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PLEASE REPLY TO: **TALLAHASSEE**

September 20, 1996

HAND-DELIVERED

Blanca S. Bayo, Director Division of Records and Reporting **Gunter Building** 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0870

> Re: Docket No. 920199-WS

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing is the original and 15 copies of the Response of City of Keystone Heights and Marion Oaks Civic Association to Petition of Senator Ginny Brown-Waite and Morty Miller to Compel Rate Reductions and Rate Refunds and for Maximum Penalty in the above docket.

Please acknowledge receipt of the above on the extra copy enclosed herein and return it to me. Thank you for your assistance.

ACK Sincerely, AFA APP Joseph A. McGlothlin JAM/pw CMU Encls. EAG _ LEG __ RECEIVED & FILED

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE 004081 07616 JUL 285

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

All Con

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for rate
increase in Brevard, Charlotte/
Lee, Citrus, Clay, Duval,
Highlands, Lake, Marion, Martin
Nassau, Orange, Osceola, Pasco
Putnam, Seminole, Volusia, and
Washington Counties by SOUTHERN
STATES UTILITIES, INC,; Collier
County by MARCO SHORES
UTILITIES (Deltona); Hernando
County by SPRING HILL UTILITIES
(Deltona); and Volusia County by
DELTONA LAKES UTILITIES (Deltona)

Docket No. 920199-WS

Filed: July 28, 1997

RESPONSE OF CITY OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS AND MARION OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION TO PETITION OF SENATOR GINNY BROWN-WAITE AND MORTY MILLER TO COMPEL RATE REDUCTIONS AND RATE REFUNDS AND FOR MAXIMUM PENALTY

Pursuant to rule 25-22.037, Florida Administrative Code, the City of Keystone Heights and the Marion Oaks Civic Association (Keystone/Marion), hereby respond to the Petition of Senator Ginny Brown-Waite and Morty Miller as follows:

1. Because it is not known at this time whether or not Brown-Waite/Miller will be parties to this docket, Keystone/Marion file this response¹ in an abundance of caution (even though the time for filing a response would run (if at all) from the date

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

¹Keystone/Marion were originally denied intervention in this proceeding. The First District Court of Appeal reversed the denial. Staff has recommended that intervention be granted to Keystone/Marion. The Commission will consider the recommendation at its August 5 Agenda. So that they may timely respond to the substance of Brown-Waite/Miller's motion, Keystone/Marion submit this response subject to the ruling on their motion to intervene.

intervention is granted).

- 2. Keystone/Marion object to Brown-Waite/Miller's demand that certain customers (including, it is assumed, Keystone/Marion) be surcharged to fund refunds to other customers and ask that this request be denied.² Keystone/Marion suggests that the circumstances of this case are unique and that it would be patently unfair to surcharge Keystone/Marion. The Commission must be concerned about fairness to all customers.
- 3. Keystone/Marion customers had no ability to adjust consumption so as to minimize any additional future charges. Further, given the length of time this case has been pending, the Commission might well end up surcharging customers on the system who were not even subject to the original uniform rates. Before considering any action, the Commission should gather and analyze the information concerning the number of customers who would be affected by a surcharge and the amount of money they would be required to pay collectively and on an individual basis to fund any refund to other customers. This information bears on the equity of imposing a surcharge of the magnitude needed to fund a refund to other customers.
- 4. Keystone/Marion are aware that Staff has recommended briefing on the remand issues. Keystone/Marion have no objection to Staff's recommendation, but suggest that the Commission require SSU to provide it and the parties with current

²Keystone/Marion do not respond to the other portions of the petition.

information regarding the impact of any surcharge on customers prior to the deadline for the briefs.

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Attorneys for City of Keystone Heights & Marion Oaks Civic Association

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Response of City of Keystone Heights and Marion Oaks Civic Association to Petition of Senator Ginny Brown-White and Morty Miller to Compel Rate Reductions and Rate Refunds and for Maximum Penalty has been served by U.S. Mail or hand-delivery* to the following on this 28th day of July, 1997:

Lila Jaber*
Florida Public Service Commission
Division of Legal Services
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Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

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