CORRESPONDENCE 1/19/2018 DOCUMENT NO. 00496-2018

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COMMISSIONERS: ART GRAHAM, CHAIRMAN JULIE I. BROWN DONALD J. POLMANN GARY F. CLARK STATE OF FLORIDA

DIVISION OF ECONOMICS GREG SHAFER DIRECTOR (850) 413-6410

## Public Service Commission

January 19, 2018

Mr. Marinus C. Staal 404 50th Avenue Plaza West Bradenton, FL 34207

Re: Docket No. 20170151-WS - Application for authority to transfer water and wastewater Certificate Nos. 577-W and 498-S in Manatee County, from Heather Hills Estates Utilities, LLC to Heather Hills Utilities, LLC.

Dear Mr. Staal:

Thank you for your letter in which you expressed your concerns regarding the proposed customer deposit requested by Heather Hills Utilities, LLC. (Heather Hills or utility). To ensure that the Commission staff and the Commissioners have knowledge of your concerns, your letter has been placed on the correspondence side of the docket file for all to review.

We understand your concerns regarding Heather Hills' proposed customer deposits. However, the utility erroneously characterized its request for new customer deposits as administrative charge in its legal notice in the Bradenton Herald on November 18, 2017. The utility's customer deposit request is for initial service and not for existing customers. Therefore, the requested customer deposits would not be applicable to your service. However, for existing customers with unsatisfactory payment records, by Rule 25-30.311(7), Florida Administrative Code, the utility may require, upon reasonable notice being separate and apart from any bills for service, a new deposit, where previously waived or returned, or an additional deposit, in order to secure payment of current bills. Hopefully, this letter addresses your concerns. If you have any additional questions or require assistance, please feel free to contact me at (850) 413-6516 or by email me at msibley@psc.state.fl.us

Sincerely,

Matthew Dibley

Matthew Sibley Public Utilities Analyst I Division of Economics

cc: Office of Commission Clerk (Docket No. 20170151-WS)