



ORIGINAL

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May 12, 1998

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**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Director
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0870

980467-WS

Dear Commissioners:

I am the Trustee for the Owner of land in Marion County, Florida. Recently I was informed that Florida Water Services Inc. (FWS) has submitted an application to expand its Marion Oaks water and wastewater service area, which expansion would include land under my Trusteeship.

I have not been contacted by representatives of FWS nor have I requested service from the utility, and yet they are attempting to take jurisdiction for water and wastewater jurisdiction over this land.

I have consulted with the Owner about this matter. The Owner does not wish to be included in this proposed certification at this time for the following reasons:

1. It is premature for the Owner to make such a commitment pending the preparation of at least a preliminary use plan.
2. It will then take a substantial amount of time for review of the preliminary plans with the appropriate county and state planning officials.
3. A complete feasibility study must then be done after the preliminary development/use plans are approved.
4. The Owner would then conduct a study to determine if; 1) the rates charged by the Marion Oaks system are competitive to other potential providers, and/or 2) alternative methods for these services are appropriate.

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For these reasons at this time, I object on behalf of the Owner to the proposed certification amendment for the expansion of Marion Oaks water and wastewater service to include property under my Trusteeship.

I would appreciate being kept informed of the status of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Theodore M. Seldin
Trustee

TMS/cn
Cc: Marion County
Board of County Commissioners
Marion County Utilities

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING