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> > January 13, 2006

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HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca Bayo, Director Commission Clerk and Administrative Services Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket Nos. 040951-WS and 040952-WS

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket on behalf of Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. ("Aqua") are the original and fifteen copies of Aqua's Amended Protest of Proposed Agency Action Order and Petition for Formal Administrative Hearing.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the copy to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

CMP COM Kenneth A. Hoffma CTR ECR KAH/rl Enclosures GCL Aquautilities\Bayo.jan 13 06 OPC RCA _____ SCR SGA RECEIVED & FILED SEC OTH I LACK dhe **FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS**

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

COMMISSION

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Joint application for approval of sale of Florida Water Services Corporation's land, facilities, and certificates in Brevard, Highlands, Lake, Orange, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, a portion of Seminole, Volusia, and Washington Counties to Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc.)))))	Docket No. 040951-WS
In re: Joint application for approval of sale)	
of Florida Water Services Corporation's)	
land, facilities, and certificates for Chuluota)	Docket No. 040952-WS
systems in Seminole County to Aqua)	Filed: January 13, 2006
Utilities Florida, Inc.)	

AQUA UTILITIES FLORIDA, INC.'S AMENDED PROTEST OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION ORDER AND PETITION FOR FORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. ("Aqua" or "Petitioner") by and through its undersigned counsel, and pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, and Rules 25-22.029, 28-106.201 and 28-106.202, Florida Administrative Code, hereby files this amended protest of certain portions of the Commission's Order No. PSC-05-1242-PAA-WS (hereinafter referred to as the "PAA Order"), issued December 20, 2005, and requests that the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") conduct a formal administrative hearing in the above-styled dockets.¹ As grounds for and in support of this Petition, Aqua states as follows:

1. The name and address of the Agency affected and the Agency's File Numbers are:

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¹ This Amended Petition reflects the **withdrawal** of Aqua's protest to two preliminary determinations reflected in the PAA Order addressed in Aqua's original protest filed January 10, 2006: (1) the commencement of the amortization period of Florida Water's previously-approved regulatory asset; and (2) the reduction of rate base related to the alleged over-collection of AFPI charges.

Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 Docket Nos. 040951-WS and 040952-WS

2. The name and address of the Petitioner are:

Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. 6960 Professional Pkwy. E. Ste. 400 Sarasota, Florida 34240 (941) 907-7400 (Telephone) (800) 250-7532 (Telephone) (941) 907-7401 (Facsimile)

3. All notices, pleadings, correspondence, discovery, staff recommendations

and orders filed or served in this proceeding should be served on the following on behalf

of Aqua:

Kenneth A. Hoffman, Esq. J. Stephen Menton, Esq. Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell & Hoffman, P.A. P. O. Box 551 Tallahassee, Florida 32302 (850) 681-6788 (Telephone) (850) 681-6515 (Facsimile)

-and-

Kathy L. Pape, Esq. 762 W. Lancaster Ave. Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010 (610) 645-1142 (Telephone) (610) 519-0989 (Facsimile)

4. Petitioner Aqua received notice of the PAA Order through the Commission's website on Tuesday, December 20, 2005.

BACKGROUND

5. On April 20, 2004, Aqua entered into an asset purchase agreement with Florida Water Services Corporation ("Florida Water") for the sale of Florida Water's land, facilities and certificates for water and wastewater systems located in Brevard, Highlands, Lake, Orange, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, Seminole, Volusia, and Washington Counties. On August 24, 2004, Florida Water and Aqua filed their joint applications seeking approval from the Commission for the transfer of Florida Water's systems to Aqua.

6. On December 20, 2005, the Commission issued the PAA Order approving, as final agency action, the transfer of Florida Water's facilities, land, and certificates to Aqua and continuation of Florida Water's existing rates and charges. The PAA Order preliminarily established Aqua's rate base for the systems subject to the transfer applications.

AQUA'S SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS

7. As the purchaser and existing and prospective owner and operator of the transferred utility systems, Aqua has a direct, immediate and substantial interest in the rate bases ultimately established by the Commission for these systems. Further, this proceeding is designed and intended to permit the transferee of the systems, Aqua, the opportunity to raise issues and present evidence related to the establishment of the prospective rate bases for the systems transferred to Aqua. Thus, Aqua's substantial interests are directly affected by the action proposed by the Commission in its PAA Order.

8. Aqua protests the proposed Commission action reflected in the portions of the PAA Order related to: (a) the commencement of the approved amortization periods associated with the losses related to the forced abandonments; and (b) the adjustments to rate base inappropriately calculated by applying adjustments to utility plant in service

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figures for the year ending December 31, 2003, rather than applying such adjustments to the plant balances as of June 30, 2004, the date on which rate base was preliminarily established under the PAA Order. Aqua seeks a formal hearing on these issues pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes.

DISPUTED ISSUES OF MATERIAL FACT

9. Subject to discovery and refinement of the issues that will be appropriate for formal hearing, the disputed issues of material fact known at this time include but are not limited to the following:

a. Whether the amortization period associated with property losses related to the forced abandonments of the Lake Gibson Estates, Zephyr Shores, and Beecher's Point wastewater plants, the St. Johns Highlands water plant and the disconnection of the Lake Gibson Estates wastewater septic tanks should begin on the date new rates are established for Aqua or at the time of the abandonment.

b. Whether the commencement of the amortization periods for the abovedescribed property losses related to the forced abandonments prior to the dates new rates are established constitutes unlawful retroactive ratemaking and precludes and prohibits Aqua from recovering the full costs of the property losses related to the forced abandonments.

c. Whether the commencement of the amortization periods for the property losses related to the forced abandonments allow Aqua to remain whole, as if the retirements had not taken place.

d. Whether the proposed utility plant in service figures and rate base figures reflected in the PAA Order have been correctly calculated and properly reflect the

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application of the Staff's adjustments to utility plant in service accounts as of June 30, 2004.

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STATEMENT OF ULTIMATE FACTS ALLEGED

10. Aqua alleges that the ultimate facts, together with applicable case law, Commission statutes, rules, orders and precedents, demonstrate and support a final determination by the Commission that:

a. The amortization period associated with property losses related to the forced abandonments of the Lake Gibson Estates, Zephyr Shores, and Beecher's Point wastewater plants, the St. Johns Highlands water plant and the disconnection of the Lake Gibson Estates wastewater septic tanks should begin effective on the date new rates are established for Aqua.

b. The commencement of the amortization periods for the above-described property losses related to the forced abandonments prior to the dates new rates are established constitutes unlawful retroactive ratemaking and precludes and prohibits Aqua from recovering the full costs of the property losses related to the forced abandonments.

c. The proposed utility plant in service figures and rate base figures reflected in the PAA Order have not been correctly calculated and do not properly or accurately reflect the application of the Staff's adjustments to utility plant in service accounts as of June 30, 2004. The adjustments to rate base ultimately approved by the Commission should be calculated at June 30, 2004 and applied as adjustments to utility plant in service and rate base numbers as of June 30, 2004, to properly reflect rate base for Aqua on a going forward basis of as June 30, 2004.

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WHEREFORE, Aqua requests that the Commission conduct a formal administrative hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes on the issues specified herein, and grant the relief as set forth in Paragraph 10 of this Amended Petition.

Respectfully submitted this 13th day of January, 2006.

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Kenneth A. Hofftran, Esq. J. Stephen Menton, Esq. Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell & Hoffman, P.A. P. O. Box 551 Tallahassee, Florida 32302 (850) 681-6788 (Telephone) (850) 681-6515 (Facsimile)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished by United States Mail this 13th day of January, 2006 to:

Jennifer Brubaker, Esq. Office of the General Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Stephen C. Reilly, Esq. Associate Public Counsel Office of Public Counsel 111 West Madison Street, Room 812 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400

Kenneth A. Hoffman, Esq.