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September 11, 1998

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Our File No: 40200-6

Via Federal Express, Overnight Delivery

Blanca S. Bayo, Director, Records & Recording FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 980467-WS

Dear Ms. Bayo:

(407) 727 - 8:00

J. CHARLES GRAY

J. CHARLES GRAT GORDON H. HARRIS RICHARD M. ROBINSON PHILLIP R. FINCH PAMELA O. PRICE JAMES F. PAGE, JR.

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WILLIAM A. BOYLES
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J. MASON WILLIAMS, III

CHARLES W. SELL JACK A. KIRSCHENBAUM RICHARD E. BURKE

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LEO P. ROCK, JR. G. ROBERTSON DILG

DAVID L. SCHICK JACK K. McMULLEN SUSAN T. SPRADLEY

MICHAEL E. NEUKAMM

DONALD A. NOHRR PHILIP F. NOHRR WILLIAM G. BOLTIN, III

WILBUR E. BREWTON

KENNETH J. PLANTE

Enclosed herewith for filing is the Notice of Filing Stipulated Agreement, and a Notice of Withdrawal of Protest. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

| ACK | | Sincerely yours, |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------|
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| A PP | The state of the s | (MIII) G. CHIII |
| € AF | | Thomas A. Cloud, Esquire |
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| CTR | The state of the s | GRAY, HARRIS & ROBINSON, P.A. |
| E AG | Enclosures | |
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DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

TALLAH SEE 27 SEP 14 % (850) 222-7717 FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

ORLANDO (407) 843-8880



BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for amendment of)
Certificates Nos. 373-W and 322-S to)
add territory in Marion County by)
Florida Water Services Corporation)

Docket No. 980467-WS

NOTICE OF FILING STIPULATED AGREEMENT

Intervenor, MARION COUNTY, by and through its undersigned attorneys, hereby gives notice of filing a copy of a the executed Stipulated Agreement between the Applicant, Florida Water Services Corporation and Marion County.

Respectfully submitted this 11th day of September, 1998.

Thomas A. Cloud

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served on the following: Original and 7 copies, together with the document on diskette, via overnight delivery to:

(1) Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Public Service Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
904/413-6770

1

With a copy via overnight delivery/hand delivery/U.S. Mail to:

- (2) Jennifer Brubaker, Esquire
 FPSC Legal Division
 Capital Circle Office Center
 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
 Counsel for the FPSC
- (3) Joseph M. Hanratty, Esquire FORMAN, KREHL & LANDT 320 NW 3rd Avenue Post Office Box 159 Ocala, FL 32678-0159

this 11th day of September, 1998.

Thomas A. Cloud, Esquire

Fla. Bar No. 293326

GRAY, HARRIS & ROBINSÓN, P.A.

Post Office Box 3068 Orlando, FL 32802-3068 Telephone: (407) 843-8880

Facsimile: (407) 244-5690

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for amendment of Certificates Nos. 373-W and 322-S to add territory in Marion County by Florida Water Services Corporation

Docket No. 980467-WS

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF PROTEST

COMES NOW MARION COUNTY (the "County"), by and through its undersigned counsel and files this Notice of Withdrawal of Protest (this "Notice") in Florida Public Service Commission Docket No. 980467-WS. This withdrawal is based upon execution of the Stipulated Agreement, dated September 11th, 1998.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Cloud Fla. Bar No. 293326

GRAY, HARRIS & ROBINSÓN, P.A.

Post Office Box 3068 Orlando, FL 32802-3068 Telephone: 407/843-8880

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served on the following: Original and 7 copies, together with the document on diskette, via overnight delivery to:

(1) Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Public Service Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

With a copy via overnight delivery/hand delivery/U.S. Mail to:

- (2) Jennifer Brubaker, Esquire FPSC Legal Division Capital Circle Office Center 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 Counsel for the FPSC
- (3) Joseph M. Hanratty, Esquire FORMAN, KREHL & LANDT 320 NW 3rd Avenue Post Office Box 159 Ocala, FL 32678-0159

this 11th day of September, 1998.

Thomas A. Cloud, Esquire

Fla. Bar No. 293326

GRAY, HARRIS & ROBINSON, P.A.

Post Office Box 3068 Orlando, FL 32802-3068

Telephone: 407/843-8880

Facsimile: 407/244-5690

STIPULATED AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this day of August, 1998, by and between MARION COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (hereafter the "COUNTY"), and FLORIDA WATER SERVICES CORPORATION, a Florida corporation, formerly known as Southern States Utilities, Inc. (hereafter "FWSC").

RECITALS

- 1. FWSC filed an Application for Amendment of Certificate No. 373-W and 322-S to add water and sewer territory in Marion County, Florida.
 - 2. The COUNTY objected to FWSC's Application.
- 3. The parties have now agreed to resolve their differences through a territorial settlement and other agreements set forth below.

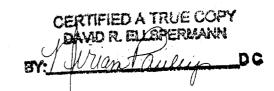
ACCORDINGLY, for and in consideration of the Recitals, the mutual undertakings and agreements herein contained and assumed, and other good and valuable considerations received by each party from the other, the receipt and sufficiency of which are acknowledged, the parties do hereby agree as follows:

SECTION 1. RECITALS. The above Recitals are true and correct, and form a material part of this Agreement.

SECTION 2. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTE. It is in the best interest of both parties to resolve their dispute concerning the proposed provision of water and sewer service to various parcels of property within Marion County currently proposed for service by FWSC in PSC Docket No. 980467-WS, and for other parcels of property in the immediate vicinity thereof.

SECTION 3. MODIFICATION OF APPLICATION BY FWSC. Mindful of the cost of continued litigation and other valid considerations, FWSC agrees to modify its application currently pending before the Florida Public Service Commission in Docket NO. 980467-WS in order to remove lands which the parties agree the COUNTY should be allowed to serve in exchange for Marion County agreeing to withdraw their protest in opposition to FWSC's application in Docket No. 980467-WS. FWSC will amend the pending FPSC application for service area amendments to reflect the boundaries as described in Exhibits "1" and "2."

SECTION 4. ALLOCATION OF TERRITORY. FWSC, immediately upon approval of this Agreement by the Marion County Commission, will file an amendment to its application pending before the Florida Public Service Commission to include the lands depicted in Exhibits "1" and "2" hereto within its certificated water and wastewater service areas as FWSC's water and wastewater service areas.



SECTION 5. COUNTY WITHDRAWAL OF PROTEST. Once the amended application referenced above is filed, the COUNTY will file its Notice of Withdrawal of Protest in Public Service Commission docket No. 980467-WS and not object to FWSC's amended application contingent upon revision to that application in conformance with the territory outlined herein and in Exhibits "1" and "2" hereof and contingent upon the executed Stipulated Agreement. COUNTY will send a letter to the FPSC acknowledging in this agreement and withdrawing County's objection.

SECTION 6. SERVICE AREAS. The COUNTY will provide water and wastewater services in the area to the east of FWSC's existing eastern water service territory boundary and as if such boundary extended south to the Lake County border and north to the existing southern border of FWSC's existing water service area as described in Exhibits "1" and "2." FWSC will provide water and wastewater service to the lands shown in FWSC's Amended Application before the PSC, west of the service area to be served by the COUNTY as described in Exhibits "1" and "2" and including an area terminating one mile northwest of State Road 200 to the Citrus County border. FWSC and the COUNTY will agree not to contest the other party's exclusive right to provide service in the areas described in Exhibits "1" and "2" and based upon allegations of ability to serve, the other party's inability to serve or for any other reason; provided, however, the COUNTY's agreement not to contest is limited to the area actually certificated in PSC Docket No. 980467-WS. FWSC will agree not to provide water or wastewater service to lands lying east of I-75 or outside of the eastern border of FWSC's service area, as proposed in Florida Water's pending application, unless by acquisition. The COUNTY will likewise agree to take no action in the future, whether directly or indirectly, to disenfranchise FWSC from the right to provide water and wastewater service to the lands described in Exhibits "1" and "2," including, but not limited to using development permitting, zoning or other power of the COUNTY in a manner which would effectively cause such a result. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prohibit Florida Water or the COUNTY from acquiring other utilities in Marion County.

SECTION 7. COOPERATION. To the extent the COUNTY or FWSC is unable to provide service to a portion of its territory as evidenced by a written statement directly to the other party of its inability or unwillingness to do so, the parties will cooperate to ensure that water and sewer service is provided by whoever is best able to do so in the quickest and most efficient manner, including through bulk service agreements. FWSC, COUNTY and COUNTY utilities department agree to use best efforts to coordinate activities to best protect environment, health and safety of residents of COUNTY.

SECTION 8. BULK AGREEMENT. The parties shall enter into a bulk wholesale wastewater service agreement which will be submitted for approval by the FPSC. This proposed agreement shall contain provisions consistent with this Section 8. FWSC will provide retail wastewater service to the northeast corner of the new service area. When the OCALA MEADOW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ("OMWTP") is operational, FWSC will purchase bulk wastewater service from the COUNTY to serve the new service area in the northeast corner at a rate equal to eighty-five percent (85%) of the COUNTY's retail wastewater rate. However, such bulk wastewater rates shall never exceed the

greater of eighty-five percent (85%) of the retail wastewater rate which Florida Water charges to its retail customers or the COUNTY's reasonable costs to provide the wastewater service; provided, however, should the COUNTY rates exceed eighty-five percent (85%) of the said retail wastewater rate then FWSC shall have the option to provide retail wastewater service. Other terms including capital contributions to the COUNTY will provide for reasonable and necessary capital contributions from the retail customers to the COUNTY in accordance with COUNTY rate resolutions and ordinances, with contributions for the cost of designing, permitting, and extending the pipeline north and constructing the pump station not to exceed the actual costs thereof. The COUNTY will own the bulk wastewater line and pump station to be constructed so as to facilitate the COUNTY's provision of wastewater service east of 1-75.

SECTION 9. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT. The COUNTY will amend Ordinance No. 98-36 to recognize the service areas set forth in Exhibits "1" and "2." COUNTY will agree that any ordinance requiring mandatory hookup to central water or wastewater facilities that may be adopted by the COUNTY, including enforcement provisions thereof, shall be made applicable to FWSC.

SECTION 10. SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE. The Stipulated Agreement shall be specifically enforceable in accordance with its terms by either party against the other by filing with the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court in and for Marion County, Florida. All provisions of this Agreement will survive any action by the Florida Public Service Commission ("FPSC") to approve or modify FWSC's pending application for amended water and wastewater service areas.

SECTION 11. NO BULK WATER TRANSFERS. FWSC shall not transfer water in bulk beyond the boundaries of COUNTY, nor will they sell water to a wholesaler of water for distribution beyond the boundaries of the COUNTY.

<u>SECTION 12.</u> <u>SIMULTANEOUS SERVICE</u>. In new service areas, FWSC agrees to extend water and sewer service simultaneously if consistent with economic feasibility and the Marion County Comprehensive Plan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have hereunder executed this Agreement on the date and year first above written.

MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

County Chairman

DATE

| ATTEST: | |
|--|--|
| BY: David R. Ellspermann, Clerk | |
| STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF MARION | |
| The foregoing instrument was acknowledged, 1998, by Randy Harrison 1998, by Ra | Signature of Notary Public MiRiam Pauley (Print Notary Name |
| AFFIX NOTARY STAMP | My Commission Expires: Commission No.: Personally known, or Produced Identification Type of Identification Produced |
| FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF MARION COUNTY ONLY. APPROVED AS TO FORM. | |

Thomas A. Cloud, Utilities Counsel

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of: **FLORIDA WATER SERVICES** CORPORATION Attest: Print Name: Brian P. Print Name: John Cirello Title: Vice President & General Counsel Title: President, Chairman & CEO August 28, 1998 DATE: [CORPORATE SEAL] STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF ORANGE The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 28th day of ____, 1998, by John Cirello President, Chairman & CEO of FLORIDA WATER SERVICES CORPORATION. Signature of Notary Public OFFICIAL NOTARY SEAL KIRK D MARTIN KIRK D. MARTIN NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION NO. CC561441 (Print Notary Name MY COMMISSION EXP. JUNE 16,2000 My Commission Expires: JUNE 16,2000 AFFIX NOTARY STAMP Commission No.: CCS6144 Personally known,-or-- Produced Identification -Type-of-Identification-Produced---

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