1	FIORT	BEFORE THE
2	FLORI	DA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
3	In the Matter of:	DOCKET NO. 100104-WU
4	APPLICATION FOR I	
5	RATES IN FRANKLIN MANAGEMENT SERVIC	
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8	PROCEEDINGS:	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
9	COMMISSIONER	COMMICCIONED NAMURN A GVOD
10	PARTICIPATING:	COMMISSIONER NATHAN A. SKOP PREHEARING OFFICER
11	DATE:	Monday, September 27, 2010
12	TIME:	Commenced at 1:33 p.m.
13	DI ACD	Concluded at 2:26 p.m.
14	PLACE:	Betty Easley Conference Center Room 148
15		4075 Esplanade Way Tallahassee, Florida
16	REPORTED BY:	LINDA BOLES, RPR, CRR
17		Official FPSC Reporter (850) 413-6734
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APPEARANCES:

LISA C. SCOLES, ESQUIRE, Radey Thomas Yon & Clark, Post Office Box 10967, Tallahassee, Florida 32302, appearing on behalf of Water Management Services, Inc.

JOSEPH A. McGLOTHLIN, ESQUIRE, Office of Public Counsel, c/o The Florida Legislature, 111 W. Madison Street, Room 812, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400, appearing on behalf of the Citizens of the State of Florida.

RALPH R. JAEGER, ESQUIRE, and ERIK L. SAYLER, ESQUIRE, FPSC General Counsel's Office, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, appearing on behalf of the Florida Public Service Commission Staff.

MARY ANNE HELTON, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL, FPSC General Counsel's Office, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, appearing as advisor to the Commission.

1 PROCEEDINGS

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Good afternoon. I'd like to call this prehearing to order. Commissioner Skop presiding. If staff could please read the notice.

MR. JAEGER: Yes, Commissioner. Pursuant to notice, this time and place has been scheduled for a Prehearing Conference in Docket Number 100104-WU, application for increase in water rates in Franklin County by Water Management Services, Inc.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: If we could please take appearances.

MS. SCOLES: On behalf of the applicant, Water Management Services, Inc., my name is Lisa Scoles with the firm Radey Thomas Yon & Clark, 301 South Bronough, Tallahassee, Florida.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Thank you.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: I'm Joe McGlothlin of the Office of Public Counsel.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Thank you.

MR. JAEGER: I'm Ralph Jaeger, and with me is Erik Sayler on behalf of Commission staff, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Thank you.

MS. HELTON: And Mary Anne Helton, advisor to the Commission.

there any preliminary matters that we need to address before we get to the Draft Prehearing Order?

MR JAEGER: Just one matter, and we can take

MR. JAEGER: Just one matter, and we can take it up here or later, but OPC at lunchtime did file a motion to strike, so that's something new that's changed.

Also, in the Prehearing Order we inadvertently when we were moving things around left out the exhibits for Andrew Woodcock in his direct, and we'll put those back in. Those are Exhibits ATW-1 through 5.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Does staff have a copy of the pending motion?

MR. JAEGER: Yes, sir. We just got it at lunch.

commissioner skop: Okay. For administrative efficiency we're going to move through the Draft Prehearing Order, and we may or may not take up the pending motion at the, at the ending. It appears to be somewhat lengthy and we just received the motion. So let's proceed.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Commissioner Skop, I indicated to counsel for the Utility that I did not expect either argument or a ruling today. I filed today because today is the deadline.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

And we'll try and take a look at that if we're able to

work through it today. Mr. Jaeger, are there any

additional preliminary matters?

MR. JAEGER: No, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

All right. We're going to proceed through the Draft

Prehearing Order, and I'll identify the sections to the

Prehearing Order, and I'll identify the sections to the various parties. And if the parties have any concerns, please feel free to let me know. We may go quickly through most of this. So, again, if there are any corrections that need to be made or brought to the Commission's attention, please feel free to do so at that time.

All right. We'll begin with Section I, Case Background. Any concerns? All right. Hearing none, Section I will be adopted.

Section II, Conduct of Proceedings. Any concerns? Hearing none, Section II will be adopted.

Section III, Jurisdiction. Any concerns?
Hearing none, Section III will be adopted.

Section IV, Procedure for Handling

Confidential Information. Any concerns? Hearing,

excuse me, hearing none, Section IV will be adopted.

Section V, Prefiled Testimony, Exhibits,

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

1 Witnesses. Typically five minutes is granted for witness summaries. Is that going to be acceptable to 2 3 the parties? MS. SCOLES: Commissioner, I would request ten 4 5 minutes for Mr. Brown's rebuttal testimony, he is taking on the lion's share of the issues, if that would be 6 7 permissible. COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And that's just for 8 9 one witness? MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner. 10 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. 11 McGlothlin? 12 MR. McGLOTHLIN: I would ask similar latitude 13 for Donna Ramas, our accounting witness who covers a lot 14 15 of ground. COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And that's on 16 rebuttal or for direct? 17 MR. McGLOTHLIN: That's direct. 18 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. So Witness Ramas? 19 All right. Very well. The witness summaries are 20 going to be limited to five minutes, with the exception 21 of ten minutes for rebuttal of Witness Brown and ten 22 minutes for the witness summary direct testimony of 23 Mr. [sic] Ramas. 24 Okay. Any other concerns on Section V before

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1 we move forward? All right. So Section V will be adopted with those modifications. 2 3 Section VI, Order of Witnesses. Are the parties willing to stipulate to any witnesses at this 4 5 point? Ms. Scoles? MS. SCOLES: Not at this time, Commissioner; 6 7 although we will be considering that and get back to staff if we're able to do so. 8 9 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Very well. Thank you. MR. McGLOTHLIN: We also have a couple of them 10 11 under advisement. COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Very well. 12 you. All right. And in terms of taking up the direct 13 and rebuttal testimony separately or together, it's my 14 understanding that the Utility is opposed to that and 15 Public Counsel's not in conflict with taking them 16 17 separately; is that correct? MR. McGLOTHLIN: I regard that as the 18 Utility's call, Commissioner. 19 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Ms. Scoles. 20 MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner. We would 21 22 prefer to do them separately. COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. Very 23 The direct and rebuttal testimonies will be taken 24 well. up separately. Any other concerns on Section VI before 25

we move forward? Ms. Scoles.

MS. SCOLES: Commissioner, there's one thing. We may need to request to take Ms. Withers out of order. She is one of our rebuttal witnesses who is currently listed as third. To accommodate her schedule, we might need to move her up in our order of witnesses. But as we get closer to that time, I can advise you if that's going to be necessary.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

And, Mr. McGlothlin, any objection to that?

MR. McGLOTHLIN: No, sir.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. We will try and accommodate the schedule of Ms. Withers. Obviously, if scheduling happens where we need to move her up, if you could let staff know as soon as possible, if it is a day of the hearing and we needed to change it for the next day, then please by the close of that hearing get with our staff and so we can give the parties ample notice to accommodate that change.

MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner. Thank you.

MR. JAEGER: Commissioner, Commissioner Skop.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. Jaeger.

MR. JAEGER: On that same vein, we have a stipulation about the staff witnesses coming in on the second day at 11:00 a.m.

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COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay.

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MR. JAEGER: And we would like, if possible, to be able to try to get to the three staff witnesses that afternoon, if there could be a time certain. stipulation was they would not have to show up until 11:00 a.m. on the second day of the hearing.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. we should probably keep that stipulation then that the time certain will be 11:00. And then if we need to address taking those out of order or addressing those, we can bring them up at that time. But obviously if there's a stipulation, to take them up by on or around 11:00 so we can get to them on the second day, we'll try to do our best to accommodate that.

Any other concerns on Section VI? All Okay. right. Hearing none, Section VI will be adopted, noting the fact that the direct and rebuttal testimony will be taken up separately, and also, too, the parties are still working towards reaching stipulations that may be achieved towards some witnesses.

All right. Section VII, basic positions. Any concerns? Mr. McGlothlin.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: We have some very slight changes in wording. I can, I can perhaps read them here and get them in paper copy after the Prehearing

Conference.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. If they're minor, you can read them now and then just submit them prior to the close of business to staff.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: At the page, at the top of page 6 in the second line, as changed it would read, "From \$641,000 to," and then add the language "no more than \$78,419," striking the \$74,000 figure.

And then in the next line, first of the paragraph that follows, "Other adjustments," insert "that will impact the \$78,419 above," and that's the change, continue on.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

And, Mr. McGlothlin, you'll be able to forward those in an e-mail to staff and the parties by close of business?

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Thank you.

All right. Any other concerns on Section VII, basic positions? All right. Hearing none, Section VII will be adopted with the changes noted by Mr. McGlothlin.

And he'll forward those changes on to staff and the parties by the close of business today.

That takes us to Section VIII, Issues and Positions. And, staff, it looks likes some of the issues are fully or partially stipulated, so if you

1 could tee that up. MR. JAEGER: Okay. The first one we have is 2 Issue 5, and I believe what's stated there is OPC's 3 position, but the Utility and staff agreed to it on 4 Issue 5, had the same position. 5 6 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Very well. Ms. Scoles, to Issue 5 as a possible stipulation. 7 MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner. We will 8 9 stipulate. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 10 Show Issue 5 stipulated. And I believe, Mr. Jaeger, if 11 12 you could introduce the next issue. MR. JAEGER: Issue 7 is "Land should be 13 decreased by \$3,400 to reflect the removal of appraisal 14 and surveying costs." Again, that's the position of all 15 parties and staff. 16 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 17 Mr. McGlothlin, if you're fine with that. 18 19 MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes. COMMISSIONER SKOP: Ms. Scoles. 20 21 MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Show Issue 7 22 stipulated. 23 Mr. Jaeger, next issue, please. 24 MR. JAEGER: Issue 11, and we think this is a 25

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

partial stipulation, there's other issues, but "Advances for construction should be decreased by \$9,257 to reflect Commission approved adjustment from the Utility's last rate case."

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And with respect to the partial stipulation, are all parties in agreement with that stipulation? Ms. Scoles.

MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. McGlothlin.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. Very well. Show the partial stipulation for Issue 11 to be adopted.

Mr. Jaeger, next issue.

MR. JAEGER: Issue 12, another partial stipulation. And I don't think anybody has any problem with the first sentence. "Working capital should be reduced by \$112,034 unamortized debt discount and issuing expense which is included in the Utility's long-term debt cost rate." And I think, I believe Ms. Scoles, I was asking her about further working capital should be reduced by \$17,983 to remove fully amortized rate case expense from prior rate case, and I wasn't sure if she agreed to that or not.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Ms. Scoles.

MS. SCOLES: Yes. Both of those are fine.
COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Mr. McGlothlin, any
concerns regarding the proposed stipulation?
MR. McGLOTHLIN: We're fine with that partial
stipulation.
COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Very well. Very
well. Basically show Issue 12, partial stipulation to
be adopted.
MR. JAEGER: Issue 14 is the next one, the
appropriate amount of customer deposits including the
capital structure is \$100,499, and that was both the
position of the Utility, OPC and Staff.
COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Ms. Scoles.
MS. SCOLES: Yes.
COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. McGlothlin.
MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes, sir.
COMMISSIONER SKOP: Very well. Show Issue 14
to be stipulated.
Mr. Jaeger, next issue.
MR. JAEGER: Issue 24, "\$1,250 of additional
contractual service costs should be removed for a total
of \$7,250 for Hank Garrett charges during 2009 (on
general ledger as management fees.)"
And basically everybody agreed that the
\$1,250, some of the language may not I wanted to make

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

1 sure the Utility was in agreement with that. 2 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. Ms. Scoles. 3 MS. SCOLES: That's fine, Commissioner. 4 5 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Mr. McGlothlin. 6 7 MR. McGLOTHLIN: We're fine. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Show Issue 24 8 9 to be stipulated. Next issue, Mr. Jaeger. 10 11 MR. JAEGER: Issue 47, "To ensure that the 12 Utility adjusts its books in accordance with the 13 Commission's decision, WMSI should provide proof, within 14 90 days of the final order issued in this docket, that 15 the adjustments for all the applicable NARUC USOA 16 primary accounts have been made." And that was agreed 17 to by all parties. 18 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Ms. Scoles. 19 MS. SCOLES: That's fine, Commissioner. 20 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. McGlothlin. 21 MR. McGLOTHLIN: We're on board. 22 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Show Issue 47 23 to be stipulated. 24 Mr. Jaeger, next section regarding phrasing of 25 issues and positions.

1 2 3 of the issue. COMMISSIONER SKOP: 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 issue? 13 MR. JAEGER: Yes. 14 15 the -- it's page 25. 16 COMMISSIONER SKOP: 17

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MR. JAEGER: I believe the only real problem we had with the issues was Issue 50 as for the phrasing

Okay.

MR. JAEGER: And OPC had one phrasing at the Issue ID, and then in filing their prehearing statement they had changed the wording of the issue. And so the Utility has not addressed the wording of that issue or responded to that, and neither has staff.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And do we have a, the OPC old issue as it was written and the new proposed

They're both -- they're all there. Let me see. If we go to Issue 50 in the body of

Okay.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Well, to deal with the easy ones first, it's okay with we if we delete the old OPC That leaves us with, I think, one as phrased under the prehearing statement.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. McGlothlin, if you could just repeat that a little bit more slowly. I didn't catch --

Staff has included both MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes. the, the issue as we framed it in an Issue ID meeting.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Yes.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: As well as the rephrased issue that we included in the prehearing statement. So what is captioned as new OPC issue supersedes the one that's called old OPC. We're not asking they both be included.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: You're asking that they both be included?

MR. McGLOTHLIN: No. We are not asking that they both be included.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. You're asking that the new issue be included.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Ms. Scoles.

MS. SCOLES: I'm sorry, Commissioner. We oppose that.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. On what basis?

MS. SCOLES: We have rebuttal testimony speaking to this, the figure. We would dispute the figure as well as the concept that there is any impropriety in any of the affiliated companies. And this may not be the proper time to bring this up, I'm not, but I'm not sure that the second sentence there of what action the Commission should take, I think that's a jurisdictional issue. I'm not sure of the Commission's

1 authority over the nonregulated affiliated companies.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Mr. McGlothlin.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Well, the Utility may dispute our position on this issue but that is no reason to remove the issue itself. We have a witness, Donna Ramas, who testifies that over time the amount reflected in the account called Investment and Associated Companies has grown from 0 to \$1.2 million. And she comments that this has happened at a time when the Utility asserts that it has difficulty paying its basic bills. So we think there's an issue of imprudence there that we want to bring to the attention of the Commission.

And if there is a finding of imprudence, then the, the Commission has jurisdiction over the Utility to do such things as imputing income on the Utility's investment and other companies and things of that ilk. So that's what -- we think it's an appropriate issue.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And with respect to the framing of the new issue in relation to the old issue, is the specific concern embodied in the new issue, could that be subsumed in the old issue and just introduced as a, you know, within the scope of direct or rebuttal testimony?

MR. McGLOTHLIN: We worked on how to frame an

issue around the subject matter, which is the growing investment in associated companies, and at one point we phrased that in terms of whether the Utility has been subsidizing nonutility activities. But the more we thought about it, the more we thought there were basic questions of prudence or imprudence in the amount of money that's been invested elsewhere when the Utility's needs are as they are represented in the, in the rate case. That's why we think what is characterized as new OPC issue is a better rendition of, of our concern than is the old OPC issue and why we regard the new one as superseding the old one.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And then I believe, Ms. Scoles, you've, the Utility has framed an alternate issue, is that correct, for Issue 50?

MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner. The third one listed there.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And that's "Are there any non-utility expenses the Utility is requesting to be recovered through customer rates? If so, what adjustment should be made?" Is that correct?

MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner. If OPC is intending to pursue it as indicated in their new issue, then we would, the Utility's position would be that should be a separate proceeding, separate and apart from

the rate case.

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If they feel there's inappropriate involvement with the nonregulated companies and the regulated company, then that perhaps would be a show cause type proceeding but is not an appropriate issue with the rate case. We had framed a much more general issue, which would be an appropriate issue in this particular proceeding.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. McGlothlin.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: I disagree. The essence of the subject matter is the financial posture of the company, and the financial posture of the company is what it is because of, we contend because of imprudent investments in associated companies. And the rate case is the precise occasion to look at the financial posture of the company, whether it arrives at that posture by prudent or imprudent means.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Staff.

MR. JAEGER: Yes, Commissioner. Staff also struggled with this issue, and I think, as you can see from OPC, they had one issue going into the ID meeting, and then we came out with this one, and now they have phrased it again.

I think what staff was suggesting is that \$1.2 million is sort of, you know, the Utility may

dispute that and it's sort of phrased that with a bias. 1 And so we think a more neutral issue along the lines "Is 2 the Utility's level of investment in associated 3 companies inappropriate, and, if so, what action should 4 the Commission take?" That would be what, what staff 5 6 would suggest. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Does staff 7 have a printout of that language? 8 MR. JAEGER: Yes. Well, it's in -- yeah. We 9 10 do have a printout of that. MS. SCOLES: Could you repeat that, 11 12 Mr. Jaeger? MR. JAEGER: "Is the Utility's level of 13 14 investment in associated companies inappropriate, and, if so, what action should the Commission take?" 15 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. Jaeger, do you have a 16 copy of that? Oh, okay, I see it right here. 17 MR. JAEGER: I'm sorry. Commissioner, that 18 19 was not provided to the parties. That was --20 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Why don't we take a brief recess and get a copy of that provided to the parties at 21 this time. So we'll take a five-minute recess and we'll 22 23 reconvene to consider Issue 50. 24 (Recess taken.) 25 Okay. At this point we're back on the record.

Staff has passed out a proposed compromise for Issue 50. And, Mr. Jaeger, if you could speak to that briefly now that the parties have it.

MR. JAEGER: Commissioner Skop, what staff did, we tried to look at really what was, where OPC was coming from, this was mainly their issue, and tried to phrase it in as neutral language as we could where that 1.2 million isn't a part of the issue and still advise the Utility of what they are, of what the issue is. And so we think this is the most neutral language and gets to what OPC was going toward and that it is a valid issue.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

And, Mr. Jaeger, with respect to maintaining neutral language, I do have two questions on the proposed staff change.

When it speaks to associated companies, would -- is associated the appropriate word? Would it more appropriately be affiliated companies?

MR. JAEGER: Affiliated I think would be more precise, but I'm not sure if there's other companies that are not exactly affiliates but might be some way connected to the Utility. So I really wasn't sure which would be the better word there, affiliates or associated.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Ms. Helton, do you have anything to add?

MS. HELTON: Mr. Chairman, I've listened to the discussion here today, and it seems to me that the point that OPC is trying to make is that there could be a financial impact on the company because of these funds being appropriated to other companies that are associated with the Utility. And it seems to me that if there is a financial impact, that is something that should be taken up in the rate case and would be an appropriate issue to address, I guess, the first concern that the company has raised.

It seems to me also that the wording that staff has proposed for Issue 50 is the most neutral wording that I have read.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And in terms of the affiliated versus associated?

MS. HELTON: I'm sorry. I thought you were asking more broadly.

I am only familiar with this company on a very high level, and I don't know whether there could be associated companies or not. I don't know maybe if it would be appropriate to ask the Utility or ask Mr. McGlothlin. I mean, affiliated companies, that's the language that we typically use here. That is our

term of art. That's the language that's spelled out in the statute. But I don't know if associated would be better or not.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Ms. Scoles briefly, and then Mr. McGlothlin to that point.

MS. SCOLES: I don't think we have a position on that, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right.
Mr. McGlothlin.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: First of all, Commissioner, we have looked at the staff's language and we can accept it as our, our reformulation of Issue 50.

As to associated versus affiliated, I would just make this comment. Typically or perhaps more typically the Commission sees examples of holding companies with subsidiaries. That is not the precise relationship between this Utility and the other entities that have been described, and the term associated has been used within the case to describe that relationship and that's why we used it in the, in the issue itself.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. But Public Counsel is in principle okay with staff's proposed language?

MS. SCOLES: Commissioner?

MR. McGLOTHLIN: We can accept, we can accept the staff's language.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Ms. Scoles.

MS. SCOLES: I'm sorry. I was speaking on the, just the term associated versus affiliated.

We would suggest one minor word change, and it sort of goes to what Ms. Helton was saying, looking at the impact of these transactions on the customers. We would suggest changing the first "is" to "has" and changing "inappropriate" to "caused harm to customers."

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay.

MS. SCOLES: And thus it would read, "Has the Utility's level of investment in associated or affiliated companies caused harm to customers, and, if so, what action should the Commission take?"

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay.

MS. SCOLES: We feel like this would make this more of a rate case issue rather than a broader issue.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Thank you for your comments and I appreciate those.

I think what I'm inclined to do, I'm trying to balance the interests of the parties, staff's concerns. While we're on staff's language for Issue 50, again, Ms. Helton spoke to the need to frame issues in a neutral manner. And the term "inappropriate," I'm wondering whether that may not be better put as "appropriate."

"Is the level, is the Utility's level of investment in associated companies appropriate? If not, what action should the Commission take?" Does that -- Mr. Jaeger, do you have anything to add to that?

MR. JAEGER: Let me check with staff. I think we're, we could live with any of those changes. Let me see.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay.

MR. JAEGER: Yes, we can live with that, your change as stated.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. And what I'm also trying to understand, and, Ms. Scoles, perhaps you can help me out with the Utility's proposed language, it speaks to non-utility expenses the Utility is requesting be recovered for rates. So it seems to be separate and distinct from a level of investment. Would that be your understanding in terms of your proposed language?

MS. SCOLES: Commissioner, it is somewhat different. But our focus with both our original question and also our proposed change to staff is to focus on has there been any harm to customers? We're a little uncomfortable with the term "inappropriate" because it's just such a broad term; whereas, what we're really looking at is have customers been harmed or have

they had to pay for expenses that they shouldn't have?

So that's what our focus is on both of those questions.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. And I believe the change that I'm going to propose to that should address that concern because I also have some concerns about the inappropriate language in terms of neutrality of the issue.

All right. What I'm going to propose is that Issue 50 be, I won't say bifurcated, but basically split into Issue 50A and Issue 50B.

Issue 50A, the proposed reading would be along the lines of what staff proposed. Issue 50A, "Is the Utility's level of investment in associated companies appropriate? If not, what action should the Commission take?"

Issue 50B would be the Utility's proposed language, "Are there any non-utility expenses that the Utility is requesting be recovered through customer rates? If so, what adjustment should be made?"

And I believe, and I'd like to hear from the parties, but I believe that should be a happy medium to, to get to not only the concerns expressed by the Utility but also those raised by Public Counsel.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: OPC can accept that version of the issue. And in fact, I've always regarded the

Utility's wording to be getting at an issue other than the one we raised. So I like the way that is broken out.

the reason for that is, again, a level of investment I think is separate and distinct from non-utility expenses. I mean, non-utility expense might be, you know, a transaction with an affiliate company, not necessarily a level of investment in the capital structure. So I think that trying to touch upon what I'm hearing from both the parties, I think that that, you know, nicely embodies what I've heard from the Utility and also Public Counsel. But, Ms. Scoles, if you have some brief comments before I go to staff.

MS. SCOLES: Well, Commissioner, I don't have too much to say. Just with our continuing fundamental concern about raising the issue in a rate case, we can live with what you have proposed today.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. Staff?

MR. JAEGER: You're bifurcating A and B, "Is the Utility's level of investment in associated companies appropriate?" And then "If not, what actions should the Commission take?" And then B would just be the Utility's issue as it's stated in its prehearing

1 statement? COMMISSIONER SKOP: That's correct. 2 3 MR. JAEGER: Staff, that's fine with staff. 4 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. So show 5 Issue 50 will now become Issue 50A and Issue 50B. 6 Issue 50A will read, "Is the Utility's level 7 of investment in associated companies appropriate? If 8 not, what action should the Commission take?" 9 And Issue 50B will read, "Are there any 10 non-utility expenses that the Utility is requesting be recovered through customer rates? If so, what 11 12 13 the issues. 14 1.5 before we move forward? 16 17 18 parties and to staff by e-mail. 19 20 21 then forward them later. 22 23

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adjustment should be made?" I believe that'll address Okay. Any other concerns on Section VIII MR. McGLOTHLIN: We have some minor tweaks here and there. If you wish, I'll just give them to the COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. you could just, if they're minor, we can read them and MR. McGLOTHLIN: The first one is on page 6, Issue 1. Please strike the words "No, because" so that the position begins with the word "OPC's." COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Any others? FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

MR. McGLOTHLIN: I don't see anything. Oh, yes. Page 8, Issue 6, "OPC adjustments to plant are reflected in," strike the word "the," insert the word "other," and then following the word "issue" strike the word "below." So it reads, "are reflected in other issues."

Page 12, issue 13, following the position that's stated there now, add, "This amount will need to be updated to reflect the results of stipulations and other issues addressed on cross-examination."

Issue 27, page 17, second line from the bottom, after the words "document the business" insert "use and personal use."

MR. JAEGER: I'm sorry, Joe. I'm not where you're at. Say that again, what line you're on.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Well, if our pagination is the same, page 17, Issue 27, and it would be the, on your copy it would be the last line reading "maintained in travel logs to document the business." At that point I would insert "use and personal use of utility-owned, utility-owned vehicles that are used for both business and personal use by employees." And then strike what is the remainder of that position.

And I have three or four others, Commissioner. But rather than take your time, I could just give those

1 in a paper copy by the end of the day. 2 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 3 And be able to do that by the close of business. 4 MR. McGLOTHLIN: I can, yes. 5 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 6 Any other concerns on Section VIII before we move Okay. 7 forward? 8 MS. SCOLES: Commissioner, I do have one. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Ms. Scoles. 9 10 MS. SCOLES: In preparing for hearing on our new Issue 50A, we, the Utility is under the 11 12 understanding that the term "appropriate" relates to harm caused to customers. If there is an additional 13 nuance or meaning to that term, we would appreciate a 14 clarification so that we can adequately prepare for 15 16 hearing. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 17 18 Staff, to the choice of words. 19 MR. JAEGER: If OPC can go with that cause harm to customers, I mean the -- I don't know of any, 20 21 what do you call it, nuance to that. But I think that 22 would be up to OPC. Staff could --COMMISSIONER SKOP: Well, again, the reason I 23 looked to staff first is staff came up with the proposed 24 25 compromised language. That's staff's own words. And so before I go to --

MR. JAEGER: Yes. I think what we're just -is there any inappropriate action that would, and, of
course, if it harms the customers, then the customers
should not have to pay for that.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right.

Mr. McGlothlin.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: I prefer the term that, that you used in the breakout of A and B.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: And perhaps one reason is that has it caused harm seems to be a backward looking concept when we are talking about a utility that is indicating the need to borrow money to finance capital additions at a time when it has, we contend, placed an inordinate amount of customers' money in associated companies. So that's why the appropriateness or the imprudence of it, prudence or imprudence really is a better approach than cause harm.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right.

Ms. Scoles, I guess the issues are going to be framed as, as I ordered them into Issues 50 and 50A, I mean 50A and 50B. In terms of trying to define the character, I guess the issue speaks for itself. So, you know, the prehearing statement on the, on the issues, it

obviously, now that we've created 50A and 50B, the company, both the company and Public Counsel and any intervening parties will be able to update their initial positions on that and brief it appropriately for their prehearing statement as well as their posthearing briefs.

But, again, the burden is on the Public Counsel, I would believe, to make a showing that the costs are either appropriate or they're not appropriate. So, again, we'll look to the parties and Public Counsel to, to brief that and make their statements as they deem appropriate.

But I do think the, the issues are pretty clear and unambiguous as we can make them given the disagreement amongst the parties. So to me it's somewhat of a compromise that we took the Utility's position, but we also took a more neutral statement that reflected what the Public Counsel wanted to seek to introduce. So I don't have a full answer for you, but just exercise your best judgment --

MS. SCOLES: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: -- based on the discussion.

Okay. Any other concerns on Section VIII before we move forward?

1 All right. Hearing none, that takes us to 2 Section --3 MR. McGLOTHLIN: On Issue 28 --4 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. 5 MR. McGLOTHLIN: We, we wondered if staff is 6 going to take a position on 28 in light of the staff 7 auditor's testimony? 8 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. Jaeger. 9 MR. JAEGER: I will check with staff. Ι believe that's the auditor's audit finding and we would 10 11 check that. But they did have the \$12,020 was removed 12 in non-utility expenses, and the 12,015 was a part of 13 that 12,020. But I can check with the staff auditors and make sure whether we can take an issue on that, take 14 15 a position. COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. McGlothlin, does that 16 17 address your concern? MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes, sir. 18 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 19 20 Any other questions on Section VIII before we move 21 forward? All right. Hearing none, Section IX, Exhibits 22 List. Staff. 23 24 MR. JAEGER: We've been working on, first of 25 all, the Comprehensive Exhibit List, and I think we

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

1 finished it just before I came down here. But we were 2 looking through it one more time and we'll try to get that out to all the parties as quickly as we can. 3 4 And staff also intends to prepare a proposed 5 stipulated exhibit list composed of certain discovery 6 responses and deposition transcripts which it will 7 provide to the parties in advance of the hearing. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 8 9 Any other concerns on Section IX before we move forward? 10 MR. McGLOTHLIN: I think I heard staff say at the outset that we're going to add Andrew Woodcock's 11 exhibits to the list. 12 MR. JAEGER: Yes. That was inadvertently left 13 out. ATW-1 through 5 will be on the exhibit list. 14 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Any other concerns, 15 Mr. McGlothlin? 16 MR. McGLOTHLIN: That's all. 17 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. 18 Any other concerns on Section IX? Hearing none, Section 19 20 IX will be adopted. And that takes us to Section X, Proposed 21 22 Stipulations. Staff. MR. JAEGER: In addition to the issues that we 23 24 went through earlier, there's two other stipulations. 25 One is the parties agree that no used and useful

1 adjustment for water plant facilities and storage is required. And then also staff witnesses will be present 2 3 as of 11:00 on the second day of the hearing. And then we were going, we were discussing that we would try to 4 5 take them up that afternoon, if possible. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. 6 7 acknowledged. Any other concerns on Section X? All 8 right. 9 Hearing none, that takes us to Section XI, Staff. Pending Motions. 10 11

MR. JAEGER: About lunchtime today, we discussed this, OPC filed a motion to strike, and so that would be, that would change to the motion to strike as pending.

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COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

There's a motion to strike pending. I guess,

Ms. Scoles, you probably just received this also; is
that correct?

MS. SCOLES: Yes, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: I assume you'd want some opportunity to review it so you could respond.

MS. SCOLES: Yes, please.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

All right. So we will not take the pending motion up at this time. I will give the parties opportunity to

1	respond to the motion and I'll make my ruling via order		
2	at the appropriate time. Any other concerns on Section		
3	XI, Pending Motions?		
4	All right. Hearing none, that takes us to		
5	Section XII, Pending Confidentiality Matters. Staff.		
6	MR. JAEGER: None that we know of.		
7	COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. And I think we've		
8	recently addressed one; is that correct?		
9	MR. JAEGER: Yes. We issued a confidentiality		
10	order on September 22nd.		
11	COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well. No		
12	other questions on Section XII.		
13	All right. Hearing none, we'll move to		
14	Section XIII, Posthearing Procedures. And number of		
15	words in the posthearing brief, typically 50 is		
16	provided. Any concerns from the parties?		
17	MR. McGLOTHLIN: I request 80.		
18	COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Ms. Scoles?		
19	MS. SCOLES: No objection.		
20	COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.		
21	We'll allow the number of words to be 80 on the		
22	posthearing positions.		
23	MR. McGLOTHLIN: In addition to that,		
24	Commissioner Skop, you'll see that Issue 12, working		
25	capital, there are many subparts or subissues to that		

very broad subject, and we request either that the 1 Commission entertain 50 words per subsection or perhaps 2 3 a larger number for the entire issue. COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. I'm a little 4 5 confused there. I usually am following along pretty We allowed 80 words for the posthearing 6 positions, and then I was going to move on to the number 7 of pages in the posthearing briefs. But I think that 8 9 you indicated there's additional concern? MR. McGLOTHLIN: On Issue 12 --10 11 **COMMISSIONER SKOP:** Okay. MR. McGLOTHLIN: -- which is working capital 12 13 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Yes. 14 MR. McGLOTHLIN: -- there are numerous 15 individual adjustments which could not be addressed even 16 in the 80-word limitation. 17 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. 18 19 MR. McGLOTHLIN: And you'll see that our approach has been to identify what I would call subparts 20 21 by bullet points there. If we could have 50 per 22 subpart, that would satisfy us. COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Ms. Scoles, 23 are you opposed to having 50 words per subpart on Issue 24 25 12?

1 MS. SCOLES: No, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. For Issue 12 I will allow 50 words per subpart. And with respect to the number of pages in posthearing briefs, 40 is typically provided. I'd like to hear from the parties with respect to the posthearing brief page requirement.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: My, my thought is that if we have 40 issues thereabouts and a page per issue, we're about to exceed the usual limit. I would request 50.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. Very well.

Ms. Scoles.

MS. SCOLES: No objection.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Very well.

Posthearing briefs will be limited to 50 pages. You guys are getting pretty good at reading my mind. All right. Any other concerns on Section XIII for posthearing procedures?

All right. And that brings us to Section XIV for rulings. And I'll make a ruling that opening statements should not exceed ten minutes, unless the parties have a concern with that.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: Not a concern, but a question. Perhaps I should know the answer to this. But in view of the fact we are going to have customer

participation at the outset of the technical hearing, does the Commission envision two opening statements, one for the benefit of the customers and one for the more technical aspects of the case, or a single opening statement? That's just for guidance. I'm not requesting one or the other.

typically Public Counsel gives, when we're in the customer hearing portion, each side gives a little presentation. It's typically, you know, five or ten minutes. And then when we conclude the customer hearing and we go into the technical portion of the hearing, then typically that's what opening statements refers to. But I'll look to Ms. Helton.

MS. HELTON: Mr. Chairman, it's been a while since I've traveled to one of these hearings. If I could ask staff's recollection.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: And Mr. McGlothlin and Ms. Scoles, if you're making opening statements for the customer hearing, I mean, certainly it would be ten minutes, the max, would be required for both sides.

MS. SCOLES: We'd be willing to waive the opening in the technical hearing if we've already made one in the customer hearing, or vice versa.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Mr. Jaeger or

1 Ms. Helton.

MS. HELTON: Maybe that makes the most sense, Commissioner Skop, if they were to give their opening statements prior to the customers taking the stand for the public portion of the hearing and then they just would not do that before the technical portion.

commissioner skop: Okay. And does staff have any concerns about the fact that when the customer portion of the record is open and then we conclude that portion and move into the technical hearing that there would be no opening statements?

MS. HELTON: That doesn't concern me. It's all part of the same record really, and it's all part of the competent, substantial evidence that you have to base your decision on. So, and I don't think if there were to be an appeal that that would confuse the court.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Mr. Jaeger.

MR. JAEGER: I agree with Ms. Helton.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. To the parties, tell me, tell me what you like and we'll try and find a way to accommodate it.

MR. McGLOTHLIN: I'm fine with the single opening.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay.

MS. SCOLES: That's fine by me.

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. So what we'll have is we'll have ten minutes single opening per side, and we'll waive at the technical portion and we'll have opening statements at the beginning of the customer portion of the hearing. All right?

All right. Any other concerns on Section XIV before we move forward? All right. Hearing none, that brings us to any other matters. And, Staff.

MR. JAEGER: Yes, Commissioner Skop. I guess the parties are going to give me their new positions on the two issues and whatever. You know, Mr. McGlothlin would, by the close of business today, he said he'd do that.

Also where we did partial stipulations, I would probably, there's like one or two bullet points that I would probably take out, but you may, if you could give me a new position with the partial stipulation sort of included in that position, that would help. I'm talking about the -- Issue 11 and 12, if you'll give me a new position on 11 and 12. It may be just in addition to the partial stipulation noted at the end of this order, our position is this, or however you want to phrase that.

COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. And to the parties also, based on staff's concerns, to the extent

that the parties' positions have changed by virtue of 1 the discussion held at the Prehearing Conference, if the 2 parties could provide such changes to staff by the close 3 of business on Thursday, September 30th, I believe that 4 will allow everyone adequate opportunity to change your 5 positions in accordance with what we need to put in the 6 Draft Prehearing Order. 7 MR. McGLOTHLIN: Yes, sir. 8 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Staff, any 9 other concerns? 10 MR. JAEGER: That's all I have, Commissioner. 11 COMMISSIONER SKOP: All right. Mr. Willis, I 12 saw you engaging in a discussion. Is there anything I 13 need to know before we -- okay. Nothing I need to --14 MR. JAEGER: Marshall says no. 15 COMMISSIONER SKOP: Okay. All right. 16

commissioner skop: Okay. All right. All right. Very well. Any other concerns from the parties before we adjourn? All right. Very well. I'd like to thank the parties for appearing, and we'll conclude the meeting. We're adjourned.

(Prehearing Conference adjourned at 2:26 p.m.)

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1	STATE OF FLORIDA) : CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	COUNTY OF LEON)
3	
4	I, LINDA BOLES, RPR, CRR, Official Commission Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing
5	proceeding was heard at the time and place herein stated.
6	IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I stenographically
7	reported the said proceedings; that the same has been transcribed under my direct supervision; and that this
8	transcript constitutes a true transcription of my notes of said proceedings.
9	I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative,
10	employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
11	attorneys or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.
12	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
13	DATED THIS 30 day of September.
14	
15	LINDA BOLES, RPR, CRR
16	FPSC Official Commission Reporter (850) 413-6734
17	(630) 413-6734
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19	
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