Rhema Business Services, Inc.

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July 13, 2000



Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 991902-SU, Investigation into the Wastewater Rates of COMMERCIAL UTILITIES, DIVISION OF GRACE & COMPANY, INC. in Duval County

Gentlemen:

By this letter, Commercial Utilities is responding to the Audit Report in the referenced docket. Each exception and disclosure will be individually addressed.

Exception No. 1: No comment.

Exception No. 2: Only \$1,577 of the \$6,573 adjustment relates to the current period. Therefore, Depreciation Expense should be credited for \$1,577 and Retained Earnings should be credited \$4,996. The Schedule of Net Operating Income on page 19 correctly reflects the current period adjustment.

Exception No. 3: Commercial Utilities did not pay the total amount of impact fees up front, but paid them over time. Impact fees should be recognized when paid. By recognizing all the impact fees as being paid up front, the auditor has overstated the accumulated amortization. Amortization should be recalculated recognizing the payment of \$4,120.54 per month as actually took place.

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AF CA	P		Exception	No. 4:	No comment.
	M R		Disclosure	No. 1:	No Comment.
		1	Disclosure	No. 2:	No Comment.
P R	AI GC		Disclosure	No. 3:	No Comment.
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Disclosure No. 4: This disclosure removed the payment of 1998 regulatory assessment fees from expenses, but did not accrue 1999 regulatory assessment fees. The commission should recognize regulatory assessment fees based on its determination of revenue.

Disclosure No. 5: The reasons supporting increases in the costs of overhead are detailed in the response to Audit Document Request No. 10. Salaries have only been increased by the FPSC inflation factors, except for adjustments for "salary in lieu of benefits @ 15%" and "salary in lieu of transportation allowance" made in 1997 pursuant to the response to Audit Document Request No. 1.

Disclosure No. 6: No comment.

Disclosure No. 7: The commission should calculate income taxes in a fashion similar to that made in the last rate proceeding based on the final adjusted balances.

Schedule of Wastewater Rate Base: No comment.

Schedule of Net Operating Income: This schedule shows a negative adjustment of \$334 to Operation and Maintenance Expenses not supported by any exception or disclosure. This adjustment should be deleted.

Schedule of Capital Structure: No comment.

Please call me at 562-9886 if you need clarification or additional information.

Sincerely,

Norman F. Mears

Senior Utility Consultant

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Certified Mail Receipt No. 7099 3400 0000 1442 4632

cc: Mr. Elroy C. Grace