are set for aesthetic  
21 purposes and are not based on health effects, no additional treatment is warranted at  
22 this time. The system requested and was granted a suspension of quarterly monitoring  
23 for these two parameters in September of 2007, after completing four consecutive  
24 quarters of monitoring. The next testing will occur in 2009.
- 25 Q. Please describe the violation regarding Total Coliform.

1 A. Two routine distribution samples were positive for Total Coliform bacteria during  
2 September 2007. The system conducted the required follow-up monitoring and the six  
3 subsequent 'repeat' samples collected within 48 hours were all negative for Total  
4 Coliforms. No further corrective action was required.

5 Q. Is the overall maintenance of the treatment plant and distribution facilities satisfactory?

6 A. Yes. Jungle Den does not have a treatment plant. It is a "consecutive system"  
7 consisting only of a water distribution system. The water is purchased from St. John's  
8 River Utility. I last inspected the Jungle Den system on July 15, 2008, and found the  
9 overall maintenance of the distribution system to be satisfactory. The Tomoka View  
10 and Twin Rivers water systems were also inspected on July 15, 2008, and two minor  
11 deficiencies cited at that time remain unresolved. At the Twin Rivers water plant; I  
12 noted a small hole in the roof over the ground storage tank. A temporary tarp had been  
13 installed over the roof that effectively sealed the opening and prevented any  
14 contamination of this tank; however, a permanent roof repair is still pending as of this  
15 date. According to correspondence received on September 25, 2008, the repair work  
16 has been bid out and is scheduled for completion by no later than November 25, 2008.  
17 At the Tomoka View water plant, I noted some damp areas on the outer walls of the  
18 concrete storage tank where water was "seeping" through. This tank was inspected and  
19 cleaned on September 2, 2008. Correspondence received on September 25, 2008 from  
20 Aqua indicated that this tank's water seepage problem will be corrected by no later  
21 than October 31, 2008. In regards to the Tomoka View water distribution system, poor  
22 valve maintenance was cited as a deficiency in my December 17, 2007 inspection  
23 report. Since then, Aqua has initiated a program of replacing shut-off valves on the  
24 system's water distribution lines in order to individually isolate each street in the event  
25 of a water line break and alleviating the need to shut down the entire water system as

1 was being done previously. These new valves and an improved valve maintenance  
2 program should significantly reduce the number of system-wide water outages and  
3 Boil Water Notices experienced by customers of the Tomoka View water system. It is  
4 not uncommon to find a number of relatively minor deficiencies at water treatment  
5 plants and at water distribution systems. In general, the utility is doing a good job of  
6 maintaining these three water systems.

7 Q. Are the plant and distribution systems otherwise in compliance with all environmental  
8 requirements?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Do you have anything further to add?

11 A. No

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