

Public Service Commission

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: October 16, 1996

TO: Division of Records and Reporting

FROM: Eric Groom (Division of Water and Wastewater)

RE: Docket No. 961034-WS

Please place the attached letter in Docket No. 961034-WS (Betmar Utilities) file.

PSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BETMAR UTILITIES, INC. POST OFFICE BOX 370 PORT RICHEY, FL 34673-0370 TELEPHONE: (813) 845-3600 FAX: (813) 845-1839

October 10, 1996

VIA FAX

Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

ATTN: Eric Groom

RE: Reimbursement to Customers for Backflow Device

Dear Mr. Groom:

As per our telephone conversation on today's date, I am herewith advising the commission that Betmar Utilities will in their October billing, under protest and duress, be reimbursing the two customers (Acct. No. 6640, Heim, and Acct. No. 6192, Burleigh), who received a what you called "threat letter", and the five customers (Acct. No. 8055, Sheeley; Acct. No. 6855, Southcott; Acct. No. 5094, Paine; Acct. No. 5670, Nicholson; and Acct. No. 7510, Parsons), who paid under our "Service Availability in Betmar Utilities' Tariff pages.

In our conversation you said that the Utility must make the refund as well as remove the Double Check Valve Assemblies.

You do know that by removing these devices you will be putting this Utility in harms way with a direct cross-connection. As I said, Mr. Peppie Mendez from the HRS has told me so many words, "the residential customer's could owe a utility a \$1,000 or more for past due billings and the utility cannot turn the customers' water off, because he feels it would be a health hazard." Mr. Mendez is very liberal minded in some areas, but not totally when it comes to cross-connection.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH L TURCO UTILITY MANAGER